



High Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2019

Women's Major Group Intervention

[“Are we on track for mobilizing the trillions we need for the SDGs?”](#)

9:00 AM on July 15, 2019

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Good afternoon, my name is Sylvie Ndongmo, representing the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Cameroon section and the Women's Major Group.

Today, there is no country in the world that is free from conflict, because violence against women and girls exists everywhere. Financing for development requires changing the rules of the game for development justice and feminist peace. It requires creating an enabling environment for women's political participation, protection, and rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights.

We need a power shift that addresses root causes of violence. Women's voices, rights, and experiences must be at the centre of sustainable development and peace. This includes women and girls in conflict, as well as indigenous, refugee, migrant, disabled, younger, older and gender nonconforming people.

Economies must be guided by the human security of all. Extractivist industries and militaries must be accountable to women's human rights. Security measures must not shrink spaces for, or undermine women human rights defenders. Social protection including comprehensive education must be prioritised.

Governments should:

- Commit to accelerating Women, Peace and Security commitments as part of SDG Acceleration Actions;
- Stop transferring arms that contribute to sexual and gender based violence, and implement the Arms Trade Treaty and Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons;
- Prevent attacks and ensure safety and leadership of women, peace, and environmental activists;

- Ensure effective coordination mechanisms for policy coherence.

In addition, the international community should:

- Support social protection and prevent austerity measures that shift the burden of care to women and exacerbate gender inequality and violence;
- Stop militarisation of development aid;
- Use post-conflict reconstruction and recovery processes to redress inequalities, from an early stage by linking reparative measures to economic reforms.

Sustainable development needs feminist peace and development justice.
The time is now.