

“Women’s Rights in Light of Climate Change”



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❖ **Introduction:**

Climate Change has become in twenty-first century a Reality in the international policies because it has affected the Life of millions of peoples, who have been forced on leaving their homes, and there are people at risk of displacement, also the Asylum seekers for safer places, and there are those who are stuck in danger and can't seek refuge in a safer place.

Although Climate Change has affected all population groups, its impacts differ from one group to another, depending on their residence, the way they live, age and gender.

The vulnerable groups, that represented by women and children, are the most exposed to climate change, because of their dependence on natural resources for their livelihoods, lack of funds and property and their residence in poor marginalized areas.

The state of vulnerability and fragility depends not only on geographical, economic or social factors, but also political circumstances, as a result of women's inability to participate sometimes in political life. This is because of states neglecting and ignoring them while enacting the relief measures.

Hence, the human rights' standards give a special position to the right of non-discrimination, in order to protect the most vulnerable groups. There are even international treaties specific to each group, such as: The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. However, women are exposed to discrimination, even in a changing climate.

This report aims to clarify the meaning of climate change, its reasons and impacts, also the international efforts to confront these changes in light of human rights commitments related to climate change. It is also studying the negative impacts of climate change and its harshness as challenges that stand in the way of women's empowerment and decision making, through clarifying the women's rights, the reasons why women are the most vulnerable to climate changes, the extent to which climate change affects gender equality, violence against women, and women's health, food security and safe work.



❖ **Definition of Climate Change:**

There is no specific definition of climate change, as experts differed in developing this definition. Thus, there are many definitions which include: The first article in the UN Convention on Climate Change, defines climate change as: “a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.”

While the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has defined it as: “a change in the state of the climate that can be identified (e.g., by using statistical tests) by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties, and that persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer”.

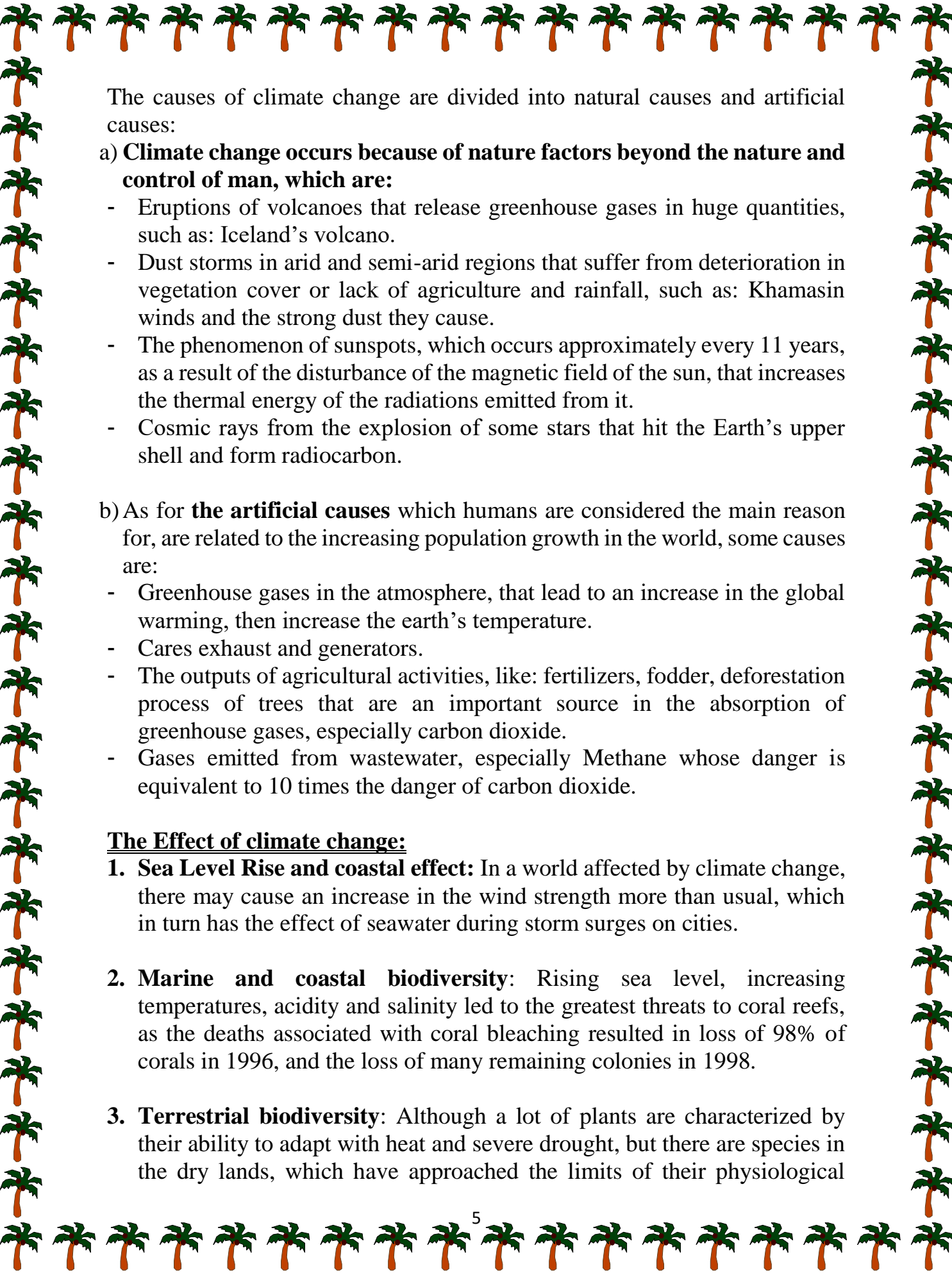
As defined by NASA, as: “a widespread global phenomenon, arising as a result of burning fuels that release heat-trapping gases called greenhouse gases into the atmosphere”.

Therefore, we can develop a comprehensive definition to the climate change: “it’s a widespread global phenomenon occurs as a result of natural or artificial factors, and is accompanied by Long-term changes in both temperature and weather, that lead to a change in the composition of the global atmosphere, and can be determined by the fluctuation of its characteristics and lasts for a long time”.

❖ **Causes and effects of climate change:**

The first signs of climate change started to appear in the wake of industrial revolution, when scientists warned of the imbalance of the planet’s climate equation, as a result of the increase in the proportion of greenhouse gases, and their high concentration in the atmosphere. They were in quantities exceeding what the atmosphere needs to maintain the Earth’s temperature. This happened as a result of human’s dependence on fossil fuels as a primary and main source of obtaining energy by an estimated 78% of the energy used in the world. It results from its combustion the emission of large amounts of gases, like: carbon dioxide, which is primarily responsible for global warming.

Causes of climate change:



The causes of climate change are divided into natural causes and artificial causes:

a) **Climate change occurs because of nature factors beyond the nature and control of man, which are:**

