

29th International Women Leaders' Conference
***Promoting Gender Equality through Economic Empowerment:
Implementing the Post-2015 Development Agenda***
October 25-30, 2015
Haifa and Jerusalem, Israel

Haifa Declaration

We women leaders from all corners of the globe, participants in the 29th International Women Leaders' Conference Promoting Gender Equality through Economic Empowerment: Implementing the Post-2015 Development Agenda, held in Haifa, Israel, October 25-30, 2015, hereby reinforce our commitment to the Post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, adopted on September 25th, 2015, by the UN General Assembly, and emphasise the centrality of gender equality, women's economic empowerment and women and girls' rights in the 2030 agenda.

Recognize that women are equal partners in global growth and that sustainable peace and development is only possible with meaningful involvement of women in the process;

Acknowledge the diversity of all women, including rural women, the elderly, women with disabilities, and migrants in all development initiatives;

Urge that gender equality be integrated into all development policies and that gender responsive planning, data collecting, monitoring, resource mobility, evaluation and budgeting is included in all programs;

Recommend that quotas and legislative measures including affirmative action are employed in order to promote women to leadership roles and support women's economic empowerment in the public and private sectors and all aspects of civil society;

Call on governments to take ownership of the sustainable development goals and empower local authorities to implement and adapt these goals into their own context, as well as create a baseline and set measurable targets that are adaptable to the local context including rural areas;

Prioritize capacity building, skill strengthening, training and mentoring to assist women to be part of decision making in sustainable development and economic growth;

Recognize the need to improve financial literacy, business development, technical education and ICT to promote women's entrepreneurship and economic independence;

Call on all stakeholders to invest in women's economic empowerment, through private public partnerships, as well as partnerships with religious institutions and the media;

Recognize the importance to engage and support all educational frameworks as mechanisms to attend gender equality through the inclusion of gender sensitive programming;

Ensure equal pay for equal work;

Increase access and control by women over public and private resources including but not limited to land, credit, loans, property rights, natural resources, information, knowledge and justice;

Call on governments to include policies and legislation to ensure parental rights, including pregnant women;

Recognize that gender based violence hinders women's economic empowerment and sustainable growth and urge all institutions to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women and girls;

Tackle the crisis of refugees, human trafficking and organized crime which affect especially women and children;

Recognize, reduce, redistribute and value unpaid care and domestic work through public provisioning, infrastructure and burden sharing between household and community;

Reinforce political participation and inclusion of women in decision making positions and creating mechanisms to include women on boards of state owned and private companies;

Reaffirm that gender equality concerns humanity at large and recognize the importance of including men and boys as partners in the process of building egalitarian societies;

Call on all women leaders to take active roles in increasing solidarity among women, creating a united international network, and supporting sustainable economic empowerment of women;

We women in power, gathered here in Israel, commit to changing the world by joining together to promote gender equality through women's economic empowerment.