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-

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,

*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.



