

## W7 STATEMENT

ON THE MEETINGS OF G7 DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH MINISTERS 18, 19 AND 20 MAY 2022

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to present a major burden for women, girls, and marginalized groups all over the world. Women have lost about 800 billion USD in income over the past two years. It will take us now 267 years to achieve global equal economic participation<sup>1</sup>. **Women7 (W7) urge G7 Development and Health Ministers to advocate for a gender-transformative, inclusive, and participatory development and health policy.**

In the Global South especially, the pandemic, the climate crisis, food insecurity and related conflict over resources endanger the livelihoods and health of approximately 3.3 to 3.6 billion people<sup>2</sup> and inevitably forces them to leave their homes. These crises affect women and marginalized groups disproportionately and impair access to health and education as well as to economic and political participation.

W7 raise their deep concerns about the degree to which women's and LGBTIQ\* sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) are threatened in both G7 and non-G7 states. We therefore call on G7 leaders to **counteract current global anti-gender, anti-democratic and anti-rights movements, as well as gender backlash.**

It is time for G7 leaders to act upon the destructive impact the pandemic has had and to develop comprehensive prevention and response strategies for future crises. W7 demands for these strategies to disrupt colonial and patriarchal power hierarchies upon which development policy and economic cooperation continues to thrive. **G7 leaders must implement a feminist development policy that promotes gender equality as a cross-cutting principle in meaningful cooperation with feminist civil society.**

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<sup>1</sup> UNIDO (2021) We can't wait 267 years to achieve equal economic participation for men and women. <https://www.unido.org/news/we-cant-wait-267-years-achieve-equal-economic-participation-men-and-women>

<sup>2</sup> IPCC (2022) Climate Change 2022. Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Summary for Policymakers. <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/>

## Women7 call on the G7 Development Ministers

1. To increase **public spending on social infrastructure** and gender-transformative health and care services by an **additional 2% of GDP** to address the global care crisis.
2. To promote **universal access to healthcare services, including SRHR** for women and girls in all their intersecting identities and include into the **UNFCCC framework**.
3. To support the ACT Accelerator and the proposal for a **TRIPS waiver and strengthen** gender-responsive public healthcare systems through **universal health coverage (UHC)**.
4. To ensure all programs funded by Official Development Assistance (ODA) have a gender lens, with **at least 20% of ODA funding channeled into programs with gender equality as the principal objective**.
5. To promote and protect the **rights of LGBTIQ\* and BIPOC** and assure meaningful cooperation with women's rights and feminist civil society organizations across the globe and in the Global South, especially.

**It is high time to deliver on gender equality and to work towards an inclusive and feminist development and health policy.**

Berlin, 18 May 2022

Dr. Beate von Miquel  
President  
Deutscher Frauenrat

*The National Council of German Women's Organizations (Deutscher Frauenrat) is hosting the 2022 Women7 Dialogue during Germany's G7 presidency. Through a multi-stage consultation process, [W7](#) Germany brings together an international network of feminist civil society organizations and advocacy groups with the aim of placing gender equality at the center of G7 negotiations and formulating powerful demands to G7 leaders. Funded by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women, and Youth (BMFSF).*