

Review of SDG implementation and interrelations among goals: Discussion on SDG 10 – Reduced inequalities

THURSDAY, 11 JULY 2019

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

CONFERENCE ROOM 4, UNHQ

OFFICIAL MEETING

Nalini Singh – Official Discussant at this event as MGoS representative. Also representing the Fiji Women's Rights Movement, APRCEM and WMG.

(Time assigned 2 minutes with 1 minute in at conclusion)

Thank you and bula vinaka to all.

As a woman from the Global South, I know what inequalities look like. Globally, we know that:

- Diverse women are at the bottom percentile of income earners. The richest 10% in the world are earning 40% of the global income. On average, women are paid just 63% of what men earn. There is no country where income inequality is absent and it will take 202 years to close the global gender pay gap.
- There is unstable growth, unsustainable development, political instability, protracted wars, illegal occupation, impact of climate change and more displacement of people.
- Although social protection is expanding, healthcare expenditure for women especially, those with disabilities, is five times higher than the average.
- And it will take women 107 years to catch up with men politically.

I support the speakers before me and now outline what must be done to eliminate inequalities:

1. within the country:

- a. Eliminate income disparity and structural discrimination on the basis of age, sexual orientation and gender identity, disability, race, ethnicity, religion, and region, by raising the income of the poor, especially women from disadvantaged social groups (including: young girls and older women, single mothers, women with disabilities, LGBTIQ communities, indigenous peoples, refugees and others).
- b. Overturn discriminatory laws and policies to ensure substantive equality as defined by CEDAW.
- c. Ensure equitable and just distribution of resources through progressive taxation, minimum wage and implementable social protection policies.
- d. Gather disaggregated and timely data for all levels for appropriate policy making.

2. For between countries:

- a. Stop unfair trade and financial malpractices.
- b. Strengthen regulations and monitoring of global financial institutions.
- c. Address root causes of migration. Improve systems and regulations to ensure organized and safe migration and mobility of people, and portability of rights.
- d. Implement preferential treatment for developing countries in trade and economic policies to promote gainful employment and reduce poverty.
- e. Climate change concerns this goal as well. Developed countries cannot speak about addressing social, economic and environmental justice pursuant to this Goal, and then put into place policies that subsidize the fossil fuel industry.

Unless the root causes of inequalities are addressed, it is going to become harder to achieve the SDGs. People will rise and resist and we, women, will begin with the Global Women's Strike next International Women's Day BECAUSE IF WOMEN STOP, THE WORLD STOPS!

Thank you.