

## Press release

Berlin, 19 April 2017

### **Women20 Summit starts in Berlin on 24 April with prominent guests from around the world**

The W20 Summit from 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> of April combines an ambitious aim with a high-quality programme. In addition to a working meeting featuring over one hundred delegates from all G20 member states, the purpose of which is to anchor Women's Economic Empowerment in the G20 agenda, a multi-faceted exchange among international guests will also take place. Numerous experts and high-ranking representatives from the world of politics, economics, international organisations and civil society have confirmed their participation.

One of the highlights is a panel discussion on 25 April. Under the heading "Inspiring women: Scaling up women's entrepreneurship", German Chancellor Angela Merkel, together with Queen Máxima of the Netherlands, UN Secretary-General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for Development and Honorary chair of the G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion; Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland; Director of the IWF Christine Legarde; Vice Chairman of the Bank of America Anne Finucane; First Daughter and Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump; Kenyan high-tech founder Juliana Rotich; and President and Chairwoman of the Trumpf GmbH Nicola Leibinger-Kammüller, will discuss how to promote female entrepreneurship on a larger scale around the world. The discussion will be moderated by Miriam Meckel, Chief Editor of Wirtschaftswoche and Professor for Media and Communications Management. Strengthening the economic position of women and opportunities for growth and sustainable development will be the focal point of a further panel discussion with Federal Minister of Women Manuela Schwesig and other international guests.

Chancellor Merkel will also address the participants from around the world in a speech at a Deutsche Bank gala reception. At the end of the conference she will accept the final communiqué of this year's W20-dialogue process and take questions from the delegates.

The themes of this year's W20 dialogue process are access to the labour market and financial resources, female entrepreneurship, and digitalisation. The main aim is to anchor the economic strengthening of women as a cross-sectional task in all political subject areas of the G20.

The Women20 Germany is jointly organised by the National Council of German Women's Organisations [Deutscher Frauenrat] and the Association of German Women Entrepreneurs [Verband deutscher Unternehmerinnen] (VdU).

GESCHÄFTSSTELLE W20

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The National Council of German Women's Organisations is the biggest women's lobby in Germany, serving as an umbrella organisation for over fifty women's associations and organisations nationwide.

The Association of German Women Entrepreneurs is a cross-industry business association with international links which has been representing the interests of entrepreneurially active women in economics, society and politics for over sixty years.

[Provisional programme of the W20 Conference in Berlin from 24-26 April.](#)

Accreditation for journalists is possible only via the following link:  
<https://g20germany-accreditation.de/aa-g20/women20/press/>