



Name: María Dolores Agüero Lara

Position: Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Honduras

Country of Origin: Honduras

Biography:

Received a M.A. in International Law in Investments, Trade and Arbitration from the University of Chile and the University of Heidelberg. Served as Director of Integration and later as Undersecretary of State for Foreign Policy. Sworn in on March 27, 2017 as Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Honduras.

I think that if we look back, the role of women in our society has changed substantially. At the global level, the participation of women in legislative bodies or national parliaments has dramatically increased. Although the road has not been easy, there is no doubt we have examples that have managed to tear down barriers and break glass ceilings that in the past have limited us to actively participate in social, political, economic and cultural aspects. I have no doubt the 5th WAW!/W20 will contribute to further advance and promotion of the empowerment of women, and achievement of gender equality for all the girls who deserve a seat at the table.



Name: Michelle Bachelet

Position: United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Country of Origin: Chile

Biography:

Has a Medical Degree in Surgery, with a specialization in Pediatrics and Public Health. Served as Defense Minister and Health Minister before being elected as the President of Chile on two occasions (2006-2010 and 2014-2018). Was the first female president of Chile. On September 1, 2018, she assumed her functions as the seventh United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Women are truly empowered when they can fully exercise their human rights and choice in dignity and autonomy, at home, at work and in public decision-making. We have come a long way in achieving gender equality, as well as the human rights of women and girls. But, we still have a long way to go to create societies where all individuals can shine and develop their full potential. We need to work together with courage and to critically discuss how to dismantle the deeply rooted patriarchal stereotypes that hold us back from genuine equality.



Name: Ryan Brennan

Position: Acting Executive Vice President, Office of Investment Policy (OPIC)

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

Prior to being acting EVP, Brennan was VP for Investment Policy. He has 20 years of investment experience. He was Managing Director at Advantage Capital Partners, a venture capital firm with over \$2.3 billion under management. Brennan holds a B.S. from Truman State University and an MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

OPIC is eager to continue the dialogue on the importance of investing in women. We want to not only count the number of women we impact, but value them in each of our investments.



Name: Hanaa Edwar George Busha

Position: Chairperson of the Iraqi Al-Amal Association

Country of Origin: Iraq

Biography:

A Human Rights, Women's Rights and Democracy Activist for more than 50 years. She is the co-founder and the Chairperson of Iraqi Al-Amal Association. She is the co-founder of the Iraqi Women Network. She led countless campaigns for women's and gender equality, enhancing women's role in decision-making positions and in building peace, security, justice and reconciliation.

This is the second time I'll attend WAW, where I participated in WAW 2015. During the past years numerous developments have been occurred in the situation of women in all countries.

Between these years, Iraqi women have been subjected of heinous sexual violence during conflicts referred to by UN documents amounted to genocide and crimes against humanity .In addressing this dystopia our sister Nadia Murad deserved Nobel Peace Award in 2018.

I belief WAW 2019 will enhance the legitimacy of women's demands for equality, empowerment and participation in decision making at all levels, as an essential of SDG 2030, and towards achieving aspirations of peoples of our planet for peace, security, justice and progress.



Name: Soichiro Chiba
Position: Chariman, Y20 Committee
Country of Origin: Japan
Biography:

Chairman of the Y20, an official G20 engagement group for policy recommendations to G20 leaders. Established Y7-summit in tandem with 2016 G7-summit, submitted communique crafted by young professionals from G7 countries to Japanese government. Recommended financial regulation/human capital investment policies at 2013 Y20-summit in Russia/2019 G20 Osaka-Summit's development-working-group. Received double B.A from Peking University and Waseda University.

No matter women or men, to “shine” through one’s work and life, it is important to create an environment where people can find purposes that they can take pride and confidence—this should be more than just simply “continuing work until you retire.” This significance is rising today when globalization and technological revolutions are changing the form of jobs, requiring more creativity. At WAW! I wish to discuss how governments, corporations, and academic institutions can share and materialize such a vision.



Name: Benjamin Colton
Position: Head of Asia Pacific, Asset Stewardship, State Street Gold Advisors
Country of Origin: USA
Biography:

Head of Asia-Pacific on the Asset Stewardship Team. He and his colleagues are responsible for developing and implementing global proxy voting policies and guidelines across all investment strategies, and managing proxy voting activities and issuer engagement on ESG issues. Prior to joining State Street, he served as a member of the Active Ownership Team at Norges Bank Investment Management.

State Street’s “Fearless Girl” celebrates the spirit of women who are taking charge today and serves as an inspiration for the next generation of female leaders. On the same day we placed the “Fearless Girl” statue on Wall Street, we called on thousands of companies in our investment portfolio in the US, UK and Australia to increase the number of women on their corporate boards. We expanded our Fearless Girl campaign to also include pushing for board diversity in Japan and Canada, and the effort continues to drive impact globally. The campaign has been a catalyst for action in Japan as we are pleased that 51, or 18%, of the 281 companies in the TOPIX 500 Index identified have already taken action.



Name: Kimiko Date

Position: Tennis Player / JICA Official Supporter

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Won at the 1988 National Inter-High-School Tennis Tournament. Turned professional soon after graduation from high school in 1989. In 1996 she was ranked No. 4 in the WTA Ranking. After retirement, in 2008 she declared her intention to "take on a new challenge" as a professional tennis player. Second retirement in 2017. Since 2002, as JICA Official Supporter, she has actively been involved in JICA's project.

It has been 16 years since I assumed the post of JICA Official Supporter. Every time I visit the field of developing countries, I host "JICA Kids Tennis" where I enjoy playing tennis with local children. I get impressed to see children's bright smiles when playing in the tennis court. They enjoy the experience by just being themselves, and I never see any differences based on gender, whether they are girls or boys. Through these activities, I truly believe in the power of the sports that enables us to overcome discrimination and disparity based on gender and various differences among countries and regions. As JICA Official Supporter and a tennis player, I am determined to continue my efforts in contributing to international cooperation.



Name: Lisa Deschamps

Position: Neuroscience World Wide Business Franchise Head,
Novartis Pharmaceuticals

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

Received MBA, from NYU Stern School of Business. Responsible for strategic planning, commercialization and business development for the Neuroscience portfolio World Wide. Fosters a strong, People-and Purpose driven culture inspired to better serve patients and give back to society.

She lends her time to philanthropic causes such as domestic violence and pediatric cancer.

To create a society in which all women shine we must address the "brain drain" that is silently and disproportionately affecting women Worldwide. Alzheimer's, Migraine and Multiple Sclerosis all represent areas of unmet medical need, largely affect women in the prime of their lives as patients and caregivers, forcing them to withdraw from the work place long before ever planned. This leads to a significant impact on global economies.

As women, we have the rallying power to foster change in the world. By working together through platforms like W20 and beyond, we can harness our collective voices, experience, and passion to uncover and address this significant burden, and give those that suffer from Neurological conditions back the life they deserve!



Name: Atsuko Toko Fish

Position: Founder, Japanese Women's Leadership Initiative (JWLI)

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Founder of the JWLI Ecosystem, which includes the Japanese Women's Leadership Initiative (JWLI), the Champion of Change Japan Award (CCJA), and the JWLI Bootcamp, for women-led social change in Japan. Received the Foreign Minister's Commendation in 2012, the White House's Champion of Change Award in 2013, and the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette in 2018.

