

Girls Open Letter to World Leaders

Generation Equality Forum Leaders: Advocacy Guidance

The “**Girls Open Letter to World Leaders**” was written by girls around the world highlighting how girls have been left-out and marginalized from the Generation Equality processes. Now as the world heads to Paris, girls are demanding accountability from governments, Action Coalitions leads, UN Agencies, civil society and others who have not fulfilled their commitment to actively include girls in this work. If you are a Girl Activist, we ask you to use this letter or the Conversation Circle Report to advocate, spread the word and demand accountability for yourselves and your peers.

Below are suggestions on how you can use this letter to advocate on behalf of girls everywhere.

I. Educate:

- Use this letter to **educate yourself and other girls in your community** about [Generation Equality](#) and girls’ rights.
- Share the letter **with community leaders** in your town and start a conversation on the issues girls are facing and the importance of girls' participation.
- **Spread the word on social media** - post the letter on your social media accounts and begin a conversation on girls rights and participation

II. Inspire

- **Write your own letter**- Use this letter as inspiration to write your own letter on the issues girls are facing in your community.
- **Create a community letter** - bring together a group of girls in your school or community to write your own letter.
- **Start Conversations** - Use the letter to start conversations on girls rights and participation in schools and other parts of your community.

III. Take Action

- **Hold governments accountable to girls**
 - Find out if your country is one of the Generation Equality [commitment makers](#) and hold them accountable on behalf of girls.
 - **Identify those responsible** for implementing GEF commitments. Look for the Ministries of gender and youth/children or Commissions on gender. Check out the Action Coalition leads- is your country an action Coalition lead.
 - Use the letter to ask for a meeting and demand girls be included. Find a sample for requesting a meeting [here](#).
 - Prepare for your meeting

- What is the goal and objective for your meeting? Or what are you demanding at the meeting?
 - Recommendations: Do you have suggestions on how government can make your demand a reality?
 - Who is attending the meeting with you: Who can best articulate your position and speak to the issues girls are facing.
 - Who are you meeting with? Be sure you know the name of the person/people you're meeting with and understand who they are.
 - What is their role?
 - What does their work entail?
 - Have they done any work for or with girls?
 - Use the letter and your research above to make your case during your meeting for girls to be involved.
- **Demand your government take action and include girls:** If your government is not a commitment maker ask your Government to get involved.
 - Write a letter and propose an action for them to engage in
 - Reach out to Women and/or youth Ministries and use the letter to demand they participate or ask them why they aren't participating on behalf of girls.
- Connect with regional groups of girls to demand action
- Reach out to UN Women Field offices and demand how girls are being included in their efforts.
 - [West and Central Africa; East and Southern Africa](#)
 - [Americas and Caribbean](#)
 - [Asia and the Pacific](#)
 - [Arab States and North Africa](#)
 - [Europe and Central Asia](#)