

- “QUOTE” name (tribal affiliation if applicable), title, organization, country

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“Ending the climate emergency and poverty requires a holistic approach. Women are key actors and their capacity needs to be developed in promoting sustainable environmental practices and developing climate smart enterprises. This is the time to stop talking and start acting. In the kilum-Ijim forest in the North West Region of Cameroon, my organisation Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch has trained over 2000 bee farmers including women and youths in honey value chain development. With the income raised from bee farming, local communities see the need to plant more bee loving trees, prevent bushfires, and monitor the health of the forest. Bee farming creates jobs, increases income, conserves the forest and promotes gender equality. Our regular forest education sessions over the years have to a great extent changed the negative behaviours towards the forest and natural resources as a whole. Let us promote an inclusive green economy, both for ourselves and for future generations.” **Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki, Women Empowerment Officer, Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch, Cameroon**

“The climate crisis is here. There is no time to waste. I think every country, worldwide, must declare much more ambitious commitments at COP26, and must take those commitments seriously because not doing so is affecting the lives, the very existence of countries, entire cultures and peoples, like the Marshall Islands.” **Hilda Heine, Former President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Marshall Islands**

“I am an Indigenous woman of the Tlingit Nation of the L’uknaxh.ádi, the Coho Salmon Clan under the Raven moiety from the Frog House. I am deeply rooted to the Tongass Forest in Alaska, one of the largest remaining temperate forests in the world, which is vital for climate mitigation. Our people have been here over 10,000 years, and we are here to protect and preserve the land so we can be here 10,000 years more. Our culture is alive and we want our traditional ways of life that have protected the forest to continue for future generations, which is why I continue to fight for further protections for the salmon, bears, and all the living beings within Haa Aani, Our Homelands.” **Kari Ames (Tlingit), WECAN Representative in the Tongass Forest, Alaska, USA**

“With both the COVID, climate, and every crisis in history, overexploited countries and marginalized sectors of society are systematically left behind to fend for themselves. The time to join the masses and follow the lead of our environmental defenders and workers has been long overdue. The Global North has a climate debt to humanity. Reparations to MAPA (Most Affected Peoples and Areas) must be paid for the historic injustices of the richest elite, vaccine equity, cancellation of debt, and climate finance are only the beginning of these. To fight for climate justice is to bring down systems of oppression and injustice that have led to this crisis -- capitalism, colonialism, imperialism, the patriarchy, and more. Together we will fight for a just future where no one is left behind.” **Mitzi Jonelle Tan, climate justice activist, Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines, Philippines**

“This past year communities across the world have dealt with overlapping COVID-19 pandemic, economic insecurity, and climate chaos. While communities of color continue to bear the brunt of crisis, essential workers and women of color care workers in particular have held society together, and helped us all endure these crises. Climate justice means investing in women and femme workers. And as we rebuild, we cannot allow further investment in fossil fuels and false solutions that further harm to our communities on the frontlines of crises. Now is the time to divest from the old broken economy and invest in the transformative solutions our communities have been advancing on the ground towards a feminist, anti-racist, regenerative economy.” **Cindy Wiesner, Executive Director, Grassroots Global Justice Alliance**

“We can no longer afford business as usual - domestic policies and international agreements that are designed to tinker at the margins and claim to address the growing threat of climate change while still relying on the markets to regulate fossil fuels and refusing to support the people and countries who are most vulnerable to climate change and also the least responsible for the mess we are in. We need the wealthy countries to stop expanding fossil fuels and debt forgiveness for countries in the Global South so they are not forced to do more oil drilling and fracking. This cannot be done without international cooperation and the Paris Accord is simply not enough. That’s why over 100 Nobel Laureates, indigenous leaders, and thousands of scientists are now calling for a Fossil Fuel Treaty to ensure that we stop expanding oil, gas and coal and wind down fossil fuels, faster, fairer and forever.” **Tzeporah Berman, Chair, Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, Canada**

“The situation in Brazil is now very serious, especially for women. Domestic violence against Indigenous women has increased a lot, recently two girls were brutally raped and murdered. We have a president who believes that women are objects and that our voices and Indigenous rights should not be heard and respected. However, for years we have remained strong; because the most important thing now is to fight for the Amazon and for Mother Earth. The struggle for Mother Earth is the Mother of all struggles, and women are leading the way”. **Sônia Guajajara, Executive Coordinator for the Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB)**