W20 will be a milestone for the economic advancement of women. The economy is contributed by all the fabric of society including the social sector. The Japanese social sector is still developing but its potential to contribute to the economy is unlimited. Also, women are emerging as social sector leaders. The Japanese economy is stagnant; the country is faced with issues like aging populations and a labor shortage. As an untapped resource, women must and will play important roles in the government, private and social sectors. The social sector and the power of women leaders will lead to social change and economic sustainability in Japan.



Name: Yoriko Goto

Position: Chair of the Board, Deloitte Tohmatsu Group

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

After joining Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu LLC., she was mainly engaged in auditing major financial institutions and served as leader of DTT's Financial Industry group. She took up her current position in June 2018. She has 9 years of experience working in the United States and was the only woman to represent Deloitte in the Davos Conference from 2012 to 2015.

To create a sustainable society, it is important to give every woman the opportunity to display her capabilities to the fullest, and to foster a culture that values diversity and makes women feel safe and included. I believe that a society in which women are well respected and play an active role will be beneficial not just for women but also for all people. I am committed to provide whatever support I can to achieve diversity in business for a fair economy and society.



Name: Alice Graham

Position: Assistant General Counsel, Microsoft Japan

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

After graduating from the University of Florida School of Law, worked at Mori Hamada Matsumoto Law Firm, United Service Automobile Association and Microsoft as an attorney. With over 20 years of experience, she is passionate about leveraging that knowledge to drive digital transformation in Japan and make a difference in the lives of all Japanese.

We are highly honored to support the WAW!/W20 Project. Based on Microsoft mission, “Empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more” we have launched the Empowered JAPAN Project. In collaboration with the national/local governments and partners, our vision is to create an inclusive society where all individuals including women, and all companies including small and mid-sized businesses can realize their full potential. A society where every person being able to learn, work, and reskill anywhere, at any time.



Name: haru.

Position: Editor in chief , HIGH(er)magazine/Student

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Spent her elementary and high school years in Germany, and entered Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music in 2015. "HIGH (er) magazine" was published in 2015. The magazine sets the theme each time focusing on ‘problems on personal level as part of our daily lives’ based on the concept of ‘creating a place to think with people of the same generation’.

Realization of a society where women and people called minorities can also shine in the true meaning is not possible if we do not face one another with imagination, not judging or denying the way one lives. It is already a matter of time that politicians who say women should give birth to children or LGBT people do not have productivity in public can no longer represent the country. Let's be aware of our own power. Do not stop talking in your own words now as every one of us could act as a media.



Name: Fumiko Hayashi

Position: Mayor of Yokohama

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Mayor of Yokohama since 2009. Her previous roles include president of BMW Tokyo, chairperson and CEO of Daiei, and executive officer of Nissan Motors. She is committed to women's empowerment projects such as the abolition of waiting list for nurseries, as well as support for female entrepreneurship and networking.

My sincere congratulations to WAW!/W20 on its grand launch in gathering international and Japanese leaders who are passionate about women's empowerment.

Since its first launch in 2014, I have gotten a great deal of encouragement from WAW! every year I attended the conference. I am fully convinced that our collaboration with W20 this year will bring the venue more fruitful discussions.

We can touch one another's heart. I am hoping to take strong action with participants at the conference to realize a society where women shine.



Name: Tetsuya Honda

Position: Managing Director/ CEO, BlueCurrent Japan Inc.

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Joined Fleishman Hillard in 1999. He launched BlueCurrent Japan as a sister agency in 2006. He published a book "Strategic PR" in 2009 and is a frequent speaker on marketing and PR innovation and an author of several popular business books. He was recently named "PR Professional of the Year 2015" by PRWeek. He has been named to the PR jury for Cannes Lions 2017.

As the momentum for gender equality is growing, the influence of the media, advertising and PR have been controversial lately. I am a PR communication professional and I have been working with WAW! for 5 years. From my point of view, it should be an urgent issue for the media and advertisement companies to face and focus on gender equality properly. At the same time, I believe the power of media communication can contribute to the realization of a gender-equal society.



Name: Shoji Ito

Position: Director, Senior Managing Executive Officer, Sampo Japan Nipponkoa Insurance Inc.

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Joined The Nippon Fire & Marine Insurance Co.,Ltd. (current Sampo Japan Nipponkoa Insurance) after graduating from Kyoto University in 1984. Served various leadership roles including General Manager of CSR Department and General Manager of Corporate Planning Department. Current position from April 2018. Actively engaging in “DIVERSITY FOR GROWTH” as Personnel Affair Lead Management. The company was presented the Prime Minister’s Prize for FY 2016 “Commend Leading Companies where Women Shine”.

Experiencing successful Diversity & Inclusion will expand opportunities for women with positive impacts on the corporate culture, changing the mindsets, attitudes, and behaviors of the management, and the efforts by the management through D&I initiatives will create a virtuous circle with corporate growth. We are confident that continuing to provide strong support for the management challenges as Male Champions of Change will lead to the realization of a society where women shine.



Name: Kimie Iwata

Position: Director, Kirin Holdings

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Served as Director-General of the Equal Employment, Children and Families Bureau at the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, Executive Vice President at Shiseido and President of Japan Institute of Women’s Empowerment.

Her current involvement includes Inspection Commissioner of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government , Director at three companies, and a Board Member of three universities.

The role of women in the companies is in great progress these days. That means that the manager of the companies began to consider that promoting women’s active participation is not only the problem of human rights and the employee’s welfare but rather human resource strategy for the growth of companies. Women have finally become to be able to work during childcare period however, in order to bring more women in the managing position or board members, changes in men’s work style and their roles in the household are required.



Name: Renge Jibu

Position: Journalist/Visiting Researcher Showa Women's Univ.

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Worked for Nikkei Business Publications as a staff writer for 16 years. Fulbright Visiting Scholar at U of Michigan (2006-07). Current position since 2014. Advisor for WAW! Since 2015. MBA at Hitotsubashi Univ. Author of books "Bread winning wives and child caring husbands" (Keisoshobo), "Corporate communication with gender lens" (Nikkei Shuppan).

In WAW!/W20 this year, we will have discussions on various issues which affect women's empowerment, such as human rights, social, and economic issues. Women leaders, men, and youths from all over the world will get together and share their knowledge regarding the latest approaches towards the "Gender mainstreaming" which was stated in the G20 Leaders' declaration from last year. It would be our great pleasure for you to enjoy participating in this conference. Please also enjoy expanding your social network and apply your knowledge gained from the conference in your daily life and at work. I look forward to meeting you at the venue!



Name: Sandra Erica Jovel Polanco

Position: Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala

Country of Origin: Guatemala

Biography:

Has a Master's degree in International Relations from the Complutense University of Madrid. Responsible for integration topics, foreign security, bilateral foreign policy, international cooperation, migration issues, and border ports. Served as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador of Guatemala in Colombia. Assumed the current position in August 2017. She is the second woman to hold this position in the history of the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry.

