On 16 October, the Government of France, host of the twenty-first Conference of the Parties (COP 21), organized a conference entitled, “Climate Change: Women Take the Lead”. This meeting culminated in a Declaration, “Women, key actors in the fight against climate change,” which highlighted the unmistakable need to integrate gender equality as a key consideration in the Paris Accord at COP 21.

Building on this momentum, Morocco, the host for COP 22, will organize COP 21’s Gender Day on 8 December, 2015 entitled, “Women: Active and Engaged in the Fight against Climate Change”. This event aims to send a forward-looking message of hope from COP 21 to COP 22, emphasizing the positive contributions of women in the fight against climate change as well as the key challenges and opportunities of their contributions in this area. It will also include the signature of the new Cooperation Framework between the Government of Morocco and UN Women “Integrating Gender Equality into the Environmental and Sustainable Development Sectors in Morocco”.

This event will focus on three high level thematic panels on: 1) the promotion of women entrepreneurs to accelerate sustainable energy access; 2) women’s empowerment through climate-resilient agriculture; and 3) women’s engagement in the climate-change negotiations.
AGENDA:

10 – 10.30 a.m. The Gender and Climate Nexus: Setting the stage
Ms. Hakima El Haite, Minister Delegate in charge of Environment, Morocco
Ms. Ségolène Royal, Minister for Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, France (tbc)
Launch of the Joint UN Women and UNEP Programme on Women’s Sustainable Energy Entrepreneurship and Access by Dr. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Women Executive Director, and Mr. Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director.

10.30 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. Sustainable Energy Access
High-Level Panel, including Ms. Isabella Lövin, Minister of International Development Cooperation, Sweden; Ms. Ligia Noronha, Director, DTIE UNEP; Mr. Ahmed Baroudi, General Director, Energy Investment Company, Morocco; Dr. Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility (GEF); Mr. Sarwono Kusumaatmadja, Chair of the Advisory Council on Climate Change, Indonesia; Dr. Yannick Glemarec, Deputy Executive Director, UN Women.

12.30 – 2 p.m. Climate-Resilient Agriculture
High-Level Panel, including Mr. Fernando Frutuoso de Melo, Director General for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission; Ms. Charafat Afilal, Minister delegate in charge of Water, Morocco; Dr. Pape Abdoulaye Seck, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Equipment, Senegal; Dr. Yannick Glemarec, Deputy Executive Director, UN Women; Mr. Satya Tripathi, Director, UNORCID.

2.30 – 4 p.m. Women’s Engagement in Climate-Change Negotiations
High-Level Exchanges and Reflections, including Ms. Pascale Boistard, State Secretary for Women’s Rights, France; Ms. Mara Marinaki, Principal Adviser on Gender and the implementation of UNSCR1325, European External Action Service (EEAS); Ms. Catherine Coutelle, President of the Delegation on women rights at French National Assembly; Dr. Yannick Glemarec, Deputy Executive Director, UN Women; Ms. Fathia Bennis, President of Women’s Tribune, Morocco; Mr. Driss El Yazami, Chairman of the National Human Rights Council, Morocco (Moderator).