



**Women's Major Group Intervention
Sixth OWG on SDG**

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On Technology

Thank you Mr Chair,

The Women's Major Group draws your attention to the fact that although technological change has contributed significantly to recent economic growth, benefits have accrued to the wealthiest sectors in industrialized countries. For example, 77% of people from developed countries are Internet users, while only 31% in the developing world are. Women are generally regarded as "recipients" of technology products but are marginalized in terms of decision-making on technology developments.

Further, all new technologies are controlled by few transnational corporations in each sector through intellectual property and market dominance, as it was illustrated by Mr. Martin Khor this morning.

For example, 10 companies control 76% of commercial seeds market, 10 companies control 95% of agrochemical market, and 6 of them control 100% of transgenic seeds.

Powerful new technologies that have large potential negative environmental and health impacts, are on the markets without any evaluation nor regulation. Therefore, technology transfer can end being dumping of untested technologies onto developing regions

In order for technology to serve sustainable development, any SDG goal

related to technology must be formulated to:

- *Strengthen* recognition and ensure use of indigenous and local knowledge systems and technologies.
- *Ensure* that developing countries have equitable access to environmentally sound technologies, including lifting of intellectual property barriers
- *Increase* and enable the active participation of women and affected groups in decision-making throughout all stages of technology development, including assessment.
- *Establish* a multilateral mechanism for ecological, social, cultural, and economic evaluation of technologies, and ban technologies that can damage Earth cycles, such as geo-engineering.