

Dear colleagues and friends,

I am Mabel Bianco from Fundacion para Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer –FEIM in Argentina and I represent the Advisory Group in the Core Group.

I was in the call for the NY's Forum today but my microphone was not opened by the operator so I could not have access to the floor and talk with all of you. Now I want to share and add to the words of Shannon that, as Civil Society feminists from Latin America and the Caribbean and participating in the Beijing Conference in 1995, I am very proud to be able to participate in the Generation Equality Forum. For us, feminists worldwide, Beijing +25 and its Platform of Action is a very important issue and we find that GEF is a way to strengthen and update the commitments we made in Beijing and are still pending to be reached worldwide.

Why is so exciting the GEF? For us, first of all because it is a way to have a new dialogue possible among ourselves, with the governments, UN agencies and others stakeholders. It is a dialogue in which all us share real challenges, obstacles, determinants that unable us all to reach the BPoA commitments, but also we can incorporate new problems that we need to approach due to the advances and challenges in this 25 years. A good point is the inclusion of young feminists in their diversity. We don't need to empower them, they are empowered, what we need is to give them the possibility to express and participate in equal terms as all of us. So, they are not there only to listen to us, they are actors and their voices must be included in all our activities in GEF.

The future is in the hands of all of us, young and adults, but together and with shared commitments and developing joint actions to accelerate gender equality.

Thanks and we will continue our conversation virtually or in-person very soon.

Regards,

Mabel Bianco