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## Concept Note

### Side event

# ***"For gender-sensitive climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean".***

Thursday, March 17, 2022

13:00pm, New York (GMT-5)

#### I. Context

As part of its presidency of COP 25 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Chilean government undertook the task of promoting the implementation of the commitments made in the Lima Work Program and its Gender Action Plan at the national and regional levels. At the national level, Chile integrated the gender approach in its updated Nationally Determined Contribution, in its Long Term Climate Strategy (LTCS) and formed an intersectoral Gender and Climate Change roundtable, among other advances. At the regional level, this effort was reflected in the organization of the "*Regional Meeting on Climate Change and Gender Equality*", held in 7 sessions during September 2021.

The Regional Meeting was organized by the government of Chile, in its capacity as COP25 Presidency, through the Ministries of Environment, Foreign Affairs and Women and Gender Equality of Chile and was developed thanks to the support of the European Union, through its EUROCLIMA+ and EUROSOCIAL Programs, with the technical support of ECLAC, as key strategic partners in climate action and to connect the dots between the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The United Nations System in Chile and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg also collaborated.

The objective of the Regional Meeting was to exchange best practices, challenges and opportunities in Latin American and Caribbean countries regarding the integration of the gender approach in national strategies, plans and policies for mitigation and adaptation to climate change. It also contributed to strengthening



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the capacities of decision-makers to implement the Lima Work Program and its enhanced Gender Action Plan (2020-2024). This meeting also sought to highlight, the synergies between the climate change agenda and other agendas related to sustainable development from a gender perspective, promoting new approaches to address climate change policies, in light of the impacts and lessons learned from the pandemic caused by COVID-19.

In addition, for the first time in the history of our region, within the framework of the 62nd Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Ministers and High Authorities of the national mechanisms for the advancement of women, together with women's and feminist organizations and movements, analyzed how the impacts of climate change are related to the structural nodes of gender inequality.

The declaration resulting from this meeting is undoubtedly innovative, transformative, courageous and ambitious. It is also an unprecedented milestone, as it is the only region in the world that has promoted a Regional Gender Agenda for more than four decades and has the first binding regional treaty on the environment (Escazú Agreement). It has the potential to become a region that transforms and promotes gender equality and women's autonomy in international decision-making spaces related to the environment, climate change, disaster risk management and reduction, and sustainable development.

## II. Objectives

- Share the results of the "*Regional Meeting on Climate Change and Gender Equality*", held during September 2021.
- To disseminate the declaration of the 62nd Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, virtual meeting 26-27 January 2022.
- To raise awareness of the importance of promoting international cooperation and partnerships on gender and climate change.
- Share experiences and good practices on the implementation of the UNFCCC Enhanced Gender Action Plan (2020 -2024).



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### III. Structure (1 hour)

#### 1. Welcoming remarks (tbc) (5 minutes)

- Mr. Milenko Skoknic, Ambassador Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations (3')
- Ewout Sandker, Head of International Cooperation and Development, Delegation of the European Union in Chile (3')

#### 2. Presentations (20 minutes)

- Results of the "Regional Meeting on Climate Change and Gender Equality", Johanna Arriagada, Gender and Climate Change Focal Point to the UNFCCC, Ministry of the Environment of Chile (tbc) (10').
- "Gender equality in the context of climate change: the Regional Gender Agenda of Latin American and Caribbean countries", Lorena Aguilar, ECLAC Gender Affairs Division Consultant (10')

#### 3. Conversation panel (25 minutes)

**Moderator: Marina Casas, Gender and Climate Change Specialist, Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, ECLAC**

- o Cecilia Nicolini, Secretary of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Argentina
- o Giselle Deno, Coordinator of the Vice-Ministry of International Cooperation, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic
- o Juan Andrés Casas, Gender and Climate Change Focal Point to the UNFCCC, Ministry of Environment and Energy of Colombia.

Questions to panelists (4 minutes per question' )

- o In your country, what challenges have you faced in implementing the gender mandates of the UNFCCC? (Colombia and Dominican Republic)
- o With respect to the results of the "Regional Meeting on Climate Change and Gender Equality" and the 62nd Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the



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Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, what do you think should be the next steps in the region? (2' per panelist) (Argentina)

#### 4. Closing remarks (5')

María Inés Salamanca, Partnerships and RM Specialist - Americas and Caribbean, Coordinator UN Women Chile

#### IV. Technical considerations

The event will be held in the framework of the Conference on the Legal Status of Women on March 17 at 13:00 New York time (GMT-5), through the Zoom platform. Simultaneous Spanish-English translation will be available.