

**Round table 6: Ensuring policy coherence and an enabling environment at all  
levels for sustainable development**

**16 July 2015, 10:00am - 1:00pm**

**Third Conference on Financing for Development**

***Remarks by Marina Durano, Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)  
and the Women's Working Group on Financing for Development (WWG on FfD)***

Good morning. My name is Marina Durano. I work with DAWN, Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era. DAWN is part of the Women's Working Group on FFD and the Addis Ababa Coordinating Group.

In many ways, the policy solutions at the national level for growth and development are fairly clear: that we pursue progressive taxation, that that we pursue industrialization, that we pursue full employment macroeconomic policies, among others. We all acknowledge, however, that uncertainty characterizes the global macroeconomy today. So that even with vigor and determination in implementing national policies, uncertainty requires us to self-insure, by keeping high reserves, by defending our currencies, by meeting capital adequacy ratios, by using a range of capital account management techniques, by strengthening social protection systems that serve as automatic stabilizers. At the regional level, we have liquidity pooling arrangements since the SDR is not yet accepted as a global reserve currency. Local governments, on the other hand, have no choice but to rely on national authorities to protect them from systemic risks. We realize that these risks can only be reduced through global collective action. Unfortunately, what we have today is an Addis Ababa Inaction Agenda.

We find ourselves in a situation where setting the rules that will help reduce risks are undertaken by a club of the powerful where we are not members. Do you sit in the Financial Stability Board? Are you in the Basel Committee for Banking Supervision? Do you have a role in the OECD-DAC? Is there progress in IMF voting reforms? Do you eagerly await an invitation to a G20 meeting?

Women have long campaigned to be equal partners in decision making. Sadly, in this conference, we find that the states that represent us here, and the men who lead them, are not decision makers themselves, exemplified by the failure to establish an intergovernmental tax body. We find hypocrisy among those club members who claim to share our ideals of gender equality and, yet, are the first to deny our peoples a seat at the table.

Women are here because we have a clear understanding of how these decisions affect our lives. Women are here not to be seen as instruments of growth as the document indicates. Neither are we bargaining chips in the negotiations. We intend to make full use of the follow-up mechanisms to continue raising issues of social justice and gender justice. There will be nothing about us, without us.

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