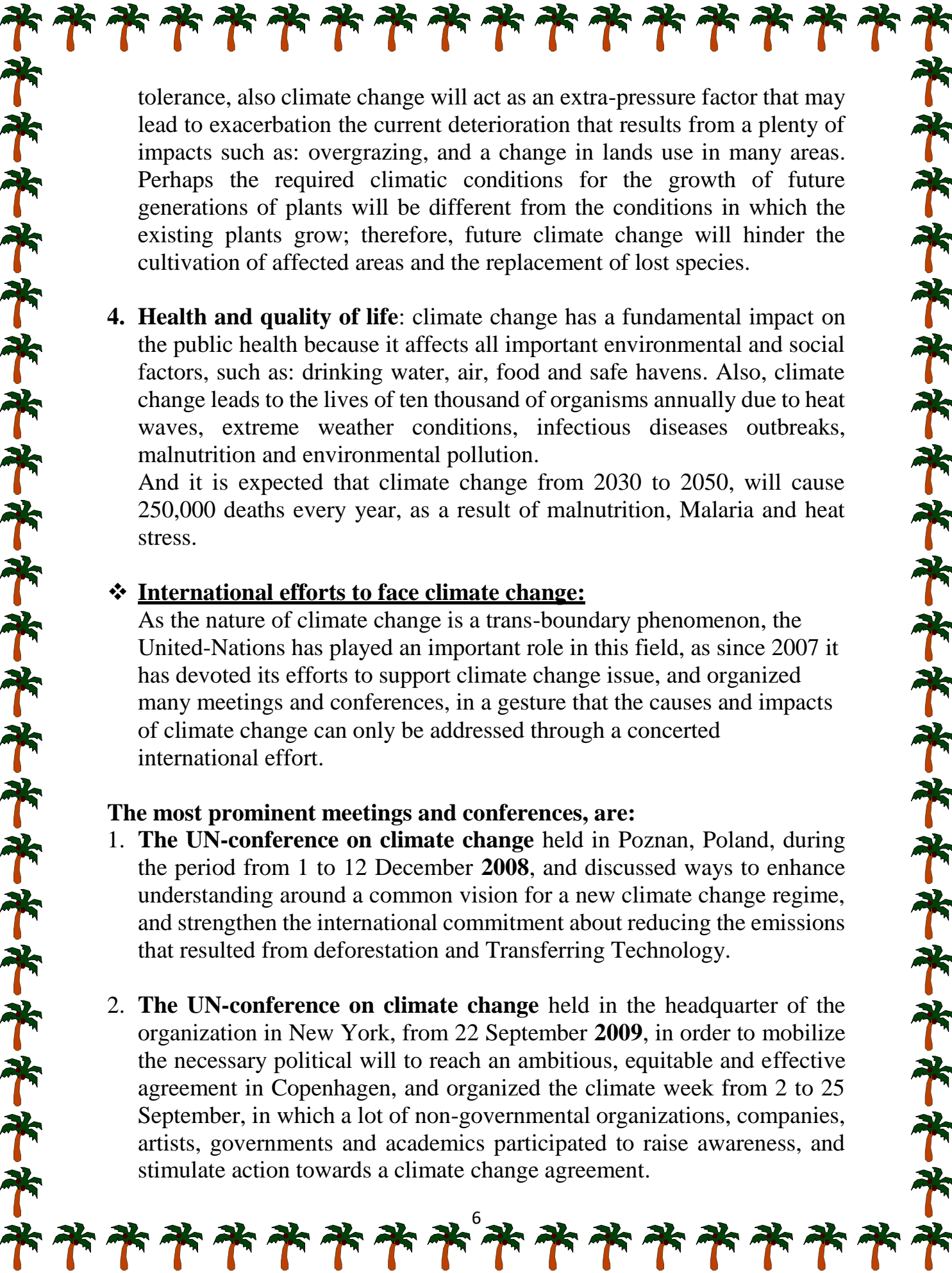
- Eruptions of volcanoes that release greenhouse gases in huge quantities, such as: Iceland's volcano.
- Dust storms in arid and semi-arid regions that suffer from deterioration in vegetation cover or lack of agriculture and rainfall, such as: Khamasin winds and the strong dust they cause.
- The phenomenon of sunspots, which occurs approximately every 11 years, as a result of the disturbance of the magnetic field of the sun, that increases the thermal energy of the radiations emitted from it.
- Cosmic rays from the explosion of some stars that hit the Earth's upper shell and form radiocarbon.

b) As for **the artificial causes** which humans are considered the main reason for, are related to the increasing population growth in the world, some causes are:

- Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, that lead to an increase in the global warming, then increase the earth's temperature.
- Cars exhaust and generators.
- The outputs of agricultural activities, like: fertilizers, fodder, deforestation process of trees that are an important source in the absorption of greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide.
- Gases emitted from wastewater, especially Methane whose danger is equivalent to 10 times the danger of carbon dioxide.

The Effect of climate change:

1. **Sea Level Rise and coastal effect:** In a world affected by climate change, there may cause an increase in the wind strength more than usual, which in turn has the effect of seawater during storm surges on cities.
2. **Marine and coastal biodiversity:** Rising sea level, increasing temperatures, acidity and salinity led to the greatest threats to coral reefs, as the deaths associated with coral bleaching resulted in loss of 98% of corals in 1996, and the loss of many remaining colonies in 1998.
3. **Terrestrial biodiversity:** Although a lot of plants are characterized by their ability to adapt with heat and severe drought, but there are species in the dry lands, which have approached the limits of their physiological



tolerance, also climate change will act as an extra-pressure factor that may lead to exacerbation the current deterioration that results from a plenty of impacts such as: overgrazing, and a change in lands use in many areas. Perhaps the required climatic conditions for the growth of future generations of plants will be different from the conditions in which the existing plants grow; therefore, future climate change will hinder the cultivation of affected areas and the replacement of lost species.

- 4. Health and quality of life:** climate change has a fundamental impact on the public health because it affects all important environmental and social factors, such as: drinking water, air, food and safe havens. Also, climate change leads to the lives of ten thousand of organisms annually due to heat waves, extreme weather conditions, infectious diseases outbreaks, malnutrition and environmental pollution.

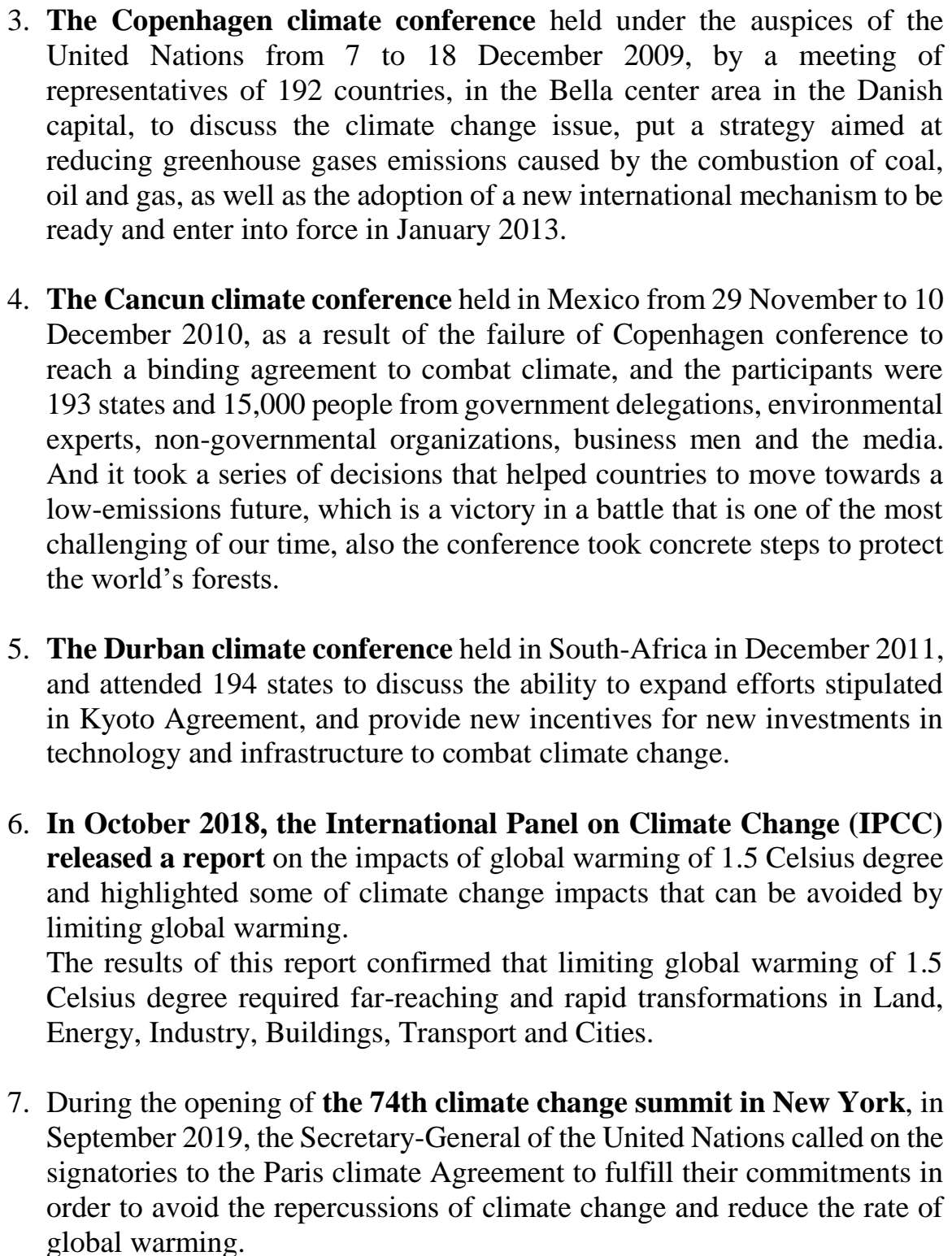
And it is expected that climate change from 2030 to 2050, will cause 250,000 deaths every year, as a result of malnutrition, Malaria and heat stress.

