

International Day of Women and Girls in Science

Outcome document: February 11-12, 2020

We, the High Representatives of Governments, having met at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 11 and 12 February 2020,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/212 of 22 December 2015, proclaiming 11 February the day of Women and Girls in Science, in which for the first time the Assembly recognized women and girls in science as agents of change,

Reaffirming Security Council resolution 1325 of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security,

Recognizing the role of the Royal Academy of Science International Trust in facilitating resolution 70/212, and its role as the main coordinator of the commemorations of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science,

Welcoming the Capital for Women and Girls in Science, a global fund initiative of the Royal Academy of Science International Trust, to ensure the implementation of this Declaration,

Welcoming the International Chamber of Commerce initiatives, global influence and network to help women in science entrepreneurship opportunities through deeper collaborations with Member States, international organizations, leading companies, chambers of commerce and technology partners from the ICC global community, as well as recognizing the role played by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Telecommunication Union,

Acknowledging the partnership of the Royal Academy of Science International Trust with Member States, United Nations agencies, and other relevant organizations in supporting, promoting and empowering women and girls in science, in particular the following initiatives:

- (i) Girls in Science 4 SDGs International Platform
- (ii) Ilham: Transforming our World Competition
- (iii) Value Veda Global Campaign for Science Education
- (iv) Y 4 X Global Initiative for Equality in Science, Technology and Innovation
- (v) EQUALS Global Partnership for Gender Equality in the Digital Age

Reaffirming the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits which have laid a solid foundation for sustainable development and the 2030 Development Agenda, have helped to shape gender equality and empower women and girls in science and all other fields as well as the outcomes of the 3rd and 4th International Day of Women and Girls in Science,

Recognizing that achieving equality and equity in Science, Technology and Innovation is a global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development and that achieving gender equality and equity in Science, Technology and Innovation should encompass the three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced and integrated manner,

Affirming that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in science will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets and the need that women and girls enjoy equal access to quality education, economic resources and political participation as well as equal opportunities with men and boys for employment, leadership and decision-making at all levels, so they can contribute to society at the level of their capacities,

Noting that while some progress has been achieved in promoting equality and parity in science, challenges in preventing the full integration of women in science in sustainable development still persist, and these challenges are related to policy-making, implementation instruments, financing, capacity strengthening, skills provision, R&D, gender equality, regional integration, among others,

Acknowledging the importance to enhance multi-stakeholder approach that directly involves women actors in science, technology and innovation, from university associations to business representatives, while collaborating actively with relevant international and regional organizations,

Recognizing that investment in women and girls in science is a process, not a project, by its nature and based on constant political will and support for women and girls in science, technology and innovation to foster sustainable economic growth, decent job creation and enhanced wellbeing,

Further recognizing that women and girls with disabilities should be involved in all stages of the technology development cycle,

Our vision

We, who are setting out an ambitious and transformational vision of the role of women and girls in science in achieving the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals,

Commit to providing inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels – early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary, technical and vocational training. All women and girls (including disabled women and girls) should have access to life-long learning opportunities that help them acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities and to participate fully in society, and to achieving the SDGs,

Further commit to providing girls and female youth with a nurturing environment for the full realization of their rights and capabilities, helping our countries to reap the

demographic dividend, including through safe schools and cohesive communities and families,

Commit to support the Girls in Science 4 SDGs International Platform initiative: encourage girls to join the platform, spread the initiatives, provide required materials such as curriculum and other means to help girls achieve their goals,

Encourage Member States, Inter-governmental Organizations, Private Sector, Philanthropists and Foundations to voluntarily contribute to the Fund “The Capital for Women and Girls in Science”,

Urge all governments to empower and invest in girls’ STEAM education from the early stages – including primary education onwards, since the decision to enter STEAM program at university level is strongly influenced by the previous experiences and exposure to science, and to empower women at higher education institutions and public research organizations as essential elements of the Science, Technology, and Innovation ecosystems in order to build a solid and relevant human capital base and enhance R&D,

Urge all governments, the private sector and other stakeholders to accelerate the inclusion of women and girls in science and the increase in the number of women taking up STEAM courses in university level by making more grants and scholarships available and accessible to women and by providing less stringent repayment terms and conditions for loans taken by women who pursue degrees in STEAM,

Encourage to engage women in science experts in national, regional and international dialogue involving all innovation system actors, civil society included, on the relationship between innovation and research, economic growth and society at large, and exploring the move from Science, Technology, and Innovation policy to policy for equality and parity in Science, Technology and Innovation,

Recommend that all governments consider sustainable financing for women and girls in science, by investing in women in science research on global challenges, and SDG related fields, including inclusive and grassroots innovations; including through the mobilization of financial resources from all sources, including public, private, domestic and international resource mobilization and allocation in order to support women in science in innovation and research capacity building,

Urge Member States to increase their voluntary financial, technical and logistical support for women in science training efforts in diplomacy for peace and security, to ensure increased representation of women in science at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions, and the United Nations and its agencies to expand the role and contribution of women in science in the United Nations as well as in the field-based operations,

Calls upon Member States to increase the participation of women in science in diplomatic missions, and at decision-making levels in diplomacy and foreign policy,

Urge Member States to invest in enabling disabled women and girls in science as agents and beneficiaries of sustainable development programs,

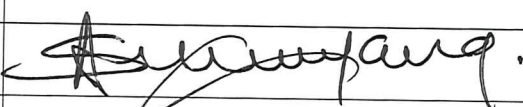






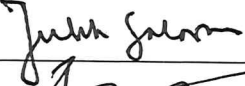
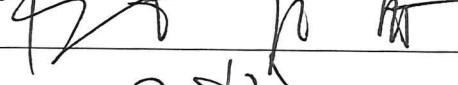
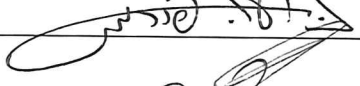


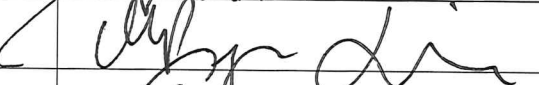
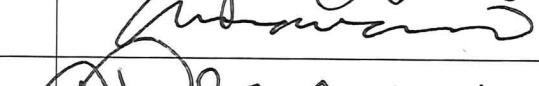




Encourage the forthcoming conferences of the United Nations as well as other global forums and efforts for sustainability, to take into consideration the critical roles of women in Science, Technology and Innovation in explaining and responding to world's challenges,

Urge all governments to invest in Women and Girls in Science for Inclusive Green Growth in National, Regional and International Development Agendas, including in new research infrastructures and centers of excellence to foster research and development, as well as to increase efforts in leveraging financing from private sector and other non-traditional sources to complement public funding in order to support investment in women and girls in science and innovation.

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"Investment in Equality in Science, Technology and Innovation in the Era of Digitalization for Sustainable Development"

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Member State / Organization	Signature
African Union	
Afghanistan	
Andorra	
Burkina Faso	
Costa Rica	
Cyprus	
Ecuador	
Fiji	
Finland	
Hungary	
Israel	
Latvia	
Malta	
Moldova	
Montenegro	
Philippines	
Poland	
Portugal	
San Marino	

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