I am grateful to the Government of Japan for the cordial invitation on the occasion of the celebration of the World Assembly of women (WAW!) and the Summit W20 (Women-20), important meetings which bring together outstanding women from all regions of the world, with the aim of endorsing the commitment of G20, in the search for solutions to counter the global financial crisis and achieve sustainable development, promoting employment equity, financial equity, digital equity and governance. As representative of Government of Guatemala, it is my honor to participate in this great event and have the opportunity to share with successful women characterized by making achievements on their duty and commitment, not only in their countries and organizations, but also at the global level, towards the common goal of advancing the construction of a strategic agenda for the empowerment of women.



Name: Masami Katakura

Position: EY Japan Managing Partner, BMC(Brand, Marketing and Communication), Gender Leader

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

CPA. After worked on the audits of major manufacturers, she was the deputy director in the Information Policy Division, Commerce & Information Policy Bureau, in the Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry (METI) from 2005 to 2007. Served as a member of a number of government groups and panels including committees for evaluating initiatives on information services and software technology. She assumed her present position in February 2016.

Life events can significantly affect the ways in which all women work and live. Thanks to digital transformation and innovative technologies, there are more ways to work, giving women more opportunities to advance and to succeed than ever before. The number of paths open to us is only limited by our imagination. We must trust our own potential and the direction we all choose. With each step, however small it may be, we will change the world.



Name: Satsuki Katayama

Position: Minister of State for Regional Revitalization, Regulatory Reform, Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment and PPP/PFI

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Graduated from the Faculty of Law, the University of Tokyo. Joined the Ministry of Finance. Graduated from CSE of ENA(France). The first female official of representatives for the G7 Summit and the first female budget examiner of the Ministry of Finance. Elected to the House of Representatives (2005) and to the House of Councilors (2010, 2016). Minister (2018-)

I am very pleased that the "Joint holding of WAW! and W20" will be realized which is the world's first in Japan on the year which marks the anniversary of 40 years since the adoption of "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women" by the United Nations General Assembly and 20 years since the proclamation of "Basic Act for Gender Equal Society" in Japan.

I would like to introduce our efforts, targeting "100-year-life" (including women's health life span extension) and am looking forward to deepening discussions with participants from all over the world and contributing to the results toward the realization of a "Society where all women shine".



Name: Hiroshi Kato

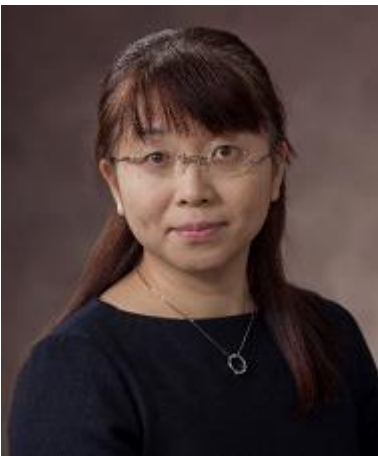
Position: Senior Vice President, Japan International Cooperation Agency

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Joined JICA in 1978 after graduating from the University of Tokyo. He later earned his master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University in 1988. At JICA he has served at various positions, and before assuming his current post in 2013, he was Director of the JICA Research Institute.

As women are active agents of economic growth, political stability, social transformation, and consolidation of peace, we are sure to create a better society once women are fully equipped with the ability to make their own life-course decisions and actively participate in decision-making at home, in the workplace and in social and political arenas. JICA is determined to continue its effort for the empowerment of women in developing countries where gender-based social and economic disparity prevails, and to further enhance women's leadership and social participation.



Name: Izumi Kawachi

Position: Lecturer, Niigata University

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Physician-scientist/Neurologist. Received M.D. and Ph.D. from Niigata University School of Medicine. Trained in Neurology at Niigata University and in Immunology at Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, USA. Her principal research activity has linked the clinical and basic neuroscience to accelerate research against multiple sclerosis, and her academic interests include quality of life for female patients with multiple sclerosis.

To create a society where women shine, we have needed to strike a balance between work and family. We are now planning to establish a society where women can demonstrate their great power along three axes 'work, family and healthcare'.

One out of every three women and men is working and suffering from diseases. Some cancers are not regarded as fatal diseases, and some rare diseases including multiple sclerosis have disease-modifying treatments. The power of women and their knowledges for 'work, family and healthcare' can achieve sustainable development goals for all women and men.



Name: Karin Kneissl

Position: Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of Austria

Country of Origin: Austria

Biography:

Current post since 18 December 2017. From 1990 to 1998 Austrian diplomatic service (Office of International Law, Austrian embassies in Paris and Madrid). Worked as an independent lecturer in the areas of international law, Middle Eastern history and energy market at various universities, also as commentator and correspondent for various print media and for the Austrian state broadcaster. Large number of books and publications.

Gender equality is a prerequisite for socially just, economic and sustainable societies. However, equality means more than just legal provisions: It is about living equality in daily life in our societies. This is why the fight against discrimination and the improvement of the situation of women and girls worldwide has been a long-standing concern of Austrian foreign and development policy. The Austrian focus lies on the implementation of the Agenda for Women, Peace and Security, the political and economic empowerment of women and the fight against gender-based violence. As a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva for the period 2019-2021, we are also particularly committed to the protection of women's rights.



Name: Mari Kogiso

Position: Director, Gender Innovation Department, Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Has led various initiative at the Sasakawa Peace Foundation to catalyze capital to improve the lives of women and girls in Asia, including the establishment of the USD 100 million Asia Women Impact Fund in 2017. Also held various senior positions at the World Bank Group including the representative of the MIGA Tokyo and serves as the senior risk advisor for JICA's Overseas Investment.

I will advise on sustainable financial systems and investment methods which encourage female entrepreneurs and all women to maximize their potentials.



Name: Taro Kono

Position: Minister for Foreign Affairs

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

After graduated from Georgetown University, USA, he worked at Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd. and Nippon Tanshi Co., Ltd. In 1996, he was elected to the House of Representatives for the first time (elected eight times as of present). He served as Parliamentary Secretary for Public Management, Senior Vice Minister of Justice, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, National Public Safety Commission Chairman, Minister on Administrative Reform and National Public Service System Reform and State Minister in Charge of Consumer Affairs, Food Safety, Regulatory Reform and Disaster Management. In 2017, he has assumed the position of Minister for Foreign Affairs.

This is our 5th WAW! since it started in 2014. I hope that this meeting will be an opportunity for a wide range of people to discuss various challenges which Japan and the international community are currently facing, regardless of gender and age, while reviewing the previous achievements. During the panel discussion I will take part in with female foreign ministers, we would like to reaffirm the importance of women's empowerment through exchanges of candid opinions and deliver strong messages to the world. I am sure that holding WAW!/W20 will further increase the momentum of women's empowerment both in Japan and abroad.



Name: Teiko Kudo

Position: Managing Executive Officer, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Joined Sumitomo Bank in April 1987 (now SMBC). Managing Executive Officer since April 2017 and outside director of Toyota Motor Co. since June 2018. Previously, GM of Growth Industry Cluster Dept. since 2012, leading the development of financial solutions in growth industries. Prior to this, she held various positions in project finance..

The bank has set the goal of "25% female managerial position by the end of 2019". The background of this goal is that if the number of women in responsible position increases, diversified values are incorporated into management with hopes that we are able to fulfill its role as a bank customer could continue to rely on through further valuable service we provide.

"I will sit on the driver's seat and get behind the wheel." I would like women to challenge various responsibilities without hesitation and such mindset. Let's create a society together where women shine.