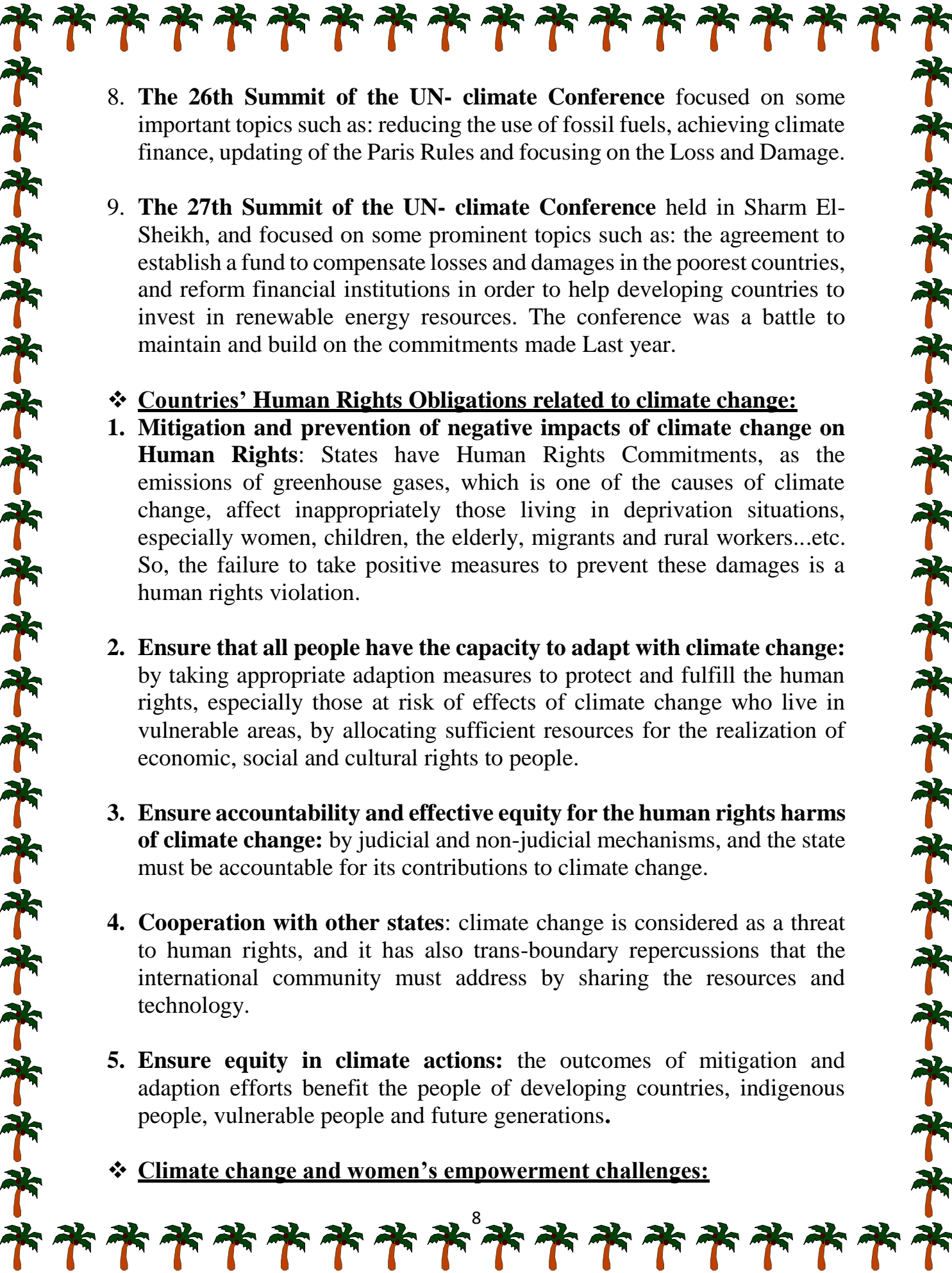
❖ **International efforts to face climate change:**

As the nature of climate change is a trans-boundary phenomenon, the United-Nations has played an important role in this field, as since 2007 it has devoted its efforts to support climate change issue, and organized many meetings and conferences, in a gesture that the causes and impacts of climate change can only be addressed through a concerted international effort.

The most prominent meetings and conferences, are:

1. **The UN-conference on climate change** held in Poznan, Poland, during the period from 1 to 12 December **2008**, and discussed ways to enhance understanding around a common vision for a new climate change regime, and strengthen the international commitment about reducing the emissions that resulted from deforestation and Transferring Technology.
2. **The UN-conference on climate change** held in the headquarter of the organization in New York, from 22 September **2009**, in order to mobilize the necessary political will to reach an ambitious, equitable and effective agreement in Copenhagen, and organized the climate week from 2 to 25 September, in which a lot of non-governmental organizations, companies, artists, governments and academics participated to raise awareness, and stimulate action towards a climate change agreement.

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3. **The Copenhagen climate conference** held under the auspices of the United Nations from 7 to 18 December 2009, by a meeting of representatives of 192 countries, in the Bella center area in the Danish capital, to discuss the climate change issue, put a strategy aimed at reducing greenhouse gases emissions caused by the combustion of coal, oil and gas, as well as the adoption of a new international mechanism to be ready and enter into force in January 2013.
 4. **The Cancun climate conference** held in Mexico from 29 November to 10 December 2010, as a result of the failure of Copenhagen conference to reach a binding agreement to combat climate, and the participants were 193 states and 15,000 people from government delegations, environmental experts, non-governmental organizations, business men and the media. And it took a series of decisions that helped countries to move towards a low-emissions future, which is a victory in a battle that is one of the most challenging of our time, also the conference took concrete steps to protect the world's forests.
 5. **The Durban climate conference** held in South-Africa in December 2011, and attended 194 states to discuss the ability to expand efforts stipulated in Kyoto Agreement, and provide new incentives for new investments in technology and infrastructure to combat climate change.
 6. **In October 2018, the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a report** on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 Celsius degree and highlighted some of climate change impacts that can be avoided by limiting global warming.
The results of this report confirmed that limiting global warming of 1.5 Celsius degree required far-reaching and rapid transformations in Land, Energy, Industry, Buildings, Transport and Cities.
 7. During the opening of **the 74th climate change summit in New York**, in September 2019, the Secretary-General of the United Nations called on the signatories to the Paris climate Agreement to fulfill their commitments in order to avoid the repercussions of climate change and reduce the rate of global warming.



8. **The 26th Summit of the UN- climate Conference** focused on some important topics such as: reducing the use of fossil fuels, achieving climate finance, updating of the Paris Rules and focusing on the Loss and Damage.

9. **The 27th Summit of the UN- climate Conference** held in Sharm El-Sheikh, and focused on some prominent topics such as: the agreement to establish a fund to compensate losses and damages in the poorest countries, and reform financial institutions in order to help developing countries to invest in renewable energy resources. The conference was a battle to maintain and build on the commitments made Last year.

❖ **Countries' Human Rights Obligations related to climate change:**

1. **Mitigation and prevention of negative impacts of climate change on Human Rights:** States have Human Rights Commitments, as the emissions of greenhouse gases, which is one of the causes of climate change, affect inappropriately those living in deprivation situations, especially women, children, the elderly, migrants and rural workers...etc. So, the failure to take positive measures to prevent these damages is a human rights violation.

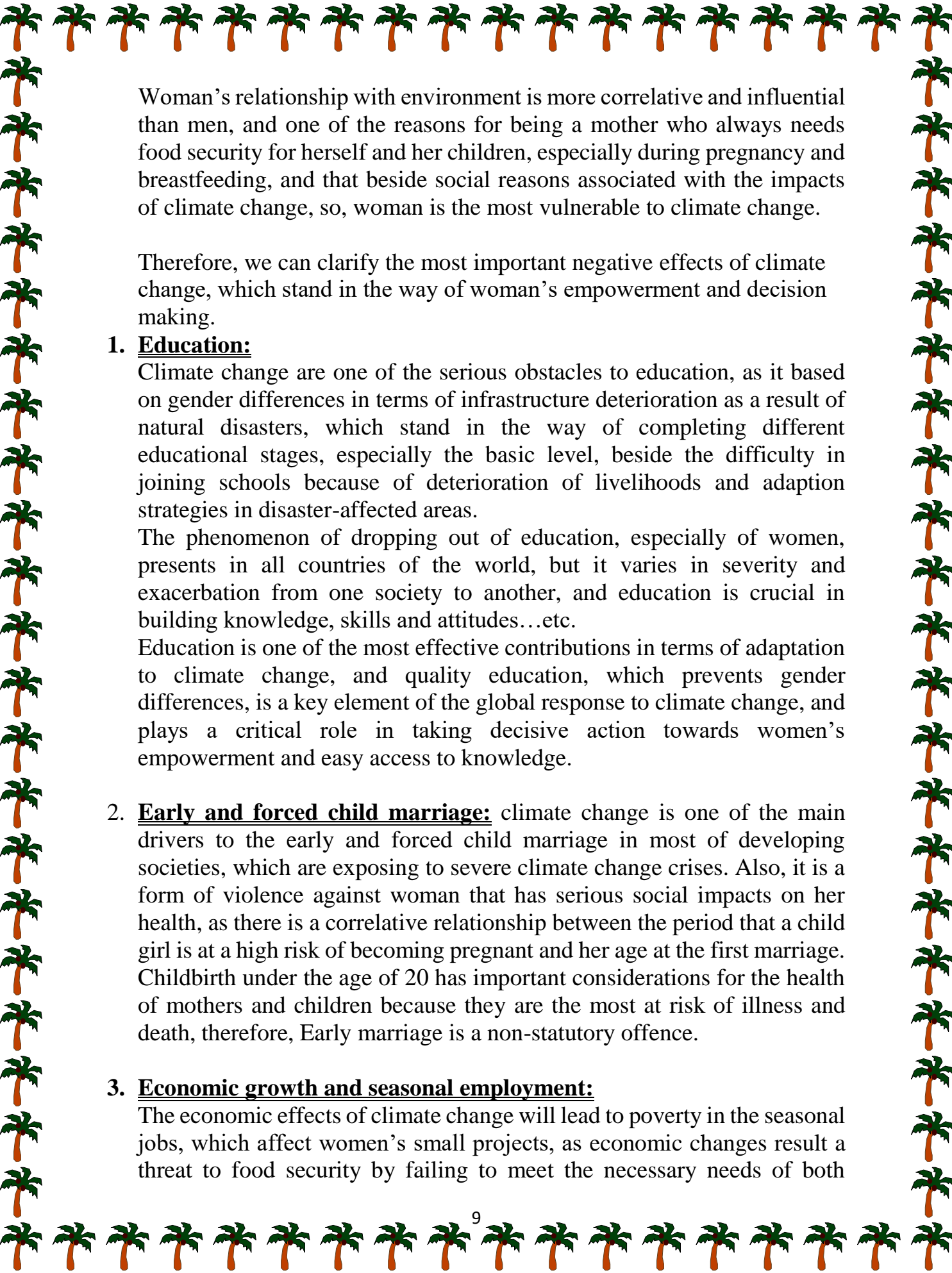
2. **Ensure that all people have the capacity to adapt with climate change:** by taking appropriate adaption measures to protect and fulfill the human rights, especially those at risk of effects of climate change who live in vulnerable areas, by allocating sufficient resources for the realization of economic, social and cultural rights to people.

