

Seville, April 30th, 2025

To the Member States of the United Nations
and the various stakeholders
to the 4th International Conference
on Financing for Development

Subject: Defend gender equality by strengthening sustainable funding for feminist organizations: the example of the FSOF, the support fund established by France

In two months from today, the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) will be held in Seville (June 30th - July 3rd). This event, and the long process leading up to it, are critical for the future of our societies in many ways.

With this letter, we want to highlight an issue that has become all the more crucial in the current context of violent and coordinated attacks on gender equality.

We call on the Member States of the United Nations and all stakeholders to the conference to adopt two resolute positions: not to go backwards on gender equality, and to rebuild a financial architecture that supports the achievement of gender equality within an acceptable time frame.

First of all, not going backwards means that the states that usually defend gender equality must assert their position, use all their diplomatic influence, and refuse to sacrifice gender equality as a bargaining chip in the negotiations. States that have not mobilized on the subject in recent years must realize the seriousness of the moment and commit openly. Silence and inaction are no longer an option. As for the states leading the attacks on gender equality, we firmly call on them to cease their formal or informal, explicit or covert actions, and to comply with the principles set forth in the preamble to the UN Charter.

Secondly, we need to work collectively to close the huge funding gap that continues to keep women, girls and LGBTQIA+ people in situations of vulnerability. Back in 2023, UN Women estimated that, at the current rate of progress, it would take almost 300 years to achieve gender equality. All stakeholders - governments, multilateral organizations and banks, private foundations, etc. - must contribute to this effort immediately.

In line with the “[common ask framework](#)” established in early 2025 by a variety of feminist organizations and funds, we emphasize that it is crucial to integrate a gender lens into all dimensions of financing for development, including through gender-sensitive budgets.

Within five years, it is essential to invest a minimum of 20% of overall allocable bilateral assistance in initiatives that have gender equality as the principal objective, of which 10% must go directly to women’s rights organizations, networks and funds.

Most of the 144 associations signing this letter, based in 47 countries, have received direct or indirect funding from the support fund for feminist organizations (FSOF) launched by the French government in 2020. So far, this mechanism has reached over 1,400 formal and informal associations in 75 countries.

The FSOF has recently been subject to budget cuts, in a context of the collapse of global ODA. French civil society organizations are campaigning for the fund to at least be restored to its original level in the medium term. Alongside their civil society partners all over the world and the French public authorities, they are working to make the mechanism even fairer and more efficient, focusing on key issues such as, flexibility, localization of aid, and decolonial approaches.

The FSOF is one example among others. This type of mechanism, dedicated to support feminist organizations, must be strengthened and replicated on a larger scale. This could be an inspiration for the European Union, in particular.

However, comparable initiatives, despite being fairly recent, are on the verge of disappearing. It is precisely because our ecosystem needs multiple initiatives working toward the same goal that many organizations, with no connection to the FSOF, have also endorsed this letter.

The organizations signing this letter will carry these demands throughout the process leading up to Seville. It is now up to all other stakeholders to listen and to take swift and massive action against attacks on gender equality.

The Madrid conference on “Financing Feminist Futures” in October 2025 will then be an opportunity to consolidate the monitoring mechanism on these issues.

We look forward to discussing this subject.

Yours sincerely,

144 signatory organizations and networks in 47 countries:

ABEPAD	Mauritania
ABOYA	Senegal
Actions Concrètes pour un Réel Développement (ACoRD ONG)	Benin
Actions pour la Réinsertion Sociale de la Femme "ARSF"	the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Afrique Arc-En-Ciel Guinée	Guinea
AFRO-Benin	Benin
Akahata - Equipo de trabajo en sexualidades y géneros	Argentina
Alfec	Ivory Coast
Alliance for Conflict Transformation (ACT)	Cambodia
AMSOPT	Mali
ASDAM (Association pour le développement des assistantes de maison, femmes et filles mères désœuvrées au Cameroon)	Cameroon
Association Démocratique des Femmes du Maroc	Morocco
Association au Secours des Filles Mères (ASFM)	Cameroon
Association aucune grossesse en milieu scolaire	Burkina Faso
Association BLOWA	Benin
Association de Lutte contre les Violences faites aux femmes et aux filles Cameroon	Cameroon

Association Femmes et Défis pour le Bien être (AFDB)	Burkina Faso
Association FIDA (Femmes Intéressées au Développement d'Antalaha)	Madagascar
Association Mauritanienne pour la santé de la Mère et de l'enfant (AMSME)	Mauritania
Association Mauritanienne pour le Développement, Aide et Assistance Sociale (AMD2AS)	Mauritania
Association Oeulfeminin	Chad
Association pour l'Appui au Développement Rural (AADR)	Madagascar
Association pour la défense des droits des aides ménagères et domestiques ADDAD Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso
Association sourires de Femmes	Cameroon
Association tunisienne des femmes démocrates	Tunisia
Association Vehivavy Mivoatra Liam-Pivoarana	Madagascar
Beyond Beijing Committee	Nepal
Bonhishikha	Bangladesh
CARE France	France
CEDAW Committee of Trinidad and Tobago	Trinidad and Tobago
Cellule Nigérienne des Jeunes filles leaders	Niger
Centre d'Aide et de Lutte contre les Agressions Sexuelles au Benin (CALAS Benin)	Benin
Centre d'Aide et de Lutte contre les Violences faites aux Femmes (CALVIF)	Benin
Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy	Germany
Centrul FILIA	Romania
CeRADIS	Benin
Cercle des jeunes filles	Senegal
Citoyennes pour la Promotion et Défense des Droits des Enfants, Femmes et Minorités (CPDEFM)	Senegal
Closet de Sor Juana	Mexico
Club des Jeunes Filles Leaders de Guinée	Guinea
Colectiva Sorda Feministas Ecuador	Ecuador
Community Association for Vulnerable Persons (CAVP)	Cameroon
Conectando Derechos	Argentina
Continental Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas (ECMIA)	Peru
Corporación Femm	Colombia
Corporación Miles	Chile
Courageous Sisters Ghana	Ghana
CRADEC	Cameroon
Dêkpêxo	Benin