Name: Hiroko Kuniya

Position: Member of the Board of Trustees to the Tokyo University of the Arts

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

B.A. in International Relations and Economics Brown University. Anchor for Nightly News, NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) Satellite TV Channel. 1993-2016 Host of Close-Up Gendai, a daily current affairs program on NHK-TV General Service. Awarded 'Broadcasting Women Award' (1998). Project Professor at Keio University Graduate School of Media and Governance. FAO National Goodwill Ambassador for Japan. Board Member, Renewable Energy Institute.

Japan's ranking in the Gender Gap Index is at the lowest level among developed countries. Measures such as child-care leave program and building more nurseries to take care of children for working parents have contributed to the rapid increase of more women in the work force. But the percentage of women in decision-making positions is still very low. How can we nurture more quickly the consciousness that men and women are really equal.



Name: Shunichi Kushima

Position: Director and Country Category Manager, Personal Systems and Services & Solutions, HP Japan Inc.

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Joined the company in 1988. After serving in marketing and consulting leadership positions, he became the head of HP's PC in 2014. He has held his current position since 2017. He has deep knowledge in endpoint device security, and has represented HP in various events, speaking on topics such as work-style reform and diversity & inclusion.

Since HP was founded eighty years ago, we have cultivated a working environment where a diverse range of people can show their true abilities. As telework and shorter office hours become more widespread in Japan, it's more and more essential to ensure that IT can support flexible ways of working, unconstrained by location or time. Based on HP's vision "to create technology that makes life better for everyone, everywhere" we will leverage this conference to share ideas about how the intersection of technology and working environments can deliver value to people, and support the advancement of a society where women can achieve their full potential.



Name: Virginia Littlejohn

Position: President and Co-Founder, Quantum Leaps

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

SheTrades Lead Strategist, Women and Trade Programme, International Trade Centre, Geneva, US Delegate to the W20, Co-Coordinator of Women's Entrepreneurship Working Group for W20 Japan and Co-Head of the US Delegation, Co-Founder, FutureForward to drive women's innovation, Editor-in-Chief, IGNITE: Creating an Innovation Ecosystem that Works for Women, Global Strategic Advisor, Catalyst for Women Entrepreneurs, India

I'm excited that Japan is hosting the W20 Summit this year, and that I have been asked to moderate the panel on Women's Entrepreneurship. I have been a Japanophile since attending high school in Tokyo, during which time my mother graduated from Sophia University, and also taught English to the wives of the Japanese generals. They in turn taught her the Japanese art of Ikebana (flower arrangement). The W20, I believe, can serve as a catalyst to help propel women's entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship in Japan, turn the dream of Womenomics into reality, and help make Japan The Society Where Women Shine.



Name: Ikuho Maeda

Position: Coordinator at The Asahi Shimbun New Business Incubation Office

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Deputy editor of the website The Asahi Shimbun DIALOG since 2017. Also lead a project called "Aging Gracefully" in collaboration with a fashion magazine "GLOW," aiming to empower middle-aged women like myself. Joined Asahi after graduating from Keio University in 2000, and have worked as a staff writer mainly covering news on parenting and education.

"It looks like you can't manage this job because you have small children."

"You don't understand because you are a student."

"I've been a housewife for a long time so..."

It has been quite a while since women's empowerment has discussed I think women still have difficulties to live their lives as who they are because of the walls in the society and in women's consciousness. As a person working in the media, I hope to fulfill the role to break such walls by exercising imagination in the stories of women from various backgrounds, listening to the voice and spreading it to connect our society.



Name: Nagi Meoka

Position: Fundraiser of World Vision Japan, Student of Political Science at Seikei University

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Senior at Seikei University. Major in international politics and Terrorism in East Africa. As a fundraiser, she has worked on improving public relation scheme and acquiring new donors at World Vision Japan since 2018. She had engaged in supporting Somali youth to reintegrate into society in Kenya from 2016 to 2018.

I sensed that Gender related social problem and people's attention seem to be in great change affected by various daily external affairs these days.

Since I had started a job searching myself as a university student, I have begun to have more opportunities to encounter and personally feel this movement as a woman.

In the occasion of WAW! this time, I hope to accelerate this movement more progressively from now on and make a society in which everyone including people regardless of any gender identity can also live comfortably.



Name: Mariko Magnan

Position: Founder & CEO, TPO co., Ltd.

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Founded Japan's first corporate concierge firm in 2016, after working for companies such as Goldman Sachs. She is devoted to bringing diversity in the workplace, and to helping employees fulfill their personal and professional lives whilst improving happiness at work. She also serves as a council member for UWC ISAK Japan.

A "society where women shine" is a society where everyone, not limited to women, shines. It is a society where each individual's rights are respected, and where difference is valued.

I hope this event will provide a starting point for even greater change, through actions taken by the whole society and based on diverse voices.



Name: Kathy Matsui

Position: Vice Chair, Goldman Sachs Japan

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

Vice Chair of Goldman Sachs Japan and Chief Japan equity strategist. Since introducing the "Womenomics" theme in 1999, she has been a strong advocate for gender diversity to promote economic growth and innovation within the public and private sectors.

She holds degrees from Harvard University and Johns Hopkins University, SAIS.

Income disparities, low economic growth, poverty, terrorism, and disease. While the world has been trying to tackle each of these global challenges individually for decades, I believe the 'silver bullet' to resolving these and other problems is greater gender equality. This is the rationale for the WAW! and W20, and I hope that the discussions and relationships built during the proceedings will allow us to share best practices, develop constructive solutions, and bring the world a step closer toward a more equitable, peaceful, and prosperous society.



Name: Rui Matsukawa

Position: Member of the House of Councillors

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

After graduated from Tokyo University, she entered Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1993. After serving major posts, she was in charge of organizing the very first "WAW!" She disseminated Japan's efforts to realize "a society in which women shine". She was elected to the House of Councillors in 2016.

I am so thrilled to see WAW! celebrates 5th anniversary as I was in charge of giving the birth to WAW! at Foreign Ministry back then. As a Japanese MP, I would like to make taking parental leave obligatory for men, to promote fair burden sharing between wife and husband. Let's power up WAW! for empowering women in the world!



Name: Soshi Matsuoka

Position: Executive Director, General Incorporated Association, fair
Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Received B. A. in Political Science and Economics from Meiji University. Established an organization called fair in 2018 and is actively involved in disseminating information and campaign on LGBT centered on policy and legal system development. Has given many lectures on LGBT at educational institutions, companies and local governments.

In order to realize a society in which women are treated equally, it is essential that men recognize their own privileges, think about how they could commit to opportunities and equality of resources, and act. Recognizing the diversity in the framework of "women", then the diversity of sex that does not fit in the framework of women or men, it is important to promote structural and cultural development to achieve a society where everyone could shine.



Name: Yoriko Merugo

Position: Professor Emeritus of Sophia University, Tokyo/
Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee of the National Action
Plan on Women, Peace and Security

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Received Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University and M.A. from University of Tokyo, both in Sociology. Continued research and teaching sociology of gender since its initial stage. Alternate representative of Japanese government to the UN General Assembly in 1994/95 and representative to UN Commission on the Status of Women in 1998-2010.