3. **Ensure accountability and effective equity for the human rights harms of climate change:** by judicial and non-judicial mechanisms, and the state must be accountable for its contributions to climate change.

4. **Cooperation with other states:** climate change is considered as a threat to human rights, and it has also trans-boundary repercussions that the international community must address by sharing the resources and technology.

5. **Ensure equity in climate actions:** the outcomes of mitigation and adaption efforts benefit the people of developing countries, indigenous people, vulnerable people and future generations.

❖ **Climate change and women's empowerment challenges:**



Woman's relationship with environment is more correlative and influential than men, and one of the reasons for being a mother who always needs food security for herself and her children, especially during pregnancy and breastfeeding, and that beside social reasons associated with the impacts of climate change, so, woman is the most vulnerable to climate change.

Therefore, we can clarify the most important negative effects of climate change, which stand in the way of woman's empowerment and decision making.

1. **Education:**

Climate change are one of the serious obstacles to education, as it based on gender differences in terms of infrastructure deterioration as a result of natural disasters, which stand in the way of completing different educational stages, especially the basic level, beside the difficulty in joining schools because of deterioration of livelihoods and adaption strategies in disaster-affected areas.

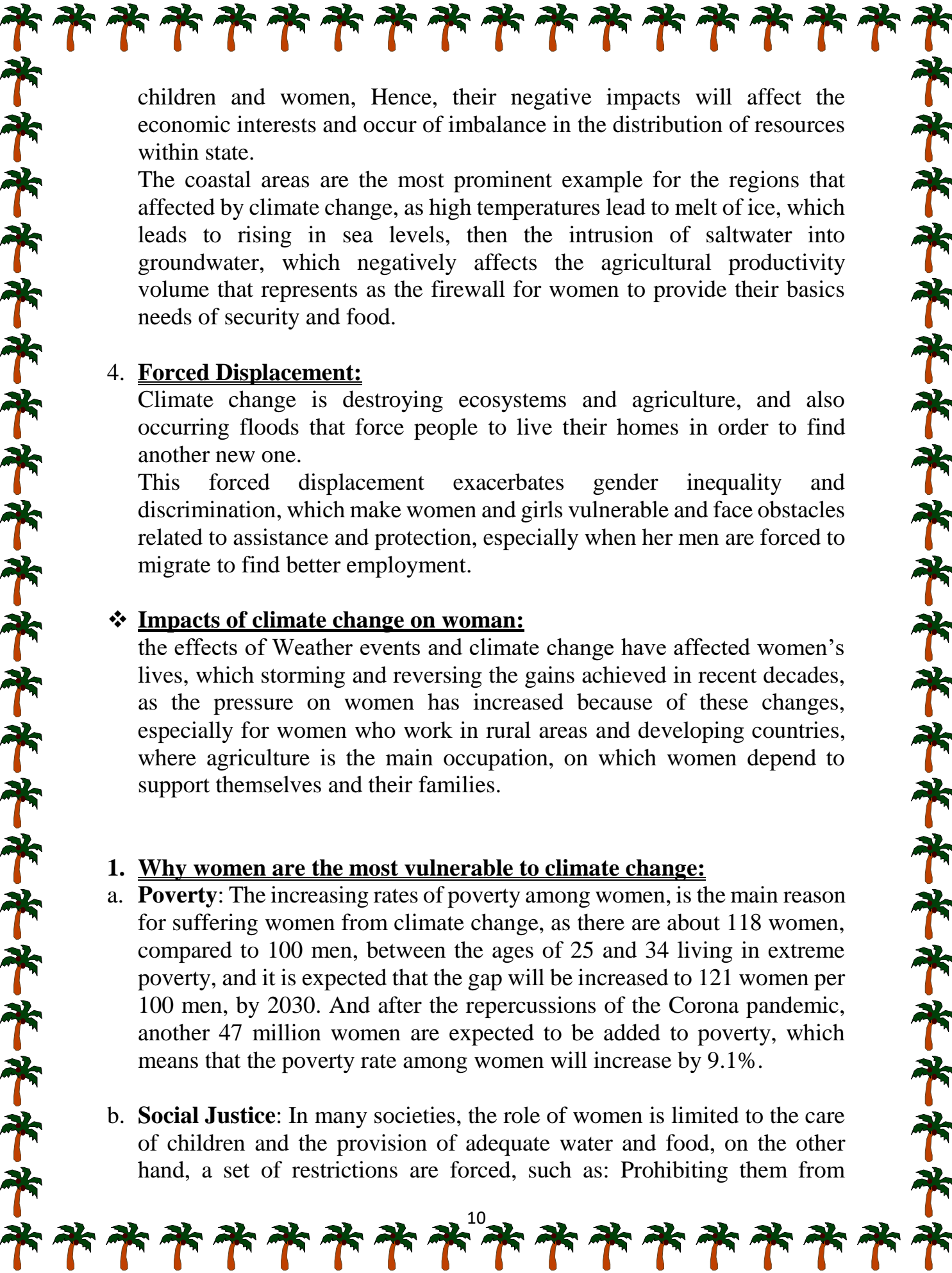
The phenomenon of dropping out of education, especially of women, presents in all countries of the world, but it varies in severity and exacerbation from one society to another, and education is crucial in building knowledge, skills and attitudes...etc.

Education is one of the most effective contributions in terms of adaptation to climate change, and quality education, which prevents gender differences, is a key element of the global response to climate change, and plays a critical role in taking decisive action towards women's empowerment and easy access to knowledge.

2. **Early and forced child marriage:** climate change is one of the main drivers to the early and forced child marriage in most of developing societies, which are exposing to severe climate change crises. Also, it is a form of violence against woman that has serious social impacts on her health, as there is a correlative relationship between the period that a child girl is at a high risk of becoming pregnant and her age at the first marriage. Childbirth under the age of 20 has important considerations for the health of mothers and children because they are the most at risk of illness and death, therefore, Early marriage is a non-statutory offence.

3. **Economic growth and seasonal employment:**

The economic effects of climate change will lead to poverty in the seasonal jobs, which affect women's small projects, as economic changes result a threat to food security by failing to meet the necessary needs of both



children and women, Hence, their negative impacts will affect the economic interests and occur of imbalance in the distribution of resources within state.

The coastal areas are the most prominent example for the regions that affected by climate change, as high temperatures lead to melt of ice, which leads to rising in sea levels, then the intrusion of saltwater into groundwater, which negatively affects the agricultural productivity volume that represents as the firewall for women to provide their basics needs of security and food.

4. **Forced Displacement:**

Climate change is destroying ecosystems and agriculture, and also occurring floods that force people to live their homes in order to find another new one.

