Good morning chair, thank you for giving us the floor, my name is Mari-Claire Price from the feminist alliance RESURJ, speaking on behalf of the Women’s Major Group.

Colleagues,

We have heard this week how people’s lives and realities do not sit within just one goal or target of this agenda, and that in fact they do not even sit only across goals. Instead, people’s realities, contexts, and needs are a complex weaving of many issues, within and outside of these goals and targets, and their experiences of these realities and contexts are interlinked.

We will not achieve the transformational aims of this agenda, if we silo our responses to the economic, ecological and social crises that we face. Holding the realities of people and our planet at the center, is the critical approach that we have missed before, and cannot risk missing again.

The indivisible, integrated, and interlinked nature of these goals, and the cross cutting principles of human rights, gender equality and sustainability, should be at the center in realizing the vision of justice across the 2030 agenda.

From the women’s major group you have heard this week that interlinkages and policy coherence should be guided by the recognition of systemic and structural barriers. You have heard our calls to address the unjust -financial, trade and investment governance-, corporate capture and wealth concentration, land and resource grabbing, and unsustainable production and consumption.

You have heard calls for an end to fundamentalisms, patriarchy, discrimination, militarism, conflict, and sexual and gender-based violence, and calls to address the interlinkages between gender equality, women’s human rights, and sexual and reproductive rights, with all SDGs across the three dimensions of sustainable development.

And finally, you have heard about the urgent need to move away from further exploitation of the Ocean, the need for an equitable, just and safe transition to ecologically based economies, to a sustainable development future.

You cannot address health without addressing infrastructure, you cannot address livelihoods without addressing oceans and forests, you cannot address education without addressing inequalities.
Let us work together towards solutions and interventions that address many goals and targets, that respond to people’s realities, respond to the urgent crises, and ensure a people and planet centered one.

We are expecting a strong ministerial declaration coming out of this meeting, that tackles these issues, as well as strong language on Means of Implementation AND on Women Human Rights! We will NOT accept women’s rights to be traded away.

Thank you chair