Climate Change Pillar for the New International Alliance of Women Action Programme 2018-2020 to be discussed and adopted at the Congress in Cyprus
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Climate change threatens the realization of women’s rights and human rights, threatens achievement and sustainability of development outcomes, threatens natural environment and biodiversity, threatens economy and livelihoods, threatens food security and food production, threatens water security, and threatens peace. International Alliance of Women cannot uphold its objectives and principles without attention to climate change. Climate change intersects and worsens outcomes on all other action programme pillars: on justice, democracy, peace, economy, elimination of violence against women, and health.

International Alliance of Women is committed to the following actions on climate change during triennium 2018-2020:

1. Enhance the connection between global policy on climate change and International Alliance of Women member organizations that work on the ground
   1.1. Support International Alliance of Women member organizations to contribute to climate change policy making on the global, national, and local level
   1.2. Facilitate exchange of information on women and climate change between International Alliance of Women and member organizations
      1.2.1. Facilitate dissemination of information to the national and local level about outcomes, challenges, and opportunities in the climate change policy, so that, International Alliance of Women member organizations can effectively engage with governments and participate in the negotiations and policy processes at all levels
      1.2.2. Facilitate direct communication from member organizations to International Alliance of Women, regarding climate change actions and policy on the national and local levels,
so that, International Alliance of Women can represent interests of its members internationally and support exchange of information across the Alliance about successes and challenges on the ground.

1.3. Organize interactive meeting, workshop, and updating session on women’s rights and climate change each year to facilitate exchange of information between International Alliance of Women and member organizations

1.3.1. Organize interactive meeting at the International Alliance of Women Triennial Congress to facilitate exchange of information on global, national, and local climate change policy processes and actions on the ground and to finalize the Action Programme.

1.3.2. Organize workshop at the Board Meeting with International Alliance of Women Chairs of Commissions and International Representatives to enhance work on climate change and women’s rights across all areas.

1.3.3. Organize updating session at the International Meeting to update the Presidents of member organizations on policy outcomes and opportunities for input, and to update Presidents of member organizations and leaders of International Alliance of Women on success stories and challenges on women’s rights and climate change from actions on the ground.

2. Recommend specific and real commitments on women’s rights (economic rights, political rights, social rights, and reproductive and sexual rights) in all areas of climate change policy and implementation action plans, including indicators in these fields and adequate financing.

2.1. Recognize the need to move forward on finding solutions to women’s rights and climate change according to the ground realities of different countries, only then success will be achieved in reaching out to the population at large.

2.2. Recognize the urgency of integrating women’s rights in climate change, which is indeed a challenge for achieving sustainable and equitable climate compatible development.

2.3. Recognize interrelations between women's rights, climate change, and all areas of sustainable development in policy, implementation, and financing.

2.4. Recognize that empowerment of women and achieving equal socio-economic rights for women is mandatory to build climate resilience.

2.5. Recognize priorities of women in disaster risk reduction and recovery, including safety, access to information, access to decision-making, and access to sexual and reproductive health services.

2.6. Recognize priorities of women climate refugees, including migrant and displaced women, who are at risk for increased violence against women, trafficking and exploitation with consequences on their sexual health rights, and loss of access to health services due to migrant status including those related to family planning.

2.7. Recognize priorities of rural women and women food producers, especially considering ensuring women’s land rights, access to information and decision-making on climate change adaptation, access to climate resilient crops, and access to climate insurance.
2.8. Recognize the rights of indigenous women in climate change policy, and the knowledge of women about biodiversity protection

2.9. Recognize the rights of children and the rights of girls in the context of climate change

2.10. Recognize linkages between climate change and women’s health

2.11. Recognize that women are primary caregivers and negative health effects of climate change, including higher incidence of infectious, waterborne, and vector-borne diseases, will increase their burden

2.12. Recognize the central role women play in limiting household air pollution from cookstoves, benefiting health and climate

2.13. Recognize sexual and reproductive health rights in the climate change agenda: at a personal level, supporting self-determination and productive/reproductive work balance within the microecology of the household, at a policy level, resulting in a more balanced population/carrying capacity ratio

2.14. Recognize fundamental standards on women’s rights and human rights in all climate change measures that help contain population growth, ensuring rights of women to make decisions freely (whether to have children, how many, and when), and to have access to information, services, and contraceptives

3. Engage in the global climate change policy development under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

3.1. Obtain United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) observer status [Decided by IAW Triennial Congress in London Adopted IAW Resolution; IAW Observer application process initiated ahead of COP 21 in Paris in 2014]

3.2. Contribute to the UNFCCC negotiations process by providing ideas, knowledge, analysis, and actions that enhance the outcomes for women’s rights and climate change

3.3. Provide language recommendations and technical expertise to governments

3.4. Provide written input on views and information on issues under negotiation

3.5. Join efforts with and contribute to the work of women’s and NGO groups and constituencies

4. Strive to obtain funding for and implement the International Alliance of Women Programme on Climate Change and Sustainable Development

Natalie Kostus, March 30, 2017