

Dear Excellencies and madam chair

The Women's Major Group and the Science and Technology Major Group would like to address a question regarding most pressing needs in terms of science and knowledge, tools and methodologies.

We see a great lack of public participation and independently funded science. With regards to technologies being brought to our countries, developing countries, claiming to be green!

The environmental and social costs are not understood, we see this with nuclear technology and geo-engineering such as carbon capture and storage –which is increasing the competition for scarce lands and putting pressure on small farmers and local communities where women face the worst part.

Technologies such as large hydro dams in tropical areas have a devastating impact on environment, wildlife and in indigenous people, especially women, and lead to the violation of human rights like the case of Berta Caceres in Honduras!

UNEP and member states should promote and develop independent technology assessments, especially with public participation, in order to achieve this it should focus on capacity building and clean and sound technology transfer taking into account local communities as main beneficiaries especially women.

UNEP should ensure open access to information as for today environmental data are more and more privatized.

We call on the ministers to ensure that this issues becomes part of the work program of UNEP.