Development Agenda for Girls and Women in Africa Network	Zimbabwe
ELLES Cameroon	Cameroon
Elles du Sahel	Belgium
Empow'Her	France
ENVOL-Association Action Santé T Benin	Benin
Equipop	France, Senegal, Burkina Faso
Existimos	Ecuador
Fédération pour la Promotion Féminine et Enfantine (FPFE)	Madagascar
Femmes Artisanas de la Paix	the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Femmes Entraide & Autonomie	France
Fonds pour les Femmes en Méditerranée	France
Fundación Arcoiris por el respeto a la diversidad sexual	Mexico
Geres	France
Girls Engaged in Medicine and other Sciences (GEMS)	Niger
GIRLxGIRL	Thailand
Global Women's Health, Rights and Empowerment Initiative (GWHREI)	Nigeria
Gouttes Rouges	Ivory Coast
Green The Environment	Bangladesh
Grupo Visión Nocturna	Uruguay
Hadas Cuidadoras de Antofagasta	Chile
Health Development Consultancy Services (HEDECS)	Cameroon
Initiatives pour un Développement Intégré Durable (IDID)	Benin
Instituto de Liderazgo Simone de Beauvoir	Mexico
Jeunes Filles Actrices de Développement (JFAD)	Benin
KIMPAVITA	Senegal
La Colombe	Togo
La convergence pour le développement durable	Guinea
Lady Saving Group	Cambodia
Las Hijas de Pandora	Ecuador
LEADAFRICAINES	Ivory Coast
Leap Girl Africa	Cameroon
Ligue Nigérienne des Droits des Femmes	Niger
Ligue tchadienne des droits des femmes	Chad
Maison de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme	Guinea
Manodiversa	Bolivia
Marche Mondiale des femmes/Action Nationale du Burkina Faso (MMF/ANBF)	Burkina Faso

Mouvement citoyen FEMIN-IN	Burkina Faso
Movimiento de mujeres dominico-haitianas	the Dominican Republic
NÈGÈS MAWON	Haiti
Oasis	USA
ONG Actuelles	Ivory Coast
ONG ALAFIA	Togo
ONG CPDEFM	Ivory Coast
ONG ECLOSION	Benin
ONG FAD	Niger
ONG LIBERTAS	Benin
ONG SAHKAL	Chad
ORAF	Ivory Coast
Phoenix Pride RDC	the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Planning familial France	France
PLATAFORMA DE MUJERES IGUALDAD	Ecuador
Polycom Girls Development Project	Kenya
Purple Royale: Trans Voices Amplified	Zimbabwe
QueeriséEs	France
Rainbow Railroad	Canada, USA
Raise Your Voice CBO	Kenya
Red de Incidencia Internacional por los Derechos LGBTI+	Mexico
Red de Jóvenes para la Incidencia Política (INCIDEJOVEN)	Guatemala
Red Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos (RedLAC)	Latin America Region (Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, Honduras, Paraguay, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico)
Red LESLAC - Red de Organizaciones de Lesbianas y Bisexuales de Latinoamerica y el Caribe	Latin America and the Caribbean
Rede Nacional de Mulheres Negras no Combate à Violência	Brazil
RedTraSex	Paraguay
RESCUE AND HOPE	Benin
Réseau d'Associations pour la Promotion des Droits de la Femme (RAPDFEM RDC)	the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Réseau des femmes ambassadrices et médiatrices des territoires pour la paix (REFAM-TP)	the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Réseau des Femmes et Développement	Togo
Réseau des Jeunes Femmes et Filles Leaders au Tchad (REJEFFT)	Chad
Réseau Ivoirien des Jeunes contre le Sida	Ivory Coast
Réseau Paix et Sécurité pour les Femmes de l'Espace CEDEAO (REPSFECO Benin)	Benin

ROAJELF -BURKINA	Burkina Faso
Sarah 7achak.maroc	Morocco
Sauti Ya Wanawake Pwani- Organisation(Women Voices Grassroot movement)	Kenya
Savie ASBL NGO LGBTQ DRC	the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Sendika Nasinalin'ny Mpiasa An-Trano Malagasy (SENAMAMA)	Madagascar
Senegal Action Feministe (SENAF)	Senegal
Spectrum	France
Stop au Chat Noir	Ivory Coast
Taafé vision	Burkina Faso
Trans Arc En Ciel Guinée	Guinea
Uluntu Africa	Nigeria
Union de l'action féministe	Morocco
United Funding and Development for Underage Mothers (UFDUM)	Liberia
Value Health Africa	Cameroon
Wagayway Equality	the Philippines
WarkhaTV-	Senegal
Women & Girls Capabilities & Empowerment Organization	Nigeria
Women EdTech	Benin, Togo
Women for Green Economy Movement Uganda	Uganda
Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition	Global
Women in Global Health Niger	Niger
Women in Nexus	Niger
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom UK (WILPF UK)	Royaume-Uni
World Vision Chad	Chad
Yeewi association	Senegal
Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights	Canada