The W20Japan 2019 will present to the G20 Leaders our recommendations on "Closing the Gender Gap for New Prosperity" focusing on Labor-, Digital-, and Finance-Equity" with Governance as a cross-cutting issue. Regardless of the importance or relevancy of a policy for women's empowerment and its value, there is no economic and social transformation without implementation of the policy. We will work on the KPIs applicable to G20 economies for further promotion of gender equality.



Name: Yukiko Muto

Position: President of Uber Eats, Japan

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Joined Uber from Google, where she was the Head of New Business Sales in Japan. Prior to Google, she was the President of OpenTable overseeing its operation in Japan. Previously she was the President of Travelzoo Japan and an Executive Officer of Travelzoo Asia Pacific. She began her career with Andersen Consulting (Accenture) before co-founding ProTrade.

We're proud to work together to provide safer transportation and flexible earning opportunities for women around the world. Uber Eats is at the forefront of innovating the restaurant industry across Japan and experiencing tremendous growth. Uber Eats is a food delivery app offering people in 200+ cities across 30+ countries food for all occasions, in any location at the press of a button. From local favorites to household names, this is food delivery with the speed and reliability of Uber. Uber has a priority goal of diversity and inclusion. Female executives and managers are common in Uber. Uber is helping families to spend more time together through Ride and Eats services.



Name: Mohammad Naciri

Position: Regional Director of UN Women Asia Pacific

Country of Origin: Morocco

Biography:

He has been recently appointed as the Regional Director of UN Women for Asia and the Pacific. From 2015 to 2018, he was the Regional Director of UN Women in the Arab States. Prior to this he served in management capacity with different UN agencies in the Arab and Asian regions.

To achieve the sustainable development goals, we must ensure gender equality and women's empowerment across all targets and milestones. A truly equal society is one where women and men have the same opportunities, their voices are equally heard, and everyone lives a life free of violence. Without gender equality and women's leadership, development will be stagnant, peace is less likely to last, and economic growth will not reach its full potential.



Name: Muneharu Nakagai
Position: Mayor of Toyooka
Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

After graduated from Kyoto University, he worked at Hyogo Prefectural office. In 2001 he was elected as mayor of Toyooka city for the first time (fifth term), after serving as member of the Hyogo Prefectural Assembly. He is developing his own measures including “Reintroduction of Oriental White Storks” and to aim for “Local & Global City” through culture and art.

Diversity is a driving force for the city.

Courage is needed to take a step forward for all women to visualize what they want to become and make their future shine.

Toyooka reintroduced the white oriental white stork, which is said to have become extinct by environmental destruction, to the wild after 50 years of efforts. We made strenuous effort one step at a time.

In 2018, we began to resolve gender gap in the workplace.

Let’s take a step one at a time believing that wish will certainly come true.



Name: Shojiro Nishio
Position: President, Osaka University
Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Received a Ph.D. in engineering from Kyoto University. Employed at Osaka University since 1988. Dean of the Graduate School of Information Science and Technology until 2015. Current president of Osaka University. Chairman of the Information Processing Society of Japan. Named a person of cultural merit in 2016. Head of the Progressive Initiatives of Empowering Network for Diversity, established in 2018.

I would like to express my sincerest appreciation that WAW! / W20 will be held in Japan.

Originally, the university should be a true diversity space beyond gender, nationality, etc., and I believe that the real value of university could only be demonstrated when personality and ability of the individual are fully utilized under diverse values.

Osaka University hopes to contribute to the realization of "a society where women shine" through open approach across universities, companies, research institutes beyond boundaries.



Name: Balaka Niyazee

Position: Vice President, P&G Korea Selling & Market Operations

Country of Origin: India

Biography:

Has lived and worked in 4 countries and worked on P&G businesses across India, Western Europe, APAC and Greater China. She has been a change leader and led transformation of businesses & Organization on several occasions. She is a passionate organization builder and groomed many leaders including top women talents. She is the executive sponsor for P&G APAC's Gender Equality Program #WeSeeEqual.

Equality is not a woman's issue; it's a social and economic imperative for all and, we need all women and men as champions for women to contribute to the solution. I am delighted to join the team of speakers and panelists for WAW! 2019. I look forward to sharing what P&G is doing inside the company, externally with our partners and with our Brands leveraging the voice we have in media to foster a Gender Agnostic world. I believe Gender Equality is a Business strategy and we can make significant improvements when we are deliberate about challenging the myths, creating the right platforms and policies and working with men as allies. Join us at WAW for a thought provoking and action oriented conversation.



Name: Ayako Ohta

Position: Leader, Founder of Association of 'Sales Department Girls Section'

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

External board member of Konaka and Allied Architects, after having worked in Sales department at Recruit Holding. She manages the Association of 'Sales Department Girls Section' which is the community group of more than 3600 women who is working in Sales. Its network is widespread all over Japan. Received Women's Challenge Grand Prize by Minister of State for Gender Equality.

WAW! will be held for the 5th time this year. This conference will be a commemorable milestone in collaboration with W20. It will be the moment that each one of us will think, discuss, express our opinions, and create our new history. Let's have faith in ourselves that one small step can lead to a big change and take actions together!



Name: Ai Hua Ong

Position: Company Group Chairman, Janssen Asia Pacific
Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson

Country of Origin: Singapore

Biography:

Joined Johnson & Johnson more than 25 years ago with a desire to make a difference to the lives of patients. As Company Group Chairman for Janssen Asia Pacific, she oversees operations that deliver pharmaceutical innovation across eight Asia Pacific markets. She is a strong advocate for women in leadership and an active volunteer for charitable causes.

The Japan W20 Summit is an important opportunity to build further global momentum around women's economic empowerment. This is central to realizing women's rights and gender equality, and in addressing critical issues such as access to education, careers and healthcare. Johnson & Johnson is fully committed to female empowerment, believes that women are critical to creating healthier communities and that health is fundamental to develop economic prosperity. We look forward to helping progress the important work of W20 Japan and future summits, as we strive to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.



Name: Asako Osaki

Position: Visiting Professor, Kwansei Gakuin University/ Director,
Gender Action Platform

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Received M.I.A from Columbia University and worked at UNDP to promote gender equality and women's empowerment globally. Engages in research, advocacy, and capacity-building.

There is no way we can create a society where women can 'truly' shine and live up to their full potential without addressing discrimination and violence against women and girls. SDG 5 provides a menu of concrete actions. Let us form a global alliance, learn from each other, and achieve gender equality!



Name: Elena Rodriguez

Position: Global Head of Diversity & Inclusion, Novartis AG

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

Received BS and MS in Bioorganic Chemistry, UC Berkeley. She transformed the R&D interface as Head of Early Pipeline for Global Drug Development. She grew a small technology institute into a drug discovery engine for Novartis as a member of the site leadership team. She is leading the Novartis D&I strategy to enable innovation and give back more to society.

It is an honor to shine a light on the importance of gender equity and inclusion at the upcoming WAW! / W20 Japan. I look forward to listening and connecting with leaders and civil society and ensuring the G20 continues to make progress toward a society in which all women are included, engaged, and can be their best selves.



Name: Kanako Sato

Position: Founder&CEO, snow days farm company

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

After graduated from Rikkyo University, she started farming in Tokamachi, Niigata. She founded "snow days farm company" to connect power to bring up the person whom the agriculture of the mountainous area has in the future. This is a farm and a team of cross-sectoral cooperation. Received Women's Challenge Grand Prize 2017 by Minister of Gender Equality.

