

6th World Assembly for Women (WAW!)

Theme : WAW! with Men - Free from stereotyping yourself

Day 1 : Friday, April 3

Morning: Opening Session

Opening Speech

Keynote Speeches, Addresses

Panel Discussion I: Men's Leadership for gender equality and women's empowerment - "HeForShe" Initiative

In 2014, the UN has initiated the "HeForShe" movement encouraging all men and women worldwide to participate in the promotion of gender equality and thereby enabling them to be agents of a change. This session will address the importance of leadership in enhancing women's empowerment, share good practices, recognize the importance of HeForShe initiative and seek the way to realize women's empowerment.

- What would be the merit for society when male leaders take a lead to promote women's empowerment?
- What are the activities and good practices of HeForShe Impact Champions (Prime Minister Abe is one of the 10 Head of State Impact Champions)?
- What can we do to disseminate the concept of HeForShe movement and increase its followers worldwide?

Afternoon: Panel Discussion

Panel Discussion II: How to keep shining on throughout the course of your life

The concept of "life shift" is drawing attention. In order to live a fulfilling life both while being active at work and after retiring, this session will cast several aspect of life (work, family life, mind set, etc.) in a new light and address some tips to live happily throughout life, working practices to fit a new era and the way society and family should be.

- What are necessary for both men and women to live a healthy and productive life together as long as possible? (men's active participation in family life and society will provide merits for men, society and women)
- Promotion of diversity led by male leaders at work place (promotion of the appointment of women and reform of corporate culture)
- Rebalance of work and life throughout life (enhancing men's participation in family life, future model of married couple's 20~30 years after retirement, sharing of care work including for elderly people, involvement of men in local community (PTA, community activities))

Panel Discussion III: Sports and diversity, the power of sports

Dealing with gender-related problems in sports community, this session will address how the power of sports (challenge the limits, One Team, solidarity between players and audience) can contribute to creating a society with diversity and enhancing international exchange.

- Creating and advancing a society with diversity in making good use of the power of sports (including Paralympic and diversity)
- Problems in sports community from a viewpoint of gender equality (discriminatory treatment between men and women, gender role stereotyping, violence, treatment of sexual minorities)
- International exchange through sports

Panel Discussion and Special Session

Parallel Panel Discussion ①: Various efforts in private sector to promote women's economic participation

By showcasing various international and national efforts to promote women's economic participation, this session will address the social merits of women's further economic participation (including women's entrepreneurship) and mechanism to generate synergy among various efforts which will make both economy and society better.

- What we can learn from the initiatives such as W20, 30% Club and WeConnect (merits of gender investment, barriers preventing women from further economic participation and measures to overcome such barriers)
- Promotion of women's economic participation through the eyes of middle management levels and junior staff
- What private sector requests public sector to generate positive synergy

Parallel Panel Discussion ②: Making a change and taking a role in the change by all generations - on the 25th anniversary of the World Conference of Women in Beijing

The year 2020 marks the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the "Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action" and 5th anniversary of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) scheduled in March 2020 will review the changes occurred in the world so far and the challenges we are still facing. While confirming positive changes in society so far by focusing those men and women who have opened their way in recent social transformation, this session will address efforts beyond generations to create further changes, keeping in mind the theme of the CSW this year, "Generation Equality".

- Sharing experiences and knowledge of men and women who have chosen their occupation regardless gender stereotype, positive influence of their choice over their surroundings and society
- For those who try to open their way, what kind of environment or ideas would be of their help?
- Cooperation among generations and challenges in expanding such cooperation

Special Session ①: Let's start with what you can do - First step for creating a "Society where women shine"

A "Society where women shine" is also the society where men can unleash their full potential. For the creation of such a society, men and women need to work together. But what to do first? In featuring child-rearing, this session will think about what we can do first.

- First step toward men's participation in child-rearing (paternity leave)
- Sharing of invisible household work
- Unconscious bias against men's participation in household work and child-rearing and elimination of such bias, promoting understanding toward the difficulties men are facing in their life

Special Session ②: Unconscious bias in daily life

This session will address gender-based stereotype at school, home and workplace in order to be aware of our own unconscious bias. Together with audience, panelists will seek the way to get rid of unconscious bias and create a society free from such bias.

- Harmful and adverse effect of stereotype
- Adverse influence of advertisement and media (creation and confirmation of unconscious bias), utilization of advertisement, media and influencers to get rid of unconscious bias (encourage people to recognize unconscious bias and develop a renewed sense of worth)
- Gender education in school education
- Bias in family life

Morning: Panel Discussion and Special Session

Panel Discussion ③: Transformation from provinces and rural areas - Women's good practices and men's support

While provinces and rural areas face challenges such as decreasing population, draining of young women to cities, low child birth rate, growing aging populations and shrinking job opportunities, there are some good examples where measures are taken to make society better, in which both women and men are empowered. This session will address how to reform provinces and rural area by sharing local efforts and experiences for empowering women, who are often considered lacking self confidence.

- What are the challenges women in province and rural areas are facing – what are the differences from those of the big cities?
- How society should be shaped to resolve, changes for women – Sharing local efforts of empowering women
- Change awareness of women themselves on their gender roles and support from men to advance it –Women-lead transformation of local government and revitalization of community

Panel Discussion ④: How to support women with hardships

In general, women tend to be placed harder situation in terms of social and job environment in comparison to men. While clarifying their challenges and their negative impact to the society. This session will seek the way to cut the negative chain such as poverty of single parent household, domestic violence and child abuse. Sharing experiences from those who actually have overcome such hardships, it will be discussed what is an effective support for women with struggles.

- Actual situation of women who face hardships and their challenges (i.e. single parent household, domestic violence, child abuse, poverty of elderly women) Various efforts of public and private sector to prevent negative chain and their effectiveness
- Awareness raising, prevention and protection measures to young women who are prone to victims of violence including human trafficking
- Your small actions which could actually help those women with hardships

Special Session ③: Future Society suggested by young people – we want to work at the organizations/companies with these features

Youth including high school and college students will discuss an ideal work style partnerships, life styles and how to relate/respond to global issues.

- An ideal work-life balance and partnerships for youth
- Challenges and difficulties in current life for youth. Causes of gender inequality and its solutions

Special Session ④: BUDÔ × WOMEN: Empowering Girls and Women

Panel Discussion

Panel Discussion IV: Causes of Gender Based Violence and what we can do to address them

From recent #MeToo movement to 2018's Nobel Peace Prize which was awarded to activists who have fought against sexual violence in conflict, gender based violence (GBV) has drawn more attention globally. GBV varies with different forms and could hurt anyone including your closest friends and family. GBV also could harm not only women but also men. Therefore GBV is everybody's matter. In this session, ending discrimination towards victims will be discussed. What are the necessary support to them and effective preventive measure will be introduced from not only Japan but also other countries. Finally what every single person – men and women can contribute to end and prevent GBV will be discussed.

- Raise awareness on various types of GBV and discuss root causes of them (including power & control and absence of gender equality)
- Negative impact of GBV to the victims and society as a whole (Trauma, negative chain, discrimination against children who was born of rape, what the consequences of sexual violence as weapon of war in conflict)
- Various efforts from government and civil society regarding GBV, including efforts to prevent it and what things people and community can do to stop it.

Note : Gender is socially and culturally constructed identity including roles/norms/expectations/way of thinking, which attributed to biological Differences.

Gender Based Violence (GBV) is an act of violence and abuse directed to a person based on their gender against their will.

Closing Session

Wrap-up and closing remarks