

CPR February 1 WMG Statements

Draft resolution on Highly Hazardous Pesticides

Thank you, Chair:

I'm Rabeb Aloui and I'm speaking on behalf of the WMG.

Pesticide exposures of women in developing countries are aggravated by economic policy changes associated with structural adjustment programs and globalization. Women in these countries, particularly in the agricultural sector, are increasingly exposed

Data from developing countries show that: 1) women's exposures to pesticides are significantly higher than is recognized; 2) poisonings and other pesticide-related injuries are greatly underestimated for women; 3) for a given adverse outcome from exposure, the experience of that outcome is gender-discriminatory; 4) erroneous risk perception increases women's exposures

Women play a significant role in the global agricultural sector, comprising 36% of the total labor force in developed countries and 44% in developing countries. In some regions, the number of female pesticide applicators has increased, highlighting their direct exposure to these chemicals. Gender-related working conditions exacerbate female occupational exposure, with women often occupying lower-paid, lower-status roles, limiting their access to safety measures and information

The resolution should emphasize the profound repercussions of highly hazardous pesticides on women's reproductive health, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.

It should call for comprehensive measures to mitigate risks, protect women's reproductive rights, and create safer environments. Strict regulations throughout the pesticide life cycle, with a focus on highly hazardous pesticides, are urged to address the root causes of the issue.

The resolution also must stress the need for border controls to curb illicit HHP import/export, crucial in preventing cross-border flow and safeguarding women's



reproductive health, and advocates a commitment from all parties to enforce stringent regulations, control production and distribution, and implement measures to control the sale of harmful pesticides. Overall, the resolution needs to seek urgent action to protect women from the disproportionate impact of hazardous pesticide exposure in vulnerable economic settings.

Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste

Thank you, Chair.

The Women's Major Group would like to thank Switzerland for proposing this draft resolution. Overall, we support this resolution, including the crucial work to implement the new Global Framework on Chemicals and advance on issues of concern.

We have a comment on the specific Operative Paragraph of the draft resolution that requests the UNEP Executive Director to play an important role, in collaboration with other UN entities, in the *finalization* and *implementation* of the new Framework: We wonder why stakeholders are not included here?

As recognized in UNEP Global Chemicals Outlook 2, women are among the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of chemicals and waste, and we believe it is important to explicitly include stakeholders in this part of the resolution, too.

We stand ready to contribute to this important work and continue bringing our experiences and knowledge in this process.

Thank you.

Criteria, Norms, Standards and Guidelines for the implementation of Nature-Based Solutions for supporting Sustainable Development

Thank you, Chair.



The Women's Major Group would like to thank the opportunity to provide comments on this draft resolution. Given the enormous attention and funding committed for the implementation of Nature-based solutions, we believe it is crucial to discuss Criteria, Norms, Standards and Guidelines for their implementation in a multilateral, inclusive and unbiased way, and advance on issues of concern for rightsholders. We are thankful for the recent inclusion of IPs, LCs, Women, Youth and Children in the proposed the experts open-ended working group, as these rightholders have key on the ground knowledge to ensure a fair and effective implementation of NbS, and we would like to stress the importance of financial support to ensure their participation.

We have some comments on the Operative Paragraphs of the draft resolution, as following:

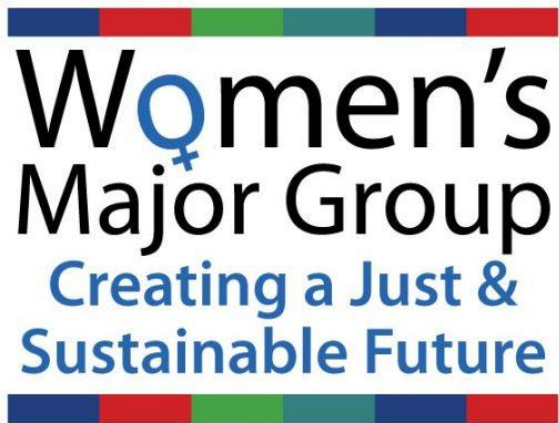
On the first operative paragraph, we propose that regional and gender balance are ensured.

On the third OP, subparagraph (a) we propose to add best and bad practices in the implementation of NbS so far to the requested compilation. On subparagraph (b), we propose to add after safeguards, "to ensure that the rights of IPs and LCs, women, children and youth are protected, ecosystems integrity is maintained and biodiversity loss is addressed, in the implementation of NbS". On subparagraph (c), we propose to include "particularly, IPs and LCs, women and youth" after stakeholders.

On the fourth OP, we propose to add civil society organizations as subjects of finance to develop and deploy NbS, and we also propose to add at the end of this paragraph "that comply with the above mentioned multilaterally agreed criteria and standards", to ensure that sustainable investments will only go to the NbS practices that meet the agreed criteria.

On the fourth OP, we propose to delete the mention to national circumstances, since Nbs should be implemented in partnership with local communities, women, youth and Indigenous peoples in all circumstances.

Finally we propose to add at the end of the fifth OP "for the implementation of NbS".



We will provide our suggestions in writing.

Draft Resolution “Solar Radiation Modification” (SRM)

Thank you Chair for the opportunity to take the floor, and thank you to the Women’s MGS for giving us this space to deliver a Statement. I am speaking on behalf of the Center for International Environmental Law.

We would like to express our deep concern about Solar Radiation Modification (or SRM) an array of geoengineering techniques designed to block out the sun to mask the heating effect of GHGs.

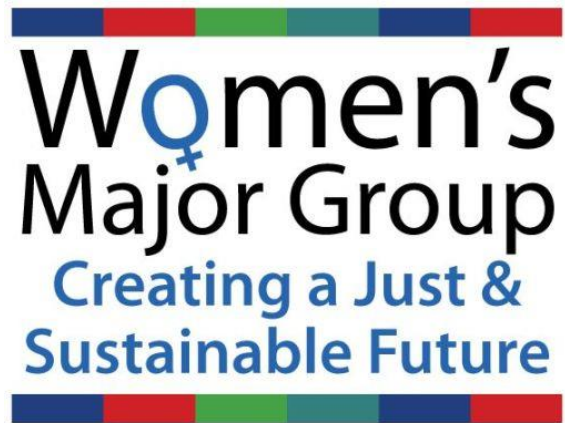
SRM does nothing to tackle the root causes of climate change. On the contrary, overreliance on speculative future technologies risks delaying action to cut greenhouse gas emissions in this critical decade. SRM brings a whole host of new environmental and social risks that are likely to impact hardest those already suffering the worst impacts of climate change.

Most SRM techniques involve intentional and uncontrolled pollution on a planetary scale. SRM is basically fighting multidecadal, global-scale pollution with multidecadal, global-scale pollution.

The Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Council found that “The magnitude of the potential negative socio-economic and human rights impacts is currently incommensurable with any hypothetical benefits.” and that deployment “would have a massive and disproportionate impact on Indigenous Peoples”.

By their very nature, SRM technologies cannot be tested effectively other than through deployment.

There is no precedent in human history to give comfort that these technologies could ever be effectively governed. The risk of unilateral deployment and weaponization is real.



There is in fact large scientific agreement from leading multi-disciplinary scientists on the need for non use of SRM.

Any discussion of SRM at the UN must respect and be coherent with the de facto moratorium on all forms of geoengineering under the Convention on Biological Diversity since 2010, the drive for increased regulation of marine geoengineering techniques under the London Convention / London Protocol, the precautionary principle, principle 10 of the Rio Declaration concerning public participation, as embodied in the Aarhus and Escazu Agreements.