I am looking forward to the exposure of words from people who have delivered their own sensibility to society as women in diverse countries and values.

I usually engage in agriculture on-site, so I hope to speak to you on what I have learned there.



Name: Kenji Shoji

Position: Vice Chair-person of National Council of Commissioned Welfare Volunteers

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Appointed as a Social Welfare and Child Welfare volunteer in January 1994. Also the chair-person of the Council of Social Welfare and Child Welfare volunteers of Sendai city since April 2008, and has been serving current position since March 2018. He supports local residents to enhance social welfare on a daily basis, and also assists child's healthy growth and development in the local community.

Welfare Volunteers and Child Welfare Volunteers play an important role in enhancing social welfare of local communities from the viewpoint of local residents. In Japan, there are over 230,000 volunteers who are working for safety confirmation and observant care for the elderly and disabled, and are also supporting children's healthy growth and development. Especially in recent years, child abuse and child poverty has emerged as a social problem in Japan. Since the difficulties which children face are also related to their whole family, the volunteers support families and connect them to public services or professionals as needed.



Name: Claire Sibthorpe

Position: Head of Connected Women and Connected Society at GSMA

Country of Origin: Canada/United Kingdom

Biography:

The Head of Connected Women and Connected Society at GSMA. She has been working for over 20 years with public, private and international development organizations on social policy with a focus on ICTs. She holds a MSc in Social Research Methods and a MSc in Social Policy and Planning in Developing Countries from LSE.

Digital technologies empower women, providing them with access to information, services and life enhancing opportunities. Today, women remain less likely than men to own or use a mobile phone, the most common means of personal communications and internet access. GSMA research shows that a total of 1.1 billion women do not have access to mobile internet in low and middle-income countries. To close the digital gender divide we need to ensure all women have access to digital technologies and can enjoy the opportunities these offer. Connecting women will also benefit their communities, economies and development more generally. When women thrive, societies, businesses and economies thrive.



Name: Norihiro Takahashi

Position: President, Government Pension Investment Fund (GPIF)

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

After receiving BA in Law from Tokyo University, he held various leadership positions in the areas of investment and management at the Norinchukin Bank from 1980 to 2015. After served at JA Mitsui Leasing, Ltd., as a Representative Director and President, he took the current role at GPIF. A member of the Round Table Meeting for promoting SDGs organized by the Japanese government.

Congratulations on the 5th WAW/W20. In 2017, GPIF selected MSCI Japan Empowering Women index (“WIN”) as an investing method that focuses on ESG. With this index, we invest in companies that promote gender diversity of the staff and board. The index uses public information about the female staff’s working conditions that companies voluntarily discloses, so that it is designed for companies that disclose more information having high score. We anticipate this investment would promote gender diversity, and improve corporate value.



Name: Noruo Tanaka

Position: Chairman, The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Began his career in 1973 in the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), and has served in a number of high-ranking positions, including Director-General of the Multilateral Trade System Department. Has also served twice as Director for Science, Technology and Industry (DSTI) of the Paris-based international organization, OECD. Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA) from 2007 to 2011

Women empowerment is the one which can change Japanese society. In the National Diet, in the government, in foundations and also that is no exception in business. I am honored to have the opportunity to cooperate with WAW!/W20.



Name: Satoshi Tanaka

Position: Representative Director, Executive Vice President, Mitsui & Co., Ltd.

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Appointed as Director at Mitsui & Co. in June 2017, with extensive experience in both Energy and Consumer Service areas. Joined Mitsui in 1981 and served as General Manager of Investor Relations, Corporate Planning & Strategy, COO of Consumer Service Business Unit and COO of Asia Pacific Business Unit. Graduate of University of Tokyo and Harvard Business School.

The Society where each individual shines

Embracing diversity is imperative for Japanese companies to continuously create value in the global market. Respecting and including each individuality, regardless of gender, national origin or age, will lead to different perspectives and values that enrich our creativity and innovative thinking. Building 'the society where women shine' will effectively materialize 'the society where each individual shines' for both women and men.



Name: Toshiyuki Tanaka

Position: Associate Professor at Taisho University

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

His main field of research is Men' Studies and is an author of "Men Don't Work, What's Wrong With That!" (Kodansha Plus Alfa Shinsho) and other publications. He warns that in Japan "being a man" and "work" are tied too strongly.

From "Men to do work, Women to do housework" to "Men and Women to do both work and housework". We may imagine such a change when referring to female success. However, the lifetime unmarried rate has reached 23% for male and 14% for female in Japanese society. Marriage is no longer a common life event that applies to everyone. Also, as symbolized by the efforts on the same-sex partnership system by some municipalities, there are also couples from the same sex. In order for women to shine, it is necessary to realize a society where everyone can live without being caught by particular family values.



Name: Deng Li

Position: Member of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People's Congress, Member of the Social Development Affairs Committee of the 13th National People's Congress, Member of the Party Leadership Group of the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF), Curator of China National Museum on Women and Children (Vice Minister Level)

Country of Origin: China

Biography:

Has been dedicated to her career for Chinese women and children since 1987. She has extensive experiences with fruitful results on women's issues, especially in the field of women's political participation, education and training, rights protection, early childhood development, etc. She was Head of Department for Women's Rights and Interests, and Department for Children's Affairs of the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF) from 2000 to 2007. Previously a member of the Secretariat of ACWF from 2013 to October 2018 and Vice-President of ACWF from August 2016 to October 2018. Has been in the current position in the All-China Women's Federation since November 2018. Holds a Bachelor Degree in Physics.

I, on behalf of the All-China Women's Federation, would like to extend my warmest congratulations on the convening of the 5th WAW!/W20. A review of history shows that without women's liberation and progress, the liberation and progress of mankind would not be attainable. China has done much to enhance gender equality as its basic state policy, give play to women's important role as "half of the sky" and support them in realizing their own dreams and aspirations in both career and life. The Chinese women, through their own development, will also play a greater part in global women's movement and make greater contribution to gender equality in the world. We look forward to enhancing communication with all delegates, strengthening friendship and making greater contribution to women's all-round development and the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.



Name: Miki Tsusaka

Position: Senior Partner and Managing Director of Boston Consulting Group

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

A Senior Partner and Managing Director of Boston Consulting Group. Currently Chief Marketing Officer and served as an Executive Committee member between 2013-18. Graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Business School and recently named one of the industry's top 25 consultants in the America's by *Consulting Magazine*.

Looking forward to the joint progress we MUST make at WAW! /W20 2019. There is even talk of "diversity fatigue" but we are far from where we need to be as a global society. Especially for us in Japan: with the rapidly shrinking talent pool, we need more than ever to tap all talents. Women are a vital part of the solution as they return to the workforce in unprecedented numbers. How men and women together enable their economic participation is a critical piece to Japan's vitality and future.



Name: Diana van Maasdijk

Position: Co-founder and CEO at Equileap

Country of Origin: Netherlands

Biography:

BA in Liberal Arts from Hamilton College, MA in International Development from American University. Head of Philanthropy at ABN AMRO Private Bank and the Director of Development at Mama Cash, the world's oldest international grantmaking organization for women's rights. Co-Founder and CEO at Equileap, the leading organisation providing data and insights on gender equality in the corporate sector.

The World Economic Forum calls gender equality "the single biggest opportunity for human development and economic growth".