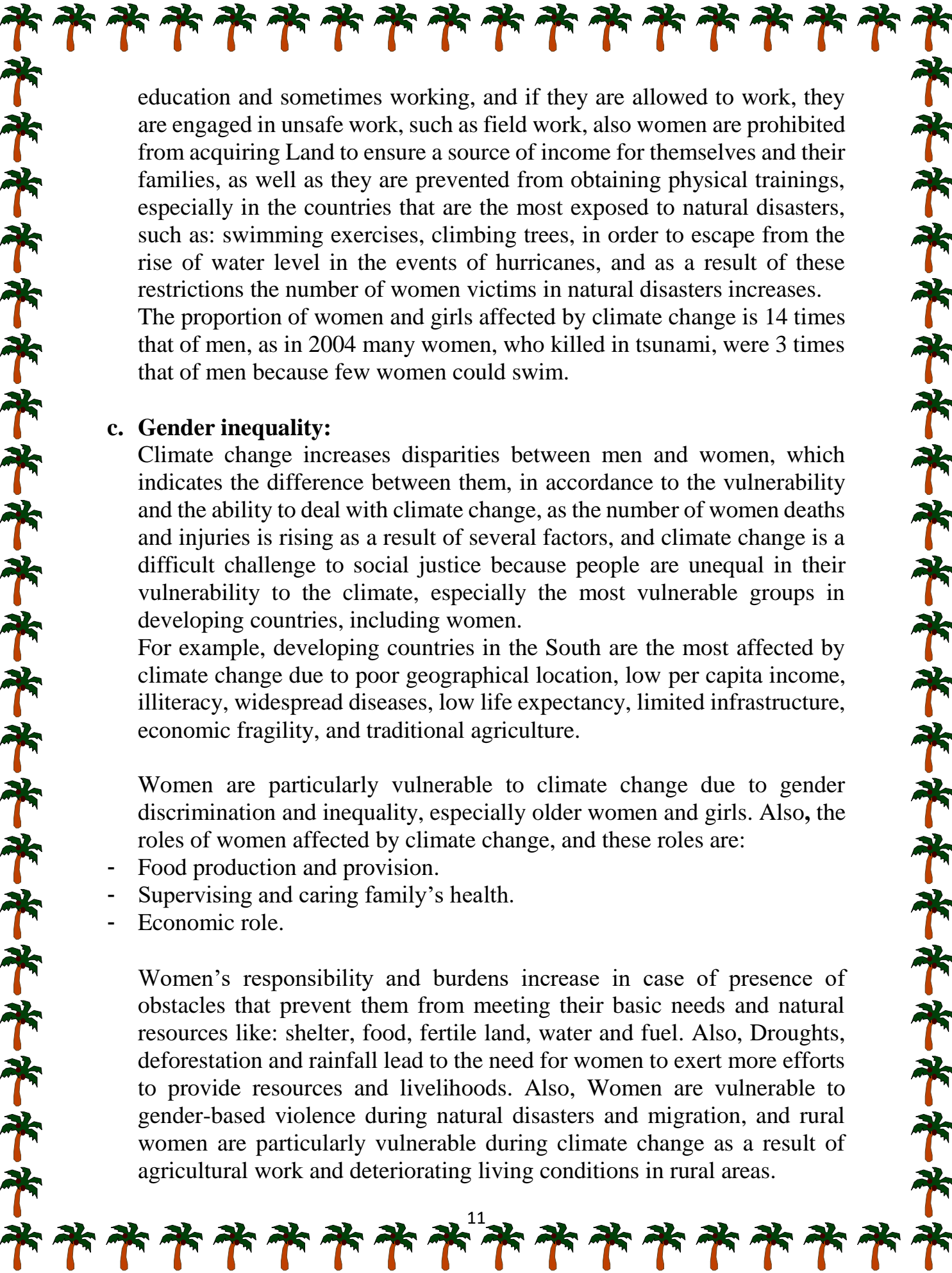
This forced displacement exacerbates gender inequality and discrimination, which make women and girls vulnerable and face obstacles related to assistance and protection, especially when her men are forced to migrate to find better employment.

❖ **Impacts of climate change on woman:**

the effects of Weather events and climate change have affected women's lives, which storming and reversing the gains achieved in recent decades, as the pressure on women has increased because of these changes, especially for women who work in rural areas and developing countries, where agriculture is the main occupation, on which women depend to support themselves and their families.

1. **Why women are the most vulnerable to climate change:**

- a. **Poverty:** The increasing rates of poverty among women, is the main reason for suffering women from climate change, as there are about 118 women, compared to 100 men, between the ages of 25 and 34 living in extreme poverty, and it is expected that the gap will be increased to 121 women per 100 men, by 2030. And after the repercussions of the Corona pandemic, another 47 million women are expected to be added to poverty, which means that the poverty rate among women will increase by 9.1%.
- b. **Social Justice:** In many societies, the role of women is limited to the care of children and the provision of adequate water and food, on the other hand, a set of restrictions are forced, such as: Prohibiting them from



education and sometimes working, and if they are allowed to work, they are engaged in unsafe work, such as field work, also women are prohibited from acquiring Land to ensure a source of income for themselves and their families, as well as they are prevented from obtaining physical trainings, especially in the countries that are the most exposed to natural disasters, such as: swimming exercises, climbing trees, in order to escape from the rise of water level in the events of hurricanes, and as a result of these restrictions the number of women victims in natural disasters increases.

The proportion of women and girls affected by climate change is 14 times that of men, as in 2004 many women, who killed in tsunami, were 3 times that of men because few women could swim.

c. Gender inequality:

Climate change increases disparities between men and women, which indicates the difference between them, in accordance to the vulnerability and the ability to deal with climate change, as the number of women deaths and injuries is rising as a result of several factors, and climate change is a difficult challenge to social justice because people are unequal in their vulnerability to the climate, especially the most vulnerable groups in developing countries, including women.

For example, developing countries in the South are the most affected by climate change due to poor geographical location, low per capita income, illiteracy, widespread diseases, low life expectancy, limited infrastructure, economic fragility, and traditional agriculture.

Women are particularly vulnerable to climate change due to gender discrimination and inequality, especially older women and girls. Also, the roles of women affected by climate change, and these roles are:

- Food production and provision.
- Supervising and caring family's health.
- Economic role.

Women's responsibility and burdens increase in case of presence of obstacles that prevent them from meeting their basic needs and natural resources like: shelter, food, fertile land, water and fuel. Also, Droughts, deforestation and rainfall lead to the need for women to exert more efforts to provide resources and livelihoods. Also, Women are vulnerable to gender-based violence during natural disasters and migration, and rural women are particularly vulnerable during climate change as a result of agricultural work and deteriorating living conditions in rural areas.



2. Women's rights affected by climate change:

Climate change undermines a wide range of internationally protected human rights, which motivate people to domestic and international asylum in order to search for a safe place, where their rights are realized and enforced.

The relationship between climate change and human rights is complicated. However, there are some rights that are directly linked to the impacts of climate change, like: the right to life that is affected by extreme weather events, the right to food and the right to freedom from hunger, which are affected by the absence of food security and the risk of hunger, the right to healthy water that is affected by increased water stress, the right to health that is affected by health stress, and the right to adequate housing, which is affected by High water level and floods.

Perhaps the most significant violations of women's rights are:

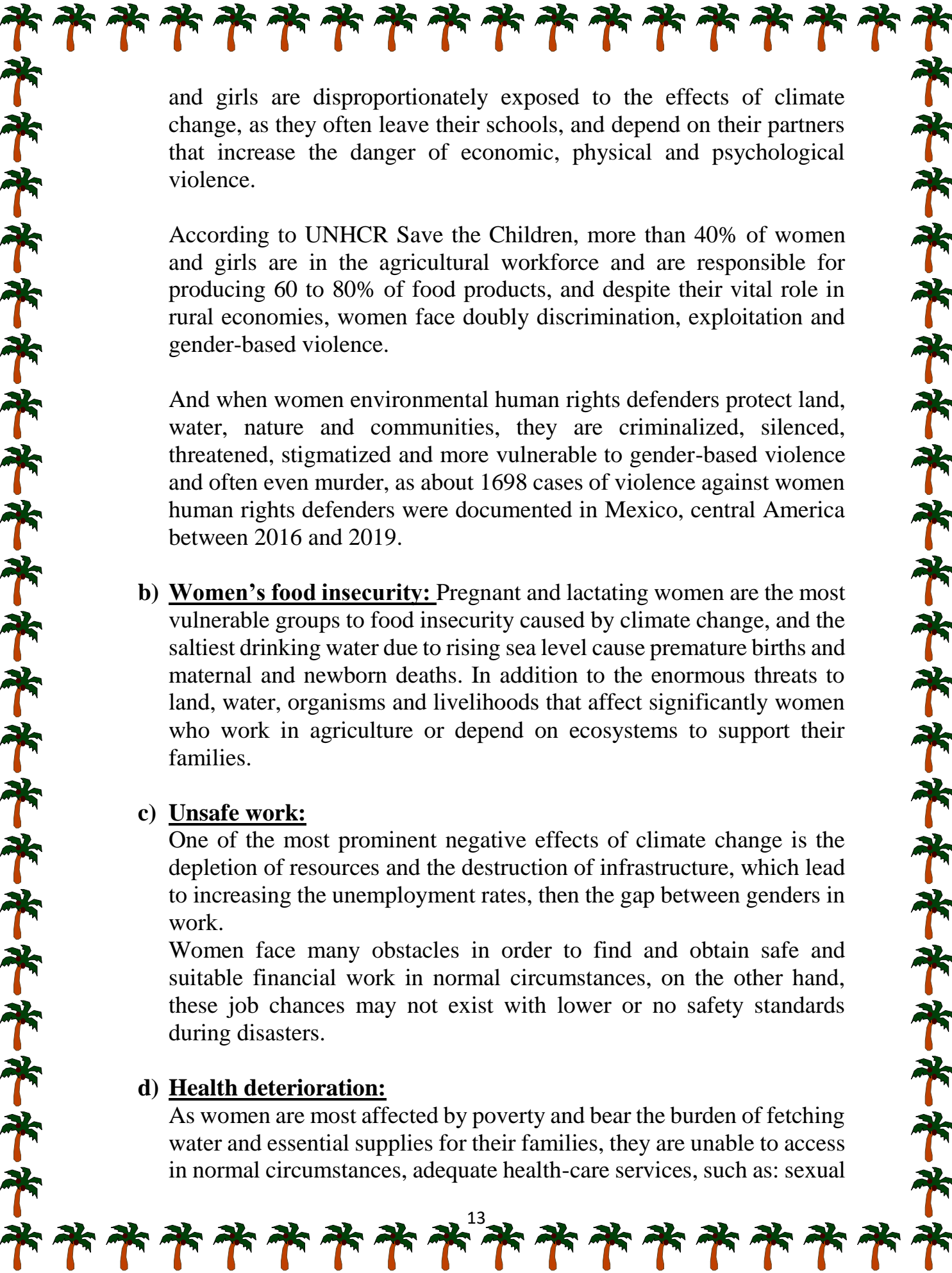
a) Increase in violence against women:

