

DECLARATION

DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND AFFAIRS



50th Anniversary of the Women's March
AGE OF HOPE
through struggle to freedom

Declaration cont...

“We, the Rural South African Women, united in our diversity, declare that there shall be no more denial of access to land and agrarian reforms. As women gathered here we say no to gender bias, to discriminatory customary laws, exploitation and biased agenda of agrarian reform.”

As stipulated on the Beijing Platform of Action. In the areas of:

Declaration cont...

1. Women and Agriculture
 2. Women and Farms
 3. Women on Land
 4. Women and Food Security
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Declaration cont...

- ❑ In this message we draw the attention of the office of the Minister to the upcoming points as unique features for its consideration for Rural Women in Development.
 - ❑ We avail ourselves as participants in all the opportunities emerging in at the summit and to do what needs to be done for furthering the women development agenda of Rural Development.
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Issues: Women and Agriculture

- ❑ Lack of access to agrarian policies
 - ❑ WARD to be strictly representing women in Land and Agriculture
 - ❑ Lack of communication between Department of Agriculture and Land Affairs
 - ❑ Department should not give money without training women and educate them how to utilize it
 - ❑ Implementation of Gender policies regarding Land and agriculture
 - ❑ Department of Agriculture to support and commit in supporting rural women through of WARD
 - ❑ Ministry to be a central point of operating WARD
 - ❑ Both Departments to talk to agrarian reform
 - ❑ The Department of Agriculture to establish a gender focal desk
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Issues: Women on Farms

- ❑ Lack of access to information
 - ❑ Violence against Women and Girls
 - ❑ Abuse of human rights
 - ❑ Creation of specific programs to empower women on farms
 - ❑ The rights of women in terms of Land Tenure Act and Extension of Security Tenure Act
 - ❑ Challenges facing women on farms are not being addressed
 - ❑ Eviction of farm workers
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Issues: Women and Land

- Lack of Access to Land and Agricultural initiatives**
 - Information and communication strategies in terms of land claims**
 - Lack of access to credit**
 - Ministry to address the issue of ownership of land by foreigners specifically in the Western Cape and other coastal areas**
 - Ministry to look into the repossession of Land and deal with it**
 - Cultural practices and traditions bar women's ownership of land and other property**
 - Lack of opportunities for furthering the Land development agenda**
 - Rural women to be involved and contribute to in policy formulation and implementation of land reform**
 - Lack means of policy implementation.**
 - Means for strengthening Partnership between Government and Civil Society**
 - Creating a supportive mechanisms for women only programs**
 - Restitution Act is too complicated for rural women**
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Issues: Women and Food Security

- ❑ SA women must also take a central and active role in both economy and politics in order to fight poverty
 - ❑ Infrastructure development to ensure we grow the rural economy, and market access
 - ❑ Monitor impact
 - ❑ Encourage projects that ensure access to land
 - ❑ Creating of jobs for women and unemployed graduates
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Other Issues

- ❑ Ministry to address living conditions of farm workers together with the Ministry of Labour
 - ❑ Simplify all the Agrarian reform policies and programmes
 - ❑ Department to mobilize women to participate on Land reform Projects and speed up the process of revisiting the Extension of Security Tenure Act and Land Tenure Act
 - ❑ Environmental audit to be conducted on issues of Land and Agriculture in Rural Areas
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