So instead of being stuck by disempowering statistics- like "one has a higher probability of meeting a CEO called John or James, than of meeting a woman CEO of any name" Equileap wants to take up the opportunity of gender equality.

This is an opportunity for all of us. It's not about men or women, or women instead of men, it's about inclusion and getting rid of the structural hurdles that prevent half of the population from developing their maximum potential.



Name: Elizabeth A. Vazquez

Position: CEO and Co-Founder of WEConnect International

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

As an author and world leader in women's economic empowerment and global supplier diversity and inclusion, she leads a global certification non-profit created by large buyers seeking to buy more products and services from a network of women-owned businesses based in over 100 countries. She has a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts.

On behalf of WEConnect International, I want to thank the WAW!/W20 team for bringing us all together to promote societies where women shine and to support women's economic empowerment in G20 countries. I am particularly excited about the W20 Japan focus on women's entrepreneurship and the recognition of the increasingly critical role women are playing in starting and growing companies that add value--delivering innovation, growing economies, building trade linkages, creating much needed jobs, and more. It is a true honor to be invited to join you in Japan to help ensure inclusive and sustainable growth for all!



Name: Melanne Vermeer

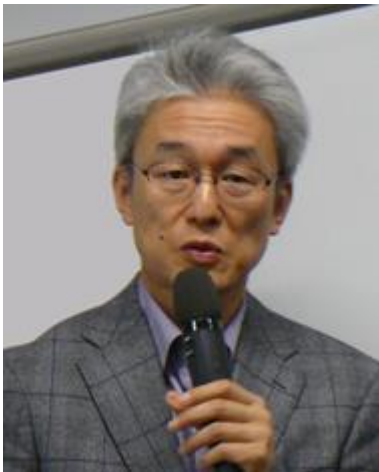
Position: Executive Director, the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

Most recently served as the first U.S. Ambassador for Global Women's Issues, coordinating foreign policy issues and activities relating to the political, economic and social advancement of women. Served as the Chair and Co-CEO of Vital Voices Global Partnership, and during the Clinton Administration, as Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to the First Lady. Also serves as Special Representative for Gender for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The 5th annual WAW!/W20 agenda will tackle some of the most important issues to advance women's economic, social and political progress within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals. Goal #5 – gender equality and the empowerment of women – is significant in its own right and catalytic in achieving all the SDGs. Moreover, the combination of marking W20 and WAW! together will serve to underscore critical topics for women's economic participation like the role of technology, entrepreneurship and closing the gender gap in the labor force. WAW! will complement many of these themes with discussions on work/life balance and gender stereotypes that hold women back. Women's leadership in conflict prevention and peace-building will also figure prominently, as it should, to better secure peace and security. Progress on these issues will contribute to creating a "society where women shine."



Name: Takashi Washio

Position: Executive Director, Toei Animation Co., Ltd.

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Has made his career at Toei Animation as the producer of the Pretty Cure franchise, where he produced five titles ("*Pretty Cure*"- "*Yes! PreCure 5 GoGo!*"). He has been serving as an executive producer since "*Go! Princess Pretty Cure*". In addition, various other titles such as "*Toriko*" and "*Butt Detective*" were also produced under his guidance.

It is an honor to be part of such a meaningful conference. It was surprising to me that the TV animation "Precure" series for girls continued for 15 years, and I remember that the word gender was not as common as it was at the time. Children accepted given things, so I learned that adults have to make "correct recognition". I hope that "children 15 years ago" will move society in the near future.



Name: Haruno Yoshida

Position: The Co-Chair of the W20 committee / Councillor at the Keio University

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Has worked with 5 IT companies in four countries. In 2015, she was appointed as the first female Vice Chairman of the Board of Councillors of the Japan Business Foundation (Keidanren). In 2016, she was appointed as a member of the Council for Regulatory Reform—an advisory committee established within the Cabinet Office. In 2017, she was the only Japanese person to be named on Fortune's World's 50 Greatest Leaders list.

“Closing the gender gap for new prosperity” —the theme for this year.

W20 represents 2.5 billion women around the world.

An era where half of people on the planet wake up and build a new lifestyle.

New mobilization and welfare of wealth by empowerment of women.

The dynamism of women who will gather at WAW /W20 is like women who enjoyed Meiji Era Rokumei kan Pavilion Party.

We can get the guts to fly high with members around the world.

I am truly thankful for the wonderful opportunity as a woman born in this era.

I plan to have a lot of fun for the coming two days.



Name: Malala Yousafzai

Position: Co-Founder Malala Fund, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

Country of Origin: Pakistan

Biography:

Inspired by her father's activism, she began advocating publicly for girls' education, attracting international media attention and awards. She was attacked by the Taliban for speaking out but recovered in the United Kingdom and continued her fight for girls. Received the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of her efforts to see every girl complete 12 years of free, safe, quality education.

Nearly one billion out-of-school girls and young women are at risk of falling further behind as technology changes how we live, learn and earn. Getting girls ready for the future of work will take curriculum reform, more teachers, increased funding, better data and societal change. The 2019 World Assembly for Women presents an opportunity to inspire leaders to take action to see every girl in school and a more equal world for us all.



Name: Ekaterina Zaharieva

Position: Deputy Prime Minister for Judicial Reform and Minister of Foreign Affairs

Country of Origin: Bulgaria

Biography:

Has specialized at the National School of Administration (ENA), Paris, the European Commission for Democracy through Law (the Venice Commission) of the Council of Europe. Appointed Deputy Prime Minister for Judicial Reform and Minister of Foreign Affairs in May 2017. Served as Minister of Justice (2015-2017), Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works (2009-2013), Chief of Staff to the President (2013-2014). Distinctions include the Honour Badge of the Union of Bulgarian Jurists.

As Prime Minister Abe once famously said the “Power of Women” has the greatest potential to cater for a vibrant society, where nobody feels excluded and equality is a leading force. That is, only if women are enabled to demonstrate their strong suits to the fullest extent.

However, is that the case? Today, the promotion of a "society where women shine" is picking up speed. Still, we need to do more to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which promotes the goal of achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls (Goal 5). Making women feel equal is a human right. Through better social and economic inclusion, we must showcase that.



Name: Michelle Bekkering

Position: Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment (E3)

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

Joined USAID in July 2017 and serves as the Agency's Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. Currently working on the implementation of the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Fund (W-GDP) launched in 2019. Previously served as Director for Global Initiatives and Senior Gender Advisor at the International Republican Institute (IRI). Also has served in numerous positions in the U.S. Government.

When women are economically empowered, they re-invest in their families and communities, producing a multiplier effect that spurs economic growth and contributes to global peace and stability. The President's National Security Strategy clearly states that societies that empower women to participate fully in civic and economic life are more prosperous and peaceful. That's why, the U.S. Government is proud to support the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP), launched by the White House this year, which will enable women to succeed in the workforce, in entrepreneurship, and in the global economy. Women shine when they can provide for themselves, their families and communities.



Name: Gabriela Michetti

Position: Vice President of Argentina

Country of Origin: Argentine

Biography:

A graduate in International Relations with a Masters degree in Regional Integration, she became involved in politics in 2001 to make a contribution for change in Argentina.

In the following 15 years, she served as a city and national legislator and Deputy Head of Government of the City of Buenos Aires. In 2015 she was elected Vice President of Argentina.