According to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet, about 80% of world population are homeless women because of climate change, and they are more vulnerable to violence, especially sexual violence that women, as migrants or refugees, are exposed to during their residence in shelters or camps, and this risk is compounded by human trafficking and early and forced marriage.

While Independent adviser on Human Rights and climate change Astrid Points Rianyo said that migration and forced displacement are among the most serious impacts of climate change, which affects millions of people around the world.

According to the delegate of national movement of children and adolescents in Peru Ismeralda, the women and girls, who work in agriculture, face many threats, as family farming is changed, because of the low level of production and its replacement with large companies that use toxic fertilizers, also, climate change causes frost and drastic changes in temperature, which forces women and girls to toil in order to obtain income and resources to their families.

The scarcity of drinking water has forced women to seek rivers in forests, which increase the risk of sexual violence, as well as women



and girls are disproportionately exposed to the effects of climate change, as they often leave their schools, and depend on their partners that increase the danger of economic, physical and psychological violence.

According to UNHCR Save the Children, more than 40% of women and girls are in the agricultural workforce and are responsible for producing 60 to 80% of food products, and despite their vital role in rural economies, women face doubly discrimination, exploitation and gender-based violence.

And when women environmental human rights defenders protect land, water, nature and communities, they are criminalized, silenced, threatened, stigmatized and more vulnerable to gender-based violence and often even murder, as about 1698 cases of violence against women human rights defenders were documented in Mexico, central America between 2016 and 2019.

b) **Women's food insecurity:** Pregnant and lactating women are the most vulnerable groups to food insecurity caused by climate change, and the saltiest drinking water due to rising sea level cause premature births and maternal and newborn deaths. In addition to the enormous threats to land, water, organisms and livelihoods that affect significantly women who work in agriculture or depend on ecosystems to support their families.


c) **Unsafe work:**

One of the most prominent negative effects of climate change is the depletion of resources and the destruction of infrastructure, which lead to increasing the unemployment rates, then the gap between genders in work.

Women face many obstacles in order to find and obtain safe and suitable financial work in normal circumstances, on the other hand, these job chances may not exist with lower or no safety standards during disasters.

d) **Health deterioration:**

As women are most affected by poverty and bear the burden of fetching water and essential supplies for their families, they are unable to access in normal circumstances, adequate health-care services, such as: sexual



and reproductive health services, and family planning, which undermine their lives. While in climate disaster, the humanitarian situations become more worse, as these disaster cause forced displacement and migration that exacerbate the injustice to which women are exposed, and make them at high risk of rape, harassment, exploitation and human trafficking.

According to member of the Health Committee of the National Council for women Dr. Gamila Nasr, the world will witness radical changes in the climate, which will have a direct effect on women's health, as chronic diseases are the main reason for death of 86% of Egyptians, and this proportion will increase because of the negative effects of climate change.

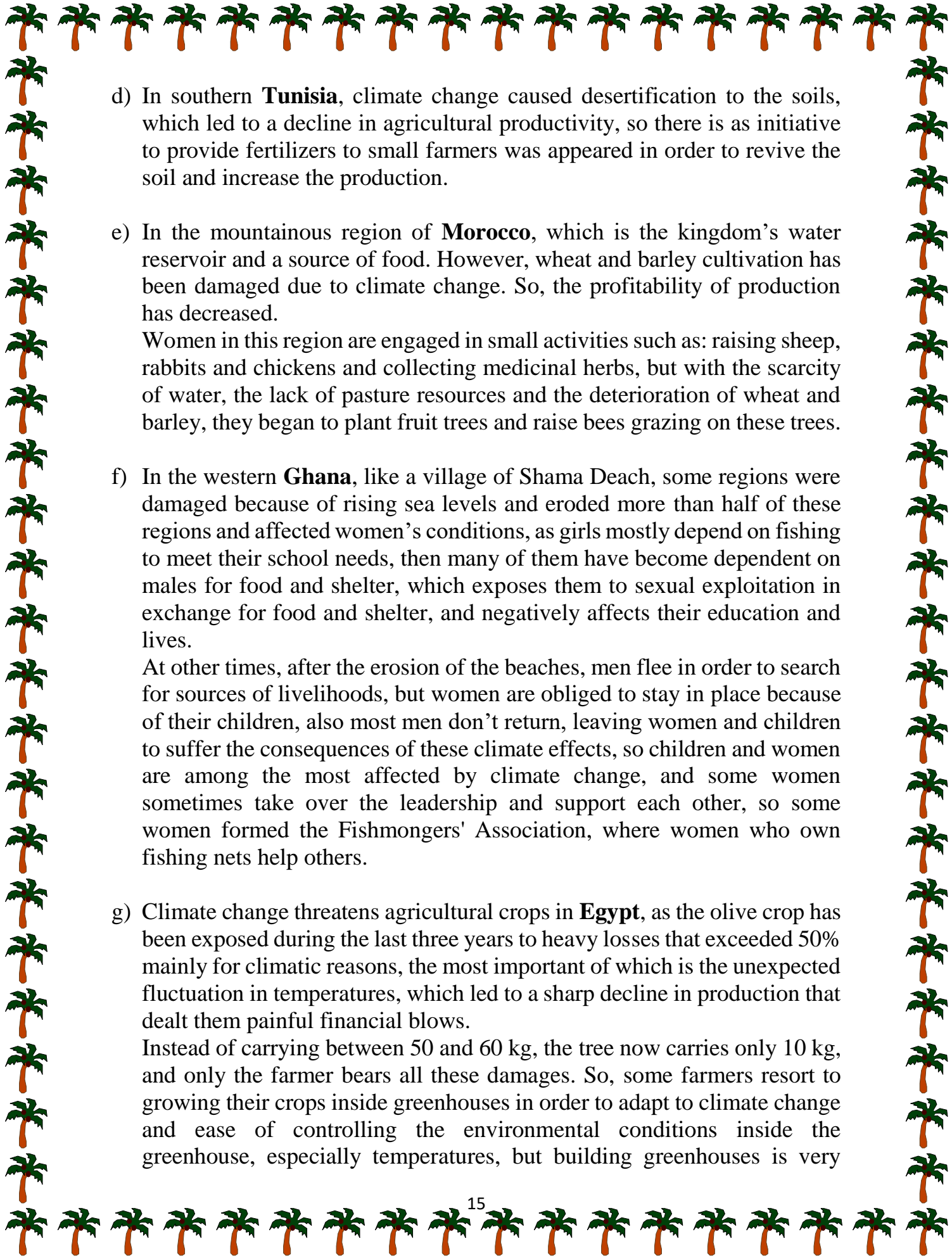
Also, climate change affects women's health by the occurrence of respiratory, heart and infectious diseases transmitted through water and food, especially among the most affected groups such as pregnant, lactating women, children and elderly.

There are a range of changes that caused by the climate and affect the health of mother and fetus, which are:

- **Air pollution and high temperatures** lead to premature birth and low birth weight, which are risk factors for some cases, such as: heart and cardiovascular diseases and diabetes in adulthood.
- **Humid climate** helps in spreading of viruses that affect the health of mother and fetus, such as: Malaria that affects placental function and increases the risk of low birth weight and premature birth.

3. Examples of African women affected by climate change:

- a) Women in **sub-Saharan Africa** spend more than 40 billion hours collecting water.
- b) In **Tanzania**, because of drought, a girl has to walk a longer distance to find water, and this extra time means that she can't go to school.
- c) In **Mozambique**, because of stagnant water of floods, Malaria outbreaks the regions, and the mother is more vulnerable to this disease, and at the same time she has to take care of her sick family.



d) In southern **Tunisia**, climate change caused desertification to the soils, which led to a decline in agricultural productivity, so there is an initiative to provide fertilizers to small farmers that appeared in order to revive the soil and increase the production.

e) In the mountainous region of **Morocco**, which is the kingdom's water reservoir and a source of food. However, wheat and barley cultivation has been damaged due to climate change. So, the profitability of production has decreased.

