



High-level Political Forum 2019

8th Meeting: Science policy interface including the briefing from the independent group of scientists on the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR)

Thank you, Chair.

I am Sarankhukhoo from the Women's Major Group.

We welcome that the Global Sustainable Development Report brings together useful data and analysis. However, we see significant gaps and shortcomings.

While the GSDR challenges the destructive potential of limitless economic growth, its 'Call to Action' does not recognise the fundamental need to **overhaul the exploitative, global capitalist system** and move away from a market-driven model of development. This model is not sustainable for our planet and its people.

Proposing public-private partnerships as a solution, **totally misses the mark!**

I am from Mongolia and in my country we see that PPP models and privatization have actually been **exploitative and profiteering**. It denies people universal, safe, affordable, and accessible public services. Because of privatization, **out-of-pocket health expenditure in Mongolia is at least 42%, even as the coverage of social health insurance reached 100 percent**. Profit cannot be prioritized over people, **EVER**.

There is not enough weight given to regulating the private sector, taxing them appropriately, and closing dangerous tax loopholes. Inappropriate incentives too often serve as corporate giveaways. **In my country, where more than 75% of foreign direct investments goes to mining, its contribution in terms of tax revenues is only about 13-24%.**

These practices systematically deprive the public sector of resources and enables the exploitation of the environment, and communities. Repeatedly, we raise the alarm of growing corporate power at the expense of women and peoples' rights, and our environment. **We must act. Governments must act.**

The report also positions the expansion of technology usage as the solution, rather than a tool whose implications and impacts must be carefully considered. The report should be cautious around technology advocacy to protect workers, domestic businesses and privacy of citizens.

Finally, this is a gender-blind report, failing to meaningfully integrate gender in its analysis. Human rights and women's rights are absent.

The 'Call for Action' in the GSDR should emphasize policy coherence between human rights conventions, the 2030 Agenda, the Beijing Platform for Action, amongst others. **Human rights violations, including land and resource grabbing, the increased killings of human rights and environmental defenders must be indispensable in the report.**

Human rights must be at the core of our analysis, and ultimately, in the solutions that we make.

Thank you.