

衆議院

The House of Representatives, Japan



WOMEN POLITICAL LEADERS

WPL SUMMIT 2019

ADVANCING SOCIETY THROUGH
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
(SDGs)

25-27 June – Tokyo, Japan

WPL (Women Political Leaders) SUMMIT 2019

Report

Tokyo (Japan)

25–27 June 2019

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I Summary and Results of WPL Summit 2019

Through its Plenary Sessions and 15 Policy-Focus Sessions held from June 26th to 27th, 2019, and the Learning Journey held (in the Diet Building and Yokohama City) earlier on June 25th, the WPL Summit 2019 saw 422 participants (including 50 members of both houses of Japan's parliament as well as 9 speakers and 200 members of national assemblies of various countries) from 87 countries. This number surpassed the IPU Assembly held in Japan in 1974, which had 63 participating countries, and turned out to be one of the largest-ever international conferences held by Japanese Parliament.

The results of the WPL Summit 2019 were put together as an Outcome Declaration and shared among participants. The Outcome Declaration was handed to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe by Ms. Shinako Tsuchiya, Leader of the Delegation for the WPL Summit 2019 in Japan, WPL Ambassador Ms. Yoko Kamikawa, and President of Women Political Leaders (WPL) Ms. Silvana Koch-Mehrin at the Leaders' Special Event on Women's Empowerment, an official side-event of G20 Osaka.

At the WPL Summit 2019, female political leaders from the world held discussions at meetings and shared good practices as well as opinions and experiences at various informal gatherings. As a result, they solidified their determination to take concrete actions toward achieving the SDGs, which are to be met by 2030.

The first WPL Summit held in Asia contributed to building networks and deepening friendships among female legislators for resolving the common challenge of increasing the number and influence of Asian female politicians. It also helped to enhance the existing networks of female politicians around the world.

II List of the Japanese Delegation

Members of the House of Representatives

(As of June 2019)

Leader	Ms. SHINAKO TSUCHIYA	(Liberal Democratic Party)
	Ms. SEIKO NODA	(Liberal Democratic Party)
	Ms. YUKO OBUCHI	(Liberal Democratic Party)
	Mr. RYUJI KOIZUMI	(Liberal Democratic Party)
	Ms. YOKO KAMIKAWA	(Liberal Democratic Party)
	Ms. MIDORI MATSUSHIMA	(Liberal Democratic Party)
	Ms. NAOMI TOKASHIKI	(Liberal Democratic Party)
	Ms. HINAKO TAKAHASHI	(Liberal Democratic Party)
	Ms. TOMOKO ABE	(The Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan)
	Ms. MAKI IKEDA	(The Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan)
	Ms. YASUKO KOMIYAMA	(Democratic Party For the People)
	Ms. NORIKO FURUYA	(Komeito)
	Ms. CHIZUKO TAKAHASHI	(Japanese Communist Party)
	Ms. NATSUE MORI	(Nippon Ishin (Japan Innovation Party))

III List of the Committee for Women Political Leaders Summit 2019 in Japan

(As of June 2019)

Chair	H.R.	Ms. SHINAKO TSUCHIYA	(Liberal Democratic Party)	
Vice Chair	H.R.	Mr. RYUJI KOIZUMI	(Liberal Democratic Party)	
	H.C.	Ms. JUNKO MIHARA	(Liberal Democratic Party and Voice of The People)	
	H.R.	Ms. TOMOKO ABE	(The Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan)	
	H.R.	Ms. YASUKO KOMIYAMA	(Democratic Party For the People)	
	H.R.	Ms. NORIKO FURUYA	(Komeito)	
	H.R.	Ms. CHIZUKO TAKAHASHI	(Japanese Communist Party)	
	H.R.	Mr. YASUTO URANO	(Nippon Ishin (Japan Innovation Party))	
	Director General	H.R.	Ms. NAOMI TOKASHIKI	(Liberal Democratic Party)
Deputy Director General	H.R.	Ms. HINAKO TAKAHASHI	(Liberal Democratic Party)	
	H.C.	Ms. MIDORI ISHII	(Liberal Democratic Party and Voice of The People)	
(Director General of the House of Councillors)	H.C.	Mr. TAICHIRO MOTOE	(Liberal Democratic Party and Voice of The People)	
	H.R.	Ms. MAKI IKEDA	(The Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan)	
	H.C.	Ms. MIZUHO FUKUSHIMA	(The Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan and Minyukai and Hope Coalition)	
	H.C.	Ms. YUKA MIYAZAWA	(The Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan and Minyukai and Hope Coalition)	
	H.R.	Ms. HIDEKO NISHIOKA	(Democratic Party For the People)	
	H.C.	Ms. WAKAKO YATA	(Democratic Party For the People and The Shin-Ryokufukai)	
	H.R.	Ms. YOKO WANIBUCHI	(Komeito)	
	H.C.	Ms. TOSHIKO TAKEYA	(Komeito)	
	H.R.	Ms. KIMIE HATANO	(Japanese Communist Party)	
	H.C.	Ms. TOMO IWABUCHI	(Japanese Communist Party)	
	H.R.	Ms. NATSUE MORI	(Nippon Ishin (Japan Innovation Party))	
	H.C.	Ms. KUNIKO KODA	(Nippon Ishin (Japan Innovation Party) and The Party of Hope)	
	H.C.	Ms. KAORI TAKAGI	(Nippon Ishin (Japan Innovation Party) and The Party of Hope)	
	WPL Ambassador	H.R.	Ms. YOKO KAMIKAWA	(Liberal Democratic Party)
	Honorary Chair	H.C.	Ms. SEIKO HASHIMOTO	(Liberal Democratic Party and Voice of The People)

"H.R." indicates that he/she is a member of the House of Representatives.

"H.C." indicates that he/she is a member of the House of Councillors.

IV List of the Participants

1 Countries and International Organizations

Countries 87 countries and regional parliamentary assemblies

Total 422 members

Member of Parliaments	250
Others	172

8 International Organizations

Countries and regional parliamentary assemblies (87)				
Afghanistan	Algeria	Argentina	Armenia	Australia
Azerbaijan	Bahrain	Bangladesh	Belgium	Bermuda
Bolivia	Bulgaria	Burkina Faso	Burundi	Cambodia
Central African Republic	Chile	Côte d'Ivoire	Cyprus	Czech Republic
Ecuador	El Salvador	Equatorial Guinea	Estonia	Eswatini
Fiji	Gambia	Georgia	Germany	Ghana
Greece	Guatemala	Guinea	Iceland	Indonesia
Iran	Iraq	Ireland	Italy	Japan
Jordan	Kazakhstan	Kenya	Kyrgystan	Lao PDR
Latvia	Lesotho	Liberia	Lithuania	Luxembourg
Madagascar	Malaysia	Mexico	Morocco	Myanmar
Nepal	New Zealand	Norway	Oman	Pakistan
Palau	Peru	Philippines	Poland	Qatar
Romania	Russian Federation	Rwanda	Saudi Arabia	Senegal
Singapore	Slovenia	Somalia	South Sudan	Spain
Surinam	Sweden	Syrian Arab Republic	Turