

## **Section 3 : Strengthening the Role of Major Groups**

### **Chapter 24 : Global action for women towards sustainable and equitable development**

The active involvement of women in economic and political decision-making will be critical to the successful implementation of Agenda 21.

#### **Objectives**

- To strengthen women's participation in ecosystem management and the control of environmental degradation.
- Increase the proportion of women decision makers, planners, technical advisers, managers and extension workers.
- Eliminate obstacles to women's full participation in sustainable development.
- Ensure that women contribute to, and benefit from environment and development programmes.
- Educate both men and women to value women's roles.
- Ensure that women and men have the same right to decide the number and spacing of their children.
- Eliminate violence against women.

#### **Activities**

Governments and local communities should:

- strengthen and empower women's organisations
- eliminate illiteracy, and expand women's educational opportunities
- improve access to child care
- strengthen women's health programmes, including family planning and maternity programmes
- promote equal employment opportunities
- ensure women have equal access to credit, land and agricultural inputs
- eliminate negative images, stereotypes and prejudices against women in the media, advertising and education.

Progress in these areas should be reviewed and reported to the 1995 World Conference on Women.