Women in this region are engaged in small activities such as: raising sheep, rabbits and chickens and collecting medicinal herbs, but with the scarcity of water, the lack of pasture resources and the deterioration of wheat and barley, they began to plant fruit trees and raise bees grazing on these trees.

f) In the western **Ghana**, like a village of Shama Deach, some regions were damaged because of rising sea levels and eroded more than half of these regions and affected women's conditions, as girls mostly depend on fishing to meet their school needs, then many of them have become dependent on males for food and shelter, which exposes them to sexual exploitation in exchange for food and shelter, and negatively affects their education and lives.

At other times, after the erosion of the beaches, men flee in order to search for sources of livelihoods, but women are obliged to stay in place because of their children, also most men don't return, leaving women and children to suffer the consequences of these climate effects, so children and women are among the most affected by climate change, and some women sometimes take over the leadership and support each other, so some women formed the Fishmongers' Association, where women who own fishing nets help others.

g) Climate change threatens agricultural crops in **Egypt**, as the olive crop has been exposed during the last three years to heavy losses that exceeded 50% mainly for climatic reasons, the most important of which is the unexpected fluctuation in temperatures, which led to a sharp decline in production that dealt them painful financial blows.

Instead of carrying between 50 and 60 kg, the tree now carries only 10 kg, and only the farmer bears all these damages. So, some farmers resort to growing their crops inside greenhouses in order to adapt to climate change and ease of controlling the environmental conditions inside the greenhouse, especially temperatures, but building greenhouses is very



expensive and not everyone can afford it and the farmer alone bears all those costs.

4. **The role of women in facing climate change:**

a. **Egyptian women:**

The Egyptian woman has played an important role in the file of climate change and biodiversity because she is considered the beginning of awareness and all the details related to rationalizing consumption, protecting the environment and managing resources, and she is responsible for changing the behavior of her family members in order to preserve natural resources. **So, the roles of Egyptian women can be summarized in the following:**

- Egyptian women have an important role in this file and have a role in raising awareness of climate change issues in all groups and segments of society.
- Egyptian women are a key part of the national dialogue on climate issues to work to address and reduce the negative effects of climate change and link this to rationalizing the consumption of water, energy and natural resources.
- Egyptian women play an important role in linking the issue of climate change to biodiversity in nature reserves, and the Ministry of Environment plays an important role within the reserves in order to teach them to produce materials from natural resources to become part of protecting nature and reducing the effects of climate change.
- Egyptian women are the icon of linking the topics of climate change and nature protection, as Egypt hosted two conferences respectively for the United Nations, namely the Conference on Biological Diversity and the Climate Conference.

b. **Zimbabwean women:**

Zimbabwean society was facing severe famine due to Tropical Hurricane “Idai”, which killed hundreds, left many more homeless, and destroyed infrastructure, especially schools and clinics.

Women have campaigned to raise environmental awareness about climate disasters to increase risk alerts, others have donated food and clothing, and the “Camfed” network, whose core program aims to provide financial and social support to girls from elementary to university onwards, has expanded the Agriculture Guide program to help rural farmers become more resilient from the introduction of drought-resistant grains, low-cost precision irrigation techniques such as the use of recycled plastic bottles for drip irrigation and high wood stoves. Fuel efficiency has all contributed



to building resilience and providing relief in the face of this climate change crisis.

c. **Tanzanian Women:**

One of the most famous examples is Gladnes Ghilul who dropped out of school and married at the age of fifteen. She lives in a small town in northern Tanzania that was struggling to make ends meet in a harsh environment, as the high temperature and water scarcity threatened her livestock, which is her main source of income. After her husband's death, she lost everything, also she and other 100 women were trained in entrepreneurship through “Project Energize”, a project implemented by UN Women, as she learned to install solar energy equipment, make environmentally friendly bricks and build sustainable biogas systems to reduce reliance on firewood for lighting and cooking.


She used her experience in brick making to make a house for herself, contracted to build a health clinic in her village, owns a farm, runs a health clinic in her village, sells solar energy equipment, works with other girls in her village and teaches them the coping skills she has acquired.

d. **Cuban women:**

The most prominent example is the agricultural producer Sandra Garlobo who has been able to improve the production of her maize farm through the United Nations programs to enhance climate change resilience in agriculture while promoting gender equality, and she was able to increase her productivity and was able to manage things effectively like her husband and boasts that she is the breadwinner for her family during her husband's illness.

Another agricultural producer Yosemite Leva Paz, has acquired skills needed to improve drought resistance by building rainwater wells on the farm and irrigating crops in the afternoon to save water and avoid evaporation, and she is able to share daily tasks on an equal footing with her husband, whether at home or on the farm.

Also, the owner of a farm Eliannis de Caridad Perez, said she was able to increase the production of her farm through initiatives organized by the United Nations by identifying resistant seeds, soil management methods, grain types and other adaptation strategies to increase production while preserving the environment.

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- e. **Moroccan women:** like: the young activist Manal Bidar is an 18-year-old from Agadir, committed to climate action who first participated in climate and environmental work when she was 13 years old by cleaning the beach with her friends and since then she has been mobilizing young people for climate action and participating in global climate negotiations.

And the activist Hasna Bakhouché, a 22-year-old from Rabat, is involved in combating the impact of climate change on our planet and people and warned that climate change has adverse effects on biodiversity and the health of living organisms, which in turn puts communities at risk and causes conflicts over access to natural resources. And she was the national coordinator of the Moroccan youth delegation to the UN Youth Climate Conference held in Milan 2021.

- f. **Thai Women:**

Women are always on the front lines of protecting our planet, including Aminata Permoniouat and Pathia Yongsanguanchai, who are 16 years old and selected from more than 8,000 young people globally to participate in climate policymaking. They were able to promote gender equality in climate action and Pathia said girls have unlimited potential if given a chance to grow and persevere, and Aminta launched a mentoring project to teach underprivileged students about sustainable development.

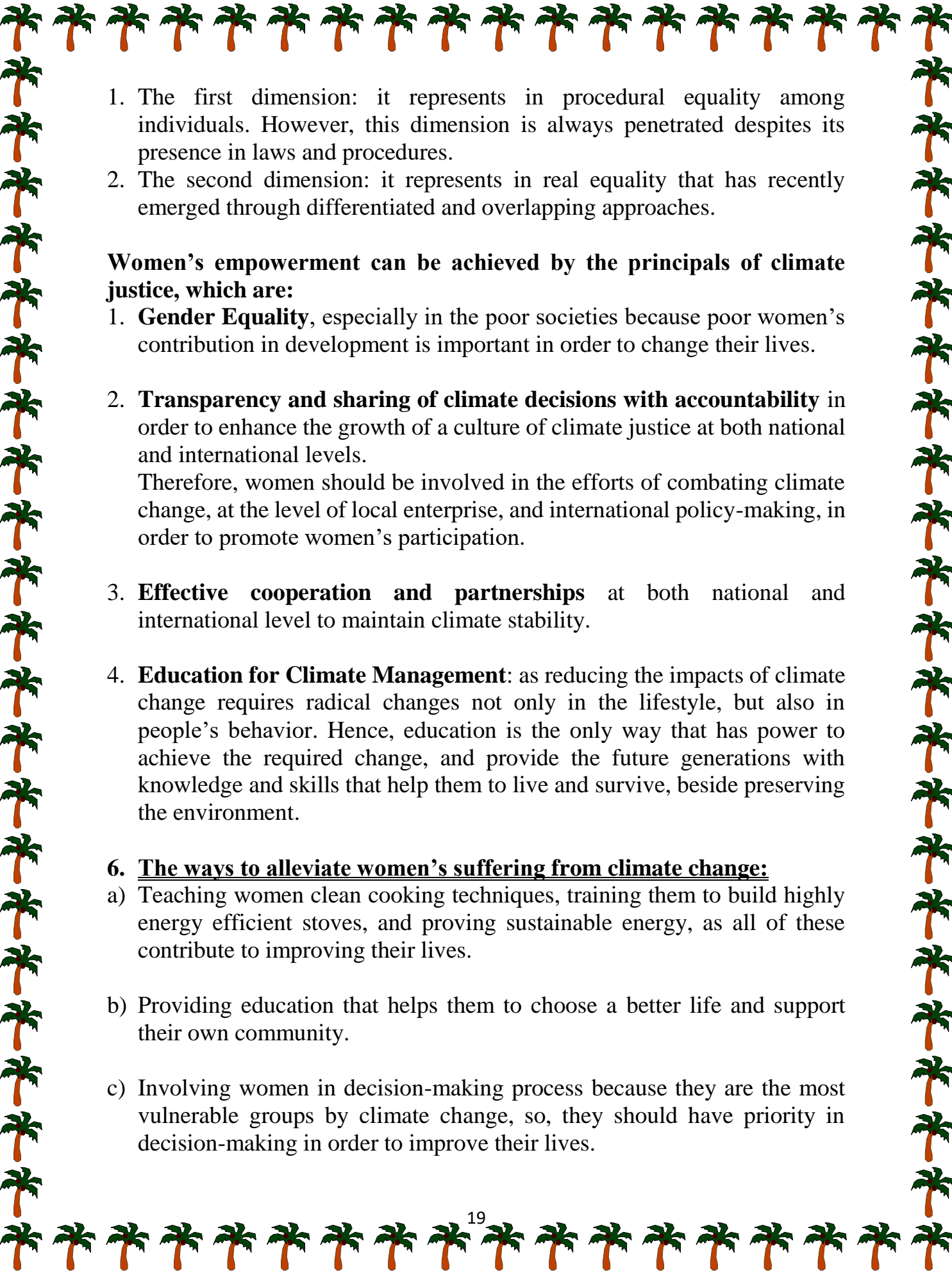
- g. **Women in Bosnia and Herzegovina:**

