Mr. President,

In this oral statement, Journalist and Writers Foundation would like to emphasize the importance of the Post-2015 Development Agenda to be gender-sensitive. Managing the transition for MDGs to SDGs requires the civil society organizations to elaborate on the issues that were not on the spot in the Millennium Development Goals.

Gender equality and women’s rights are key factors to address the unfinished mission of the Millennium Development Goals and accelerating global development beyond 2015. Gender equality matters in its own right as a prerequisite for the health and development of families, societies, and as a trigger of the economic growth. Our objective is to develop a perspective, which uplifts women from the status of an object to that of a true subject and develop a strong approach.

Raising the awareness of the importance that “gender sensitivity” plays in the new agenda is not enough by itself. Sustainable Development Goals should be supported with the action-oriented participation of the civil society organizations. Taking this oral statement as an opportunity to propose a set of solutions, JWF would like to emphasize the women’s role in this critical period, both as a matter of human rights and for its impact on development.

Power of Institutionalizing Gender Equality: we must utilize women’s transformative roles in implementing sustainable reforms, mainstream women into governance and all levels of decision-making mechanisms

Political Empowerment of Women: Civil society organizations should build capacity for inexperienced women coming into the positions of leadership and establish a gender budgeting program to ensure the accountability for expenditure on women.

Inclusive Legislation Recognizing Women’s Equal Rights: As CSOs we should urge political parties to ‘normalize’ women’s involvement in politics by internal affirmative action policies at all levels of political party operations.

Investing in Girls – Educational Parity: We should advocate a recognized need for accountability, research and gender-disaggregated data.
Promoting Women’s Participation in Economic Growth: We should promote training courses including financial literacy trainings, access to financial services, business mentoring, and agribusiness which are all areas of development for empowering women.

Challenging Cultural Attitudes and Gender Stereotypes: We should encourage our local communities to recognize the leadership role of women and resolve to promote gender equality to ensure their full and effective participation in sustainable development policies and programs.

To conclude this statement, I would like to highlight once again that without a doubt; sustainable development, peaceful and harmonious societies are all only possible when skills of women are free to be thrived with the support of civil-society organizations.

Thank you Mr. President