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Chair's Dialogue #2: Suggested Elements of HFA2, July 15, 2014  
Women's Major Group

My name is Cheryl Anderson, from the University of Hawaii and speaking for the Women's Major Group. The "Suggested Elements" do not include a gender dimension, nor a strong human dimension, that are critical for identifying and reducing risks. Linking disaster risk reduction (DRR) to achieving gender equality and human rights should be integrated throughout in a targeted, well-thought manner---and can be incorporated into the language of the introduction and in guiding principles. We cannot just "add women and stir." And as Bella Abzug said, we do not want to be mainstreamed into a polluted stream – so we must have a more ambitious HFA2 that works to transform.

We recommend several areas for Action:

- Collection and use sex- and age-disaggregated, and gender-specific data
- Analysis of the data to know what it means and how to use it in planning and programming, in monitoring and review, and especially in revising actions and priorities. This is critical, as it also links to SDG/UNFCCC processes.
- Recognition that discrimination is structural, institutional, and socio-economic – which impacts on women's "vulnerability" –
- Ensure inclusive participation in all stages from planning to implementation to review - women, youth, indigenous peoples, local communities, people with disabilities, sexual minorities, migrants, minority languages, and marginalized people – this is important to recognize, understand, document and address the needs of diverse groups in society, AS WELL as to build on the knowledge and skills, which in many cases is traditional knowledge or indigenous knowledge that is complementary to the (western) science-based knowledge
- Facilitation of women's leadership – beyond participation. Consultations have made a strong call for this because it did not happen in HFA1. This relates to capacity building, education, but also to addressing the structural and cultural barriers to women's advancement.
- Targets must incorporate the **social and rights** aspect. We have 3 initial recommendations and will continue to work on these
  - Reduce by x% persons who are displaced and prevented from accessing adequate education, water, food, sanitation, healthcare services, and security, with specific attention to women and other diverse or marginalized groups.
  - Ensure gender-specific health services during crises, including attention to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of women, through all stages of life
  - All development, implementation, monitoring and review of strategies regarding disaster risk reduction will include diverse participation: women, youth, indigenous peoples, local communities, people with disabilities, sexual minorities, migrants, minority languages, and marginalized people.

- Indicators – while they will be developed with much further discussion, and in terms of country context, these tools for measuring progress of the HFA2 and DRR/DRM must also include specifically gender, alongside communities
- Coherence and complementarity with the processes of climate change and post-2015/SDGs will be crucial to ensure adequate and successful implementation

There must be a human dimension included throughout the suggested elements if we are truly to reduce risks.