About 72% of young people under the age of 18 consider climate change an emergency, although as young people they are not directly responsible for climate change, they have felt its impact on their skin. Such as: the 19 years old climate activist Anastasia who grew up in a family that understands the importance of the environment and the extent to which nature suffers from human influence. She retains this knowledge and works to pass it on to the young people around her.

Another climate activist Amina changed her diet after learning about the negative effects of meat production and other sectors of the food industry on nature.

5. **Mechanisms for Women's Rights under Climate Change:**

Equality is a central tool in women's empowerment because it has 2 dimensions, which are:

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1. The first dimension: it represents in procedural equality among individuals. However, this dimension is always penetrated despite its presence in laws and procedures.
 2. The second dimension: it represents in real equality that has recently emerged through differentiated and overlapping approaches.

Women's empowerment can be achieved by the principals of climate justice, which are:

1. **Gender Equality**, especially in the poor societies because poor women's contribution in development is important in order to change their lives.
2. **Transparency and sharing of climate decisions with accountability** in order to enhance the growth of a culture of climate justice at both national and international levels.
Therefore, women should be involved in the efforts of combating climate change, at the level of local enterprise, and international policy-making, in order to promote women's participation.
3. **Effective cooperation and partnerships** at both national and international level to maintain climate stability.
4. **Education for Climate Management:** as reducing the impacts of climate change requires radical changes not only in the lifestyle, but also in people's behavior. Hence, education is the only way that has power to achieve the required change, and provide the future generations with knowledge and skills that help them to live and survive, beside preserving the environment.
6. **The ways to alleviate women's suffering from climate change:**
 - a) Teaching women clean cooking techniques, training them to build highly energy efficient stoves, and providing sustainable energy, as all of these contribute to improving their lives.
 - b) Providing education that helps them to choose a better life and support their own community.
 - c) Involving women in decision-making process because they are the most vulnerable groups by climate change, so, they should have priority in decision-making in order to improve their lives.



❖ **Conclusion:**

Climate change is a widespread global phenomenon that occurs as a result of natural or artificial factors, and has catastrophic impacts not only on states, but also on the individuals who live within them, especially women, children and the elderly as the most vulnerable groups to these impacts.

There has been a set of global efforts to confront climate change, which represented by a series of international conferences held over the years by major organizations in different countries in order to confront these changes, on the other hand, the states have human rights obligations related to climate change to mitigate its effects on citizens.

This report discovers that there have been negative effects to climate change that hinder woman's empowerment, such as: Education, early and forced marriage, displacement and other factors that have affected woman during confronting climate change.

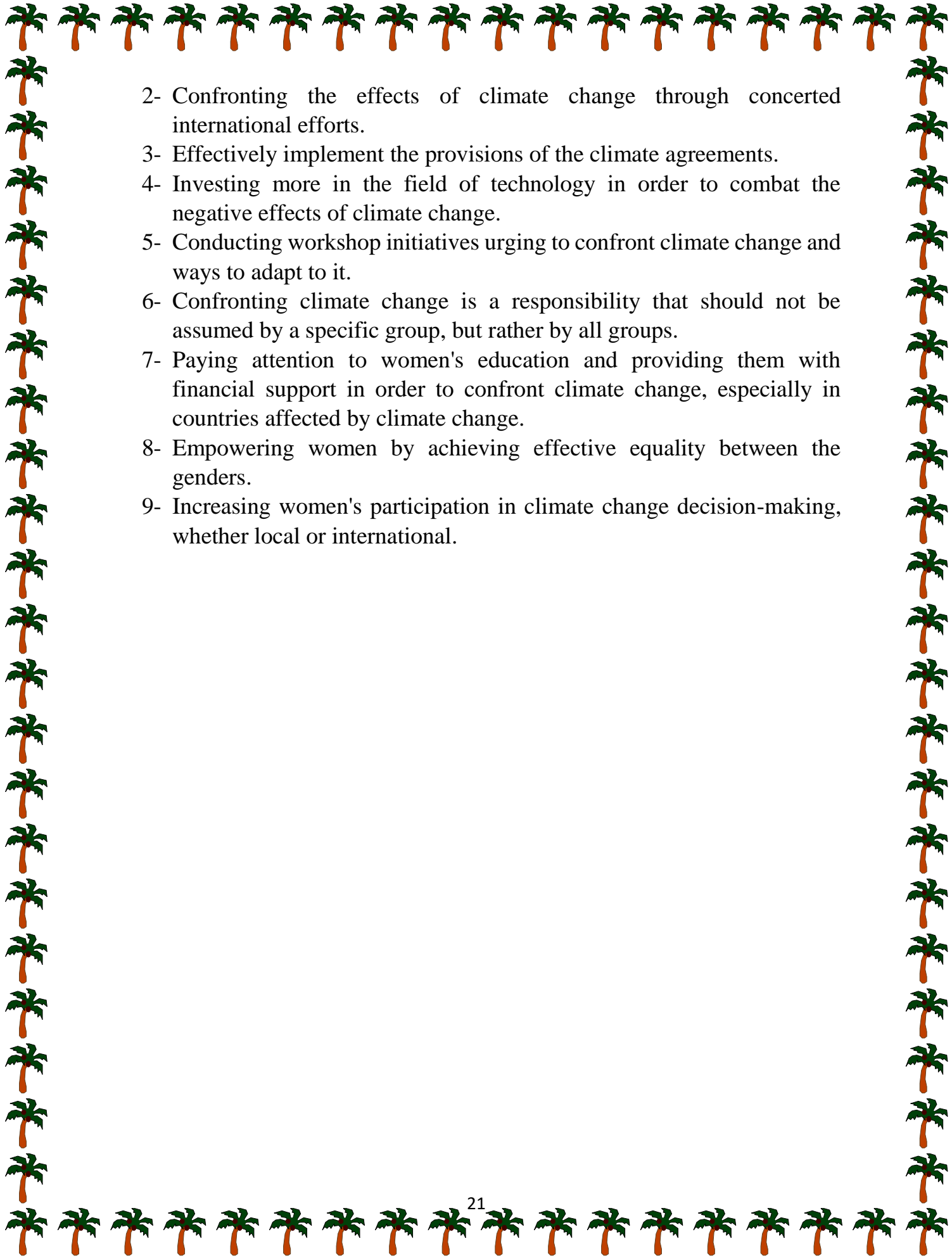
Woman has been the most vulnerable group because of climate change, as there are a set of factors that are reasons for this suffering, which are: increasing poverty among women, the absence of social justice either in their access to education or obtaining necessary trainings to adapt to climate change and her preoccupation with many works of raising children and working in the field.... etc.

Climate change has played a role in exacerbating violence against women, and affecting their health, food security and safe work, and there are many examples confirm that woman has been affected by climate change in some African countries because these countries are developing countries and the majority of their populations works in agriculture, which is one of the first sectors affected by climate change.

As a result of this suffering, woman has played a prominent role in many fields to fight climate change in various world's countries, which indicates that women are equal to, and in some areas can even surpassed, men

❖ **Recommendations:**

- 1- Preserving the environment by reducing greenhouse gases in order to combat climate change.

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- A decorative border of palm trees surrounds the text. The border consists of a top row of 18 palm trees, a bottom row of 18 palm trees, and two vertical columns of 18 palm trees each on the left and right sides.
- 2- Confronting the effects of climate change through concerted international efforts.
 - 3- Effectively implement the provisions of the climate agreements.
 - 4- Investing more in the field of technology in order to combat the negative effects of climate change.
 - 5- Conducting workshop initiatives urging to confront climate change and ways to adapt to it.
 - 6- Confronting climate change is a responsibility that should not be assumed by a specific group, but rather by all groups.
 - 7- Paying attention to women's education and providing them with financial support in order to confront climate change, especially in countries affected by climate change.
 - 8- Empowering women by achieving effective equality between the genders.
 - 9- Increasing women's participation in climate change decision-making, whether local or international.