“We have been protecting the world’s biodiversity for millennia, and we will keep doing that and we are not going to stop, we are not going anywhere. We are going to be here, even if governments are trying to cover up their criminal activity in our Indigenous territories. I am joining the Global Women’s Assembly for Climate Justice to demand that the oil is kept in the ground, the forests stay standing, and that my community has the human rights we deserve.” **Helena Gualinga (Kichwa), Climate and Indigenous Rights Youth Activist, Sarayaku, Ecuador**

“We are at a choice point for humanity. The most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report confirms what we already knew to be true—with no significant action, the climate crisis will continue to escalate quickly. Every day, we can see for ourselves forest fires burning all over the world, massive flooding, extreme droughts, people losing their livelihoods and lives-- we are in a climate emergency. As the world prepares for one of the most important climate talks

since the Paris Agreement, we know solutions exist to mitigate the worst impacts, and that women are leading the way. We can act now and we must act now, which is why WECAN is hosting the Global Women's Assembly for Climate Justice to uplift women, gender-diverse and community-led solutions, strategies, policies, and frameworks to address the climate crisis. It is code red and we are drawing a red line to say no more sacrifice people and no more sacrifice zones. This is the time to unite together to build the healthy and just future we know is possible for each other and the Earth.” **Osprey Orielle Lake, Executive Director, Women’s Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN)**

“Even in these difficult times, people are finding ways to resist growing fascism as well as an economic and political system that render the majority of us, more so those of us from the Global South, disposable. We have to conceive our work in movements as a deeply political project. This is not the time to say we are neutral. As radical anti-capitalist feminists and environmental defenders, we have to know that our work will be contentious. Importantly, we have to build and work across movements and centering the aspirations of those on the frontlines of the multiple and intersecting crises that we are facing.” **Ruth Nyambura, Kenyan Activist, African Ecofeminist Collective, Kenya**

“As a Matriarch of the Ponca Nation, I am honored to have the responsibility of caring for the generations to come by ensuring the health and welfare of Mother Earth, Father Sky and Relatives in every form. Life itself hangs in the balance, and we women are coming together to say that we must make the correct choices for our collective future ,now.” **Casey Camp-Horinek, Ponca Nation, Environmental Ambassador, Women’s Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN) Senior Project Leader/Board Member**

"The women of the Congo are determined to change things in Itombwe rainforest, for ourselves and for the rest of the world. We are taking our forest stewardship seriously. We know that the difference we make not only affects our world, but the rest of our planet. We feel the weight of it all and are doing our part. To our sisters around the world we say: We are together!" **Neema Namadamu, WECAN Coordinator for the Democratic Republic of Congo, DR Congo**

“Women, Native Peoples and youth are leading many of the most potent grassroots and cross-divide organizing to interrupt the corporate and governments’ eco-cidal plunder of Mother Earth. Now, strategic pressure is needed from every sector, nation and direction to stop extractive industries for the sake of our collective future. Not in the abstract, but to avert increasingly worse impacts that will create even more suffering, injustice and instability. I’m honored to be part of this summit to help to leverage our collective actions on behalf of the beauty and gift of Life herself.” **Nina Simons, Co-founder and Chief Relationship Officer for Bioneers, USA**

“Women are leading the cavalry against climate change, as with most efforts to address injustice. This is true for climate justice, environmental justice, immigration justice, criminal justice, racial justice and so on. Even as we fight, we are victimized, sexualized, and tokenized but rarely

recognized for the spaces that we hold in the name of caring and loving people and the planet. The quote 'a burden shared is a burden halved' is the mantra we all must embrace to defeat climate injustice." **Adrienne L. Hollis, PhD, JD, Founder and President, Hollis Environmental Consulting and Ubuntu Power Project.** "I am what I am because of who we all are."

