Thank you chair

I speak on behalf of the Women's Major Group, my name is Sascha Gabizon of Women Engage for a Common Future.

Millions of girls do not have safe sanitation at school and are forced to stay home and miss school during their period.

Millions of young girls and other menstruators suffer from menstrual-poverty, they have no access to affordable sanitation products.

Menstrual health and dignity should be at the centre of our Water and Sanitation policies, and we should do away with menstrual tabou's and discrimination.

For example, we are outraged when we hear that Florida lawmakers try to ban girls from school just for speaking about their periods.

Governments must uphold the commitments they have made, in the Convention to End Discrimination Against all Women and Girls,

and the UN General Assembly Resolution on the Human Right to Water and Sanitation,

and in Sustainable Development Goal target 6.2, that state women and girl's needs for sanitation should be ensured.

But only some 40 countries are reporting on menstrual health management in their reporting to GMP.
Even fewer governments are working on promoting menstrual health products that are **better for the environment and climate**, that can be reused, **without toxics and chemicals**.

**We the women and feminist organisations here at the UN Water Conference, are committing** to keep on putting pressures on our government to develop **National Menstrual Health Strategies**.

We will continue to do so, to ensure that each menstruator has:

- Access to sanitation with **safe spaces for menstruation in schools**
- including **free of charge reusable menstrual products**, in schools
- Ensure that menstruators have **access to a basket of choice** of affordable menstrual products, including by **a zero-VAT on reusable menstrual products**.
- Promote **local production** of a range of reusable menstrual health and hygiene products, **including pads and cups**, that create jobs and access in particular in rural areas
- Ensure that **comprehensive sexuality education** covers **menstruation**
- Strengthen **feminist menstrual movements** in countries and regions, such as the Pacific Menstrual Health Coalition

Thank you chair