In order to achieve true social transformation and a more sustainable society, we need women shining their own light into every area of social life.

This change requires that we first educate ourselves in respect and acceptance of differences. Example is the best teacher.

We must also walk alongside so many women as they embrace their own true light after too many years of exclusion.

We must finally put in place public policies that ensure the rights we still owe to them. For all this, the only possible way is that of constructive dialogue.



Name: Marija Pejčinović Burić

Position: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia

Country of Origin: Croatia

Biography:

Appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia in June 2017. Started her career in the private sector. She was State Secretary 2004-2008, Deputy in the Croatian Parliament 2008-2011 and European Policy Expert 2013-2016. She graduated in Economic Science and is holding a MA in European Studies from the College of Europe.

It is a great honour for me to participate at this years' World Assembly for Women. We must collectively strive for a world of equal rights and opportunities as these are the key requirements for democracy and economic development. Therefore, I have a great appreciation for the WAW and its role in highlighting the importance of women-related issues, such as empowerment, entrepreneurship and women's contribution to peace and security. Only through such initiatives and multilateral cooperation can we achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and build inclusive societies in which human rights are protected for all.



Name: Misako Tanaka

Position: Hematology Franchise , Oncology Division, Novartis Pharma K.K.

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Joined Novartis Pharma K.K. in 2002. She has suffered from multiple sclerosis / neuromyelitis optica since 2016. She is currently engaged as a Novartis medical representative in the Hematology Franchise, coming back to work after six months leave due to temporarily losing vision in her right eye.

It was daunting to return to work after being absent for half a year due to illness. I was able to do it thanks to the support of those around me, and now I look back at my experience with no regrets. The situation for each woman is different, but we should be confident without fear of failure, try to understand the perspectives of others and believe that tomorrow will be bright. A society where women can shine is one where we accept and respect each other's differences as we move forward together towards a bright future.



Name: Heather Barnabe

Position: CEO, G(irls)20

Country of Origin: Canada

Biography:

As CEO of G(irls)20, Heather's career has been built around improving the livelihoods of women and girls, both at home in Canada and around the world. Prior to joining G(irls)20, she managed complex, multi-country girls' education and women's health interventions across Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America for Right To Play and CARE Canada.

I'm very excited to speak at the W20 about gender equality in the digital era. We know there exist many barriers to access and use of digital technology for women and girls around the world, creating increased economic gaps. With automation and other new technologies changing the workspace, it is a critical time to discuss how the G20 can address existing barriers, reduce gaps and support women and girls to fully participate in digital spaces. If we want to be a society that let's women shine, this panel should promote the urgent measures necessary to ensure women's digital rights, safety and participation.



Name: Cynthia Drakeman

Position: Founding CEO, DoubleXEconomy

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

Received D.Phil. from the University of Oxford and A.B. from Princeton University. Is the founding CEO of DoubleXEconomy, LLC. Senior content and research advisor to the Gender-Smart Investing Summit (2018) and lead author of the second report for the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment (March 2017). US Delegate to the W20 since 2017.

A world where women shine is a place where women and men are celebrated for their talents and contributions, not judged by their gender. The light women bring to the world has often been shrouded by societies that determine value by their bodies or their servitude. The world I envision nurtures women's talents, advances their education, recognizes their leadership, responds to their needs, and encourages them to greater heights of achievement. Women entrepreneurs open new markets; female professionals inspire young girls and boys with their accomplishments; and women's voices are welcomed and respected in all forums.



Name: Stacey Kennedy

Position: President, South & South East Asia Region, Philip Morris International

Country of Origin: USA

Biography:

Took over the position of President, South and South East Asia on 1st January 2018. Currently responsible for the full spectrum of PMI's business in more than 14 markets including India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand, and for over 15,000 permanent employees in the region.

Graduated from Randolph-Macon Woman's College in the United States, and an Executive MBA from IMD in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Following W20 held in Argentina last year, Philip Morris International is honored to participate in WAW!/W20. We have made a dramatic decision to replace cigarettes as fast as possible with smoke-free products that are a much better choice than cigarette smoking to achieve our vision of a 'Smoke-Free Future'. During this transformation, we need to capitalize on the capabilities and ideas of our entire talent pool regardless of gender. We are looking forward to this opportunity to discuss best practices to empower women in Japan and around the globe.



Name: Gabriela Ramos

Position: OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa

Country of Origin: Mexico

Biography:

Leads OECD's contributions to G7/G20/APEC/ASEAN, work on Inclusive Growth, employment, labour and social affairs, gender and new economic narratives. Helped to design the 2014 G20 Gender Target. Awarded the Forbes Prize for Entrepreneurial Excellence and Apolitical's Gender Equality Top 100: The Most Influential People In Global Policy. Decorated with Ordre du Merit by the President of France. MA in Public Policy from Harvard University.

We cannot achieve the future we want if half the population is not empowered. The OECD helped bring gender to G20 leaders with evidence-based analysis documenting gender equality's contribution to inclusive economic growth. Yet, progress in achieving the G20 Gender Target is slow. We need fundamental shifts in mindsets, strong legal frameworks and thorough implementation of policies. Mentoring initiatives like NinaSTEM Pueden in Mexico help, but gender-neutral educational material is also essential. The OECD's Recommendations on Gender Equality in Public Life help countries increase women's participation in public decision-making and leadership. Count on the OECD to support the G20 and W20 to drive change!



Name: Masahiko Uotani

Position: Representative Director, President and CEO

Shiseido Company, Limited

Country of Origin: Japan

Biography:

Joined Shiseido in April, 2014 as the first Shiseido president appointed from outside of the company in its 140-year history. Prior to joining Shiseido, he had more than 30 years in marketing and management at both Japanese and global FMCG companies. Among his various posts, he spent 18 years as CMO and CEO at Coca-Cola in Japan.

We have a goal to achieve Gender Equality (Goal5) in SDGs. Shiseido exceeds 30% in its company leadership female ratio in 2017, and we expect the ratio of female board members to reach 45% by the end of March this year.

We are committed to achieve the company mission, "BEAUTY INNOVATIONS FOR A BETTER WORLD," facilitating the innovations in our corporate structure with human resource diversity, accepting people from various backgrounds in terms of nationality, age, and career experiences besides gender.



Name: Naomi Yamamoto
Position: Chief Creative Officer
Deputy Chief Social Value Creation Officer
Shiseido Co., Ltd.
Country of Origin: Japan
Biography:

Her career spans over 30 years, with posts in Tokyo, New York, and China. She currently leads SHISEIDO's Creative Division & Beauty Creation Center, orchestrating the global creative development of the Group's subsidiary brands and corporate communications. She was recently appointed Deputy Social Value Creation Officer in charge of shaping and communicating the company's social value and responsibility.

Our "Love The Differences" ad celebrates the fresh thinking and enthusiasm diversity brings to the world. Just like a jigsaw puzzle, faces of people of all ages, genders, and ethnicities come together to create a heart. Barriers and borders fall. Preconceptions evaporate. Everybody connected through the sheer beauty of acceptance. It is a powerful message that has been shared widely on social media. Japan was born of different values that were fused and transformed into something entirely new. As the quintessentially Japanese company, SHISEIDO embraces this spirit by creating innovations that inspire and empower—Beauty Innovations For A Better World.