"We must look at SDGs as a whole to achieve them. We can start it by empowering and encouraging Indigenous women to create a space to bring their genius traditions, undervalued wisdom, and longest-ever data history to the new economy. It is time to stop watching Indigenous Women as being "cool dressed", but increasing their role and visibility in the innovation ecosystem. This is the point we must focus on to build resiliency on Earth and in the business world in the time of global warming. Our clock is ticking, and we must make the tech world innovative to protect our soil, water, air, forests. So, IndiGenius Global empowers traditional knowledge, oldest data in the new economy via investing in indigenous people's businesses. Our mission is to provide the world 10X better value via building Maximum Valuable Product and achieve Return on Impact." **Dr. Aytakin Asgarova, MD, Founder, IndiGenius Global**

"As climate frontline people facing harsh loss and damage, there are many survival demands. Two calls at this global gathering of women activists are for a fossil-fuel-free future through urgent decarbonisation, not carbon trade and offsets. Second, Pacific young people and women-led climate groups call for a minimum of 97 Member State signatories (half of UNGA) by September 2022 to endorse a call for an International Court of Jurists (ICJ) Advisory Opinion on Human rights and Climate Change, for intergenerational equity. Governments, communities, civil society networks, academics, religious leaders, please endorse, contact organisers and speak with your Governments: <https://www.wy4cj.org/> Action needed, not more words. One point five to stay alive. Save the Pacific, save the world. "
-Noelene Nabulivou, Director, DIVA for Equality/ Women Defend Commons Network, Fiji, Pacific

"We are the grassroots; we have the real solutions to the climate crisis and they don't include things like nuclear, carbon trading or carbon capture and storage. There is no one size fits all in a Just Transition away from fossil fuels but we must decrease energy usage and waste and do everything we can to keep fossil fuels in the ground in the first place." **-Kandi White - Indigenous Environmental Network- Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara**

Now is the time to catalyze change for survival in the climate decade! And there is no faster way to make an impact than to invest in the power, networks and innovation of women and girls. The work of climate, environment and justice is and has always been driven by communities whose very architecture is relationship, shared expertise and local economy, scaled to meet unceasing and synergistic demands, in the face of opposition, denial and delay. The compound crises of this moment is teaching us the value of care, and repair as a strategy. Racialized communities of Black and Indigenous and People of Color have lived to tell the story of survival. It's up to us to lean into the lessons or else repeat them. - **Tamara Toles O'Laughlin, National Climate Strategist; President & CEO of the Environmental Grantmakers Association. Turtle Island/USA**

“Moving towards a world rooted in sustainability, balance and climate justice is not only imperative -- the pathways to this future are also within reach. We know this, because this vision comes to life daily in the vital work of grassroots feminists, community leaders, and defenders of water and land worldwide. Their work counters the business-as-usual approaches of exploitation, consumption and pollution, and offers tangible alternatives that must shape local and international policy.” - **Diana Duarte, Director of Policy and Strategic Engagement, MADRE.**

“The most affected by climate crisis are the one’s who contribute the least to the global emissions. Climate crisis for African women means travelling longer distances in search of water, it means Gender Based Violence in the household , it also means conflict among pastoralist and farmers over competition for pasture and water.It means the emergence of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps.We need to act Now to avert this disaster!” - **Leonida Odongo, Coordinator, Haki Nawiri Afrika, Kenya**

“Now is the time for undeniably bold grassroots leadership! These words never rang more true than at this moment in time. International bodies and the state actors they represent need to get up to speed. The very communities most affected by climate chaos and the deadly industries and policies that created it have long been sounding the alarm and are building just solutions that should be scaled and resourced now. Not one more false promise or techno-fix is acceptable. It’s time to follow the frontlines (and their solutions), and leave no one behind.” - **Monica Atkins, Co-Executive Director of the Climate Justice Alliance. Turtle Island (USA)**

“Climate change adversely affects those who least contribute to it.In Africa the climate crisis means women travelling longer distances in search of water, it means Gender Based Violence in the household , it means conflict as communities fight over pasture and water , it means the emergence of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps.It means death of people and animals and forced relocation.In areas such as Laikipia and Baringo , houses, hotels , animals have died and building submerged , sources of livelihoods have been lost .The time to act is now ! to avert this crisis.” **Leonida Odongo , Executive Director, Haki Nawiri Afrika, Kenya**