



## **Interactive Dialogue**

### **Environmental conservation, protection, and rehabilitation**

**Wednesday, 19 March 2025, 15.00 – 16.30**

## **Concept Note**

### ***Overview***

Over the past 30 years, environmental and climate disasters have worsened, disproportionately affecting women and girls by exacerbating gender inequalities and threatening their rights, livelihoods, health, and wellbeing. Despite their crucial role in conserving biodiversity, working on the land, and effective environmental and climate governance, women remain underrepresented in decision-making. Women and girls, particularly from Indigenous communities and local communities, lead environmental advocacy, often without adequate protection or resources. To achieve sustainable development, it is essential to ensure women's equal participation in green, blue, and care economies and significantly increase gender-responsive climate finance.

This dialogue will bring together stakeholders, including government officials, representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC active in the areas of climate and environmental action and the United Nations system. The interactive dialogue will include testimonies from women and girls affected by and taking action on climate and environmental disasters and hear reflections from duty bearers and stakeholders on their planned action and investments for adaptation and mitigation measures.

The objective of the interactive dialogue is to highlight good practices and discuss gaps, challenges and opportunities for accelerating gender-responsive environmental and coordinated response to the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, ensuring no one is left behind in the implementation of Beijing Platform for Action and the realization of the SDGs.

### ***Format and participation***

The interactive dialogue will be chaired by Ms. Robin Maria de Vogel (Netherlands), Vice-Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women. A moderator will support the Chair. The dialogue will include presentations by speakers active in climate and environmental action from diverse backgrounds and regions, followed by comments, questions and contributions from Member States and other stakeholders. Panelists will respond to any questions posed and make short concluding comments, time permitting.

Member States will participate in the dialogue on a voluntary basis. No speakers' list will be kept. UN-Women will facilitate an online application process for representatives of NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC. The list of NGOs proposed for participation in the event will be distributed to Member States through respective Bureau members.

### ***Leading questions***

The below set of suggested questions are intended to support the discussion.

What institutional mechanisms have governments put in place to ensure women's full, equal, and meaningful participation in decision-making processes related to environmental conservation, protection and rehabilitation?

What are the key barriers Indigenous women face in securing land and resource rights? And how can governments and non-State actors, e.g., academia, civil society and international organizations better support Indigenous communities in overcoming these challenges?

What are the gaps between policy and practice that hinder young people, particularly young women, from pursuing education and careers in the fields that enable their effective participation in the green and blue economies?

Looking ahead to 2030 and beyond, what best practices and strategies can be replicated to harness the synergies between the Beijing Platform for Action and the Sustainable Development Goals in relation to gender-responsive climate and environmental action?

### ***Outcome***

The outcome of the discussion will be in the form of a summary by the Chair of the Commission, prepared in consultation with the regional groups, through the members of the Bureau.