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**Smart and Fair:  
Recognizing Women's Role in Our Economic Future**

**10-11 July 2017**

One Whitehall Place,  
1 Whitehall Court, Whitehall,  
London SW1A 2HD

*Agenda as at 06-07-2017*

The international economic architecture is changing and is no longer gender blind. The G20, the G7, the UN and the international financial institutions, all now recognize that empowering women and promoting their participation in economic activity across all sectors is fundamental to achieving a sustainable growth. The pace at which change is happening, however, remains too slow. We need more action now, and active policy measures to drive change.

This year's International Policy Forum on Gender-Inclusive Growth—first held in Canberra in 2014 during the Australian presidency of the G20—will explore, discuss and propose innovative policies to advance gender-inclusive growth in G20 countries. The Forum brings together key policy-makers, business leaders, entrepreneurs, scholars, and members of the media to assess progress towards gender-equality, monitor implementation of G20 commitments and explore the issues which represent significant barriers for women's full participation in the economy. Discussions at the Forum will build on consultations and workshops held in Berlin, Brussels, London, New York and Washington, DC.

During the Forum, participants will discuss issues that are, or need to be, on the international economic agenda, in order to develop a policy framework for gender-inclusive growth for the next G20 presidency (2018) while supporting the work of the W(omen)20—the G20 engagement group dedicated to promoting gender inclusiveness and gender equality to foster a strong, sustainable and balanced growth.

This forum is proudly supported by:



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## International Policy Forum Agenda

Monday, 10 July 2017

14:00 – 19:00 **Registration**

15:00 – 18:15 **Warm up sessions**

### **A year on... What did we achieve and where are the challenges?**

Following the successful W20 Summit in Berlin earlier this year, this session will assess the impact made by the W20 as well as other multi-lateral initiatives aimed at fostering gender-inclusive growth. In light of achievements and challenges, possible next steps will be examined to ensure that the G20 and the G7 are held accountable for their commitments to further advance women's economic empowerment.

#### **Introductory remarks**

**Paola Subacchi**, Senior Research Fellow, Global Economy and Finance Department, Chatham House

### **The W20 and the W7: lessons learned in 2017**

**Marta Dassù**, Chair, The Aspen Initiative for Europe; Executive President, WE-Women Empower the World, Italy

**Gala Díaz Langou**, Director, Social Protection, CIPPEC, Argentina

**Claudia Grosse-Leege**, Managing Director, Association of German Women Entrepreneurs (VdU), co-chair W20 Germany

### **Refreshments (16.30-16.45)**

### **Taking stock of developments in the multi-lateral agenda and monitoring change**

**Judit Arenas**, Director of External Relations and Deputy Permanent Observer to the United Nations, International Development Law Organization

**Karen Mathiasen**, Acting Executive Director for the United States, World Bank

**Margo Thomas**, Former Chief Secretariat, UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment

18:15 – 19:30 **Welcome reception**

19:30 – 22:00 **Welcome dinner**

**Robin Niblett**, Director, Chatham House

**Julie Teigland**, Chair, 2017 International Policy Forum; Regional Managing Partner Germany, Switzerland, Austria, EY; and Women Fast Forward Partner Sponsor, EMEIA, EY

Guest speaker

**Rohit Talwar**, Global futurist, CEO and founder, Fast Future

Results of the 2017 video competition

Winner's award presented by **The Rt Hon Justine Greening**, Secretary of State for Education and Minister for Women and Equalities (*dependent on parliamentary commitments*)

**Tuesday, 11 July 2017**

09:00 – 09:30 **Opening ceremony**

**Welcome remarks**

**Adam Ward**, Deputy Director, Chatham House

**HE Sheikha Lubna bint Khalid bin Sultan Al Qasimi**, Minister of State for Tolerance, United Arab Emirates

09:30 – 10:45 **Session One – Innovative gender-responsive policies – Learning from practice**

This session will examine good practice in both the public and private sectors. Focus will be on measures and policies developed to involve more women in economic activities that have had a measurable impact and that can be broadly implemented.

Panel:

**Betsy Nelson**, Vice President Risk and Compliance and Chief Risk Officer, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

**Atsuko Nishimura**, Ambassador in Charge of Women's Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

**Simona Scarpaleggia**, Chief Executive Officer, IKEA Switzerland

10:45 – 11:15 **Refreshments**

11:15 – 12:30 **Session Two – Changing habits, disrupting the norms**

Ingrained habits and norms have been proven difficult to break. This session will discuss placing gender-parity on our agendas by working to change habits and the status quo to empower women, globally. In this session, we will also explore how incentives can drive change.

Panel:

**Shereen El Feki**, Associate Fellow, Centre on Global Health Security, Chatham House; Senior Fellow, International Men and Gender Equality Survey, Middle East and North Africa, Promundo

**Baroness Martha Lane Fox of Soho**, Life Peer, House of Lords

**Diego Piacentini**, Government Commissioner for the Digital Agenda, Italy

**Su-Mei Thompson**, Chief Executive Officer, The Women's Foundation Ltd

12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch**

**13:30 – 15:30 Session Three — Breakout sessions:**

1. **Financial inclusion and access to finance**  
Financial inclusion is a major driver of economic development around the world. Access to financial services by individuals and enterprises, however, is still limited in many countries and regions, and women are much more financially excluded than men. In this session, we will focus on identifying gaps, exploring areas of intervention and discussing how the G20 financial inclusion agenda needs to be more gender-inclusive.
2. **Women in the digital economy**  
Despite the huge impact that global online connectivity has had on global communications, trade, scientific analysis and local economies, over 50% of the world - an estimated four billion people - have yet to gain regular access to the internet, and women in developing countries are 25% less likely than men to have internet access. Using examples of successful interventions in communities around the world, this session will examine the untapped potential contribution of women's digital uptake to the local and global economies, and how best to restore balance throughout the digital economy.
3. **Entrepreneurship, trade and procurement**  
In this session we look at women's participation in public procurement as a tool, and an entry point for women into exports and international trade. The session will discuss active policies, and recommendations for the G20, to bring more women-led firms into public and private procurement. There are many different business ownership models, including majority woman-owned businesses, firms that are equally male and female-owned as well as women-led businesses. The differences in these models should be highlighted, particularly in light of how public expenditures should be allocated to expand opportunities for women businesses. The session will discuss existing good practices in both the public and the private sectors and assess their feasibility in public policy programs.
4. **Preparing for the jobs of tomorrow**  
The scale and speed of change brought by technology in the past 50 years has been unprecedented and there is no doubt that in the future AI and automation will disrupt and transform work in ways that cannot yet be imagined. How can women and girls be prepared for this brave new world? Is systematic STEM education the only way to provide the capacity to adapt to the requirements of future jobs? What emphasis should be put on creativity and critical thinking? How can communities avoid 'missing the boat' and harness the potential of technology while avoiding increasing inequalities? This session will explore these issues and how countries can develop a more comprehensive view of trends in order to establish a meaningful dialogue with education systems and business to align demand and supply of skills.

**15:30 – 16:00 Refreshments****16:00 – 17:00 Reports from the breakout sessions — Call for action****17:00 – 17:30 Closing remarks and thanks****17:30 – 19:30 Reception**