

7th International Day of Women and Girls in Science
“Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Water Unites Us”
New York, February 11, 2022

OUTCOME DOCUMENT

We, the High Representatives of Member States, having met virtually at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 11 February 2022,

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 International Day of Women and Girls in Science, in which, for the first time, the General Assembly recognized women and girls in science as agents of change,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 76/213 of 17 December 2021 on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development; General Assembly resolution 71/222 of 21 December 2016, proclaiming the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018 – 2028, as well as General Assembly resolution 75/212 of 21 December 2020 on the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review on the implementation of its objectives; and General Assembly resolution 76/153 of 16 December 2021, reaffirming the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right and recognizing this right as an essential element for human life, health and dignity,

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

Noting the Outcome Document of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow of 13 November 2021 and the Glasgow Declaration on the Fair Water Footprint,

Taking note of the Generation Equality Forum, cohosted by Mexico and France, in 2021, and particularly its Action Coalition on Technology and Innovation, created in partnership with civil society, governments, women activists, youth, international organizations and private sector to catalyze action, drive investment and deliver concrete, game-changing results for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

Looking forward to the sixty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, to be held from 14 to 25 March 2022, that will consider the priority theme of achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes,

Further looking forward the High-Level Symposium on Water (27 June 2022), to be held in Portugal in the margins of the Second UN Ocean Conference (27 June to 1 July 2022), and the Second High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action on Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2022, to be held in Dushanbe (6 to 9 June 2022), as well as the Mid-term Review of the UN Water Action Decade in 2023,

Welcoming the celebration of the 7th International Day of Women and Girls in Science and RASIT's partnership with Member States, United Nations agencies, and other relevant organizations in supporting, promoting and empowering all women and girls in science,

Further welcoming Cansu Global and Cansu Global Capital Fund, established by RASIT to contribute to the implementation of SDG6 and its targets and to provide follow-up to this Outcome Document, respectively; Cansu Science, Innovation, Transformation and Education (Cansu SITE) International Platform initiative; and other RASIT initiatives aimed at supporting, promoting and empowering all women and girls in science,

Building on the Outcome Documents endorsed by Member States at the previous International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assemblies in 2018, 2019 and 2020,

Further building on the Outcome Document of the Dushanbe Women Water Forum "Women for Water: Bridging Voices to Action" of 19 June 2018,

Deeply concerned about the increasing global water challenges and the limited progress in achieving universal and equitable access to water and sanitation for basic domestic and productive needs, including menstrual hygiene management, and their impact on achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

Further noting with concern that, while some progress has been achieved in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the underrepresentation of women and girls and their challenges in achieving full integration in water-related sciences still persist; women continue to be underrepresented, amongst others, in policymaking, implementation of UN instruments, financing, capacity strengthening, skills provision, R&D, regional integration, access to economic resources and political participation, leadership and decision-making at all levels,

Recognizing that the promotion of a human rights-based approach to water, including equity, diversity, and inclusion, as well as non-discrimination, is indispensable to the achievement of sustainable development and that equity in Science, Technology and Innovation should encompass the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced and integrated manner,

Acknowledging the importance of enhancing an intersectional and multi-stakeholder approach that directly involves all women and girls, as actors, from university associations to business representatives, in Science, Technology and Innovation, while collaborating actively with relevant international and regional organizations,

Recognizing that gender-responsive investment in science-based and green technology-based solutions and programs for water is a process, not a project, requiring constant political will and support for gender equality in Science, Technology and Innovation to foster socio-economic sustainable development, decent job creation, and enhanced wellbeing,

Our vision: We, who are setting out an ambitious and transformational vision of the role of all women and girls in all fields of sciences to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Urge Member States to empower and invest in the education of girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) from early stages, including primary education onwards, and to empower women at higher education institutions and public research organizations as essential actors of the Science, Technology and Innovation ecosystems, in order to build a solid and relevant human capital base and enhance R&D,

Further urge Member States to engage women and girls in science in national, regional and international dialogue involving all innovation system actors, focusing on the relationship between water innovation and research, economic growth and society at large, and exploring the move from Science, Technology, and Innovation policy to policy for equity, diversity and inclusion in Science, Technology and Innovation,

Commit to support and encourage the full, equal and meaningful involvement and participation of women and girls in Science, Technology and Innovation for water security, management, and sustainable development; and, *acknowledge* their contributions and potential as agents of change,

Encourage Member States, intergovernmental organizations, private sector, civil society and other stakeholders to cooperate with the Cansu SITE International Platform initiative, Cansu Global and Cansu Global Capital Fund, in view of supporting the full achievement of equal access to and participation of women and girls in science, as well as accelerating the implementation of solutions that address challenges in a holistic and forward looking way, especially in the water sector,

Further encourage Member States to involve women and girls with disabilities in science, and to enable them as agents of change and beneficiaries, in all stages of the sustainable development cycle, programs, and decision-making,

Recommend that Member States include women scientists and experts from different disciplines in viewing water challenges and defining synergies and complementarities for holistic water for sustainable development solutions and gender-responsive programs from an intercultural perspective,

Invite Member States to include science-based water strategies into national economic and infrastructure plans and place equity, diversity and inclusion at the center of water policies, programs, services and Integrated Water Resources Management, to ensure that water remains available, accessible, and affordable for all, including for all women and girls who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination,

Call upon Member States to consider sustainable financing from all sources for women and girls in science, namely in support of their research and its open publication on SDG 6 and related global challenges, making information accessible to all, including in braille, to leave no one behind,

Further call upon Member States to invest in equity, diversity and inclusion in water sciences for inclusive green growth in national, regional and international development agendas, including new research infrastructures and centers of excellence to foster research and development,

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, *further urge* the United Nations and its agencies, funds and programs, to expand the role and contribution of all women in science, including those with disabilities, at headquarters and in the field,

Encourage Member States to increase the full, equal and meaningful participation of all women in science in decision-making at all levels in public sector, including in diplomacy and foreign policy,

Recognize the role of media, communication, and arts in strengthening the role of women and girls in science, particularly those water- and environment-related,

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 and girls in Science, Technology and Innovation in explaining and responding to global challenges, including as related to water.



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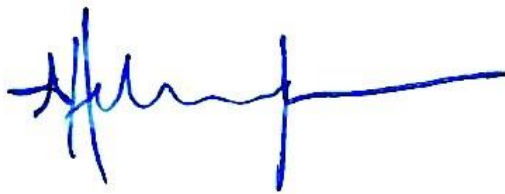
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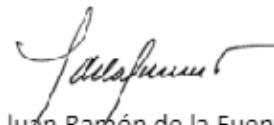
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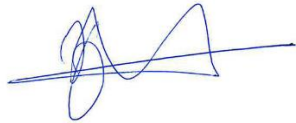
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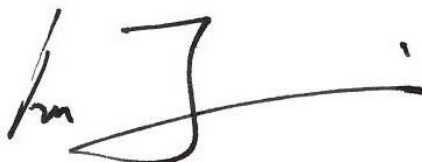
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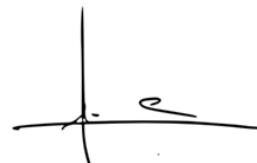
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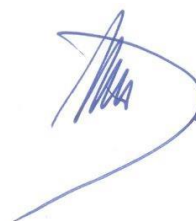
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