

Children, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the World Conference on Human Rights and the international Conference on Population and Development,

Aware of the recent major political changes in Africa, particularly the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa as well as other processes of democratization taking place in the continent,

Aware also of the fact that African women have become more active participants in the development process in various capacities,

Determined to support women fully so that they can contribute to and participate more effectively in all the political and economic changes now taking place in Africa,

1. Declare our commitment to forge a new ethic for sustainable development based on the equal and active participation of women, men and youth as agents of change at family, community, national and international levels;

2. Further Commit ourselves to:

Integrating women's concerns in:

(a) balancing political, economic, cultural and social policy options;

(b) Harmonizing and reconciling economic growth with social equity;

(c) Emphasizing the inter-dependence and partnership of women, men and youth of Africa, in an atmosphere of peace and well-being;

3. Recognize that women have great potential which if mobilized and harnessed will make it possible to overcome the obstacles which have impeded the full and effective implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies since 1985;

4. Uphold the fact that the African Platform for Action is the outcome of a regional country-based review of the progress of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, and broad consultations at national, subregional and regional levels, with inputs from grass-roots communities;

5. Recognize that the African Platform for Action provides the African Common Position on the advancement of women, as well as a framework for committed and concerted action at regional, subregional and national levels for the accelerated achievement of the objectives of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies during the rest of the 1990s and into the twenty-first century;

6. Calls upon the United Nations institutions and international development partners and NGOs to commit themselves to the successful implementation of the African Platform for Action;

7. Adopt the African Platform for Action as a renewed commitment by African Governments and as a blueprint to further accelerate the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies in line with the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development; The Role of Women in Africa in the 1990s, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and declarations at international and regional levels.