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MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

12 November 2026 | 15:30–16:00
Press Conference — Yunus Emre | COP31, Antalya

Reimagining Resilience: Preparedness Is Feminist Work

Drawing on the outcomes of ***Reimagining Resilience: Collective Futures for Disaster Risk Reduction***, the first global feminist conference on disaster risk reduction, held in Istanbul on 5–7 November, this press conference will bring feminist leaders and climate justice advocates together to make the case for a new approach to resilience rooted in care, prevention, collective action, and justice.

WHY IT MATTERS:

As the world confronts escalating climate disasters, extreme heat, and an exceptionally strong El Niño, the systems designed to finance adaptation, build resilience, and address loss and damage remain dangerously inadequate. Resources are too often delayed, fragmented, or inaccessible to the communities facing the greatest risks. The question is no longer simply how we respond to disasters, but how we fundamentally transform the systems that create vulnerability and determine who is protected.

WHO:

- **Bridget Burns,** Executive Director, *Women's Environment & Development Organization (WEDO)*
- **Mwanahamisi (Mishy) Singano,** Director of Policy, *WEDO*
- **Loretta Hieber Girardet,** Chief, Risk Knowledge, Monitoring and Capacity-Development Branch, *UNDRR* **(TBC)**
- **Michelle Higelin,** Executive Director, *ActionAid Australia*
- **Violet Shivutse,** Global Chair, *Huairou Commission Governing Council*

SPEAKERS WILL ADDRESS:

- Collective demands emerging from the Istanbul conference
- How to advance gender-transformative DRR through policy and institutions
- The role of feminist movement-building and collective action
- Frontline realities and community-led preparedness

ABOUT WOMEN'S ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (WEDO)

The Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) is a global women's advocacy organization working for climate and environmental justice. WEDO supports feminist leadership and grassroots movements, connects lived experience to global policy, and builds collective power. For more than 30 years, WEDO has advanced care-centered solutions that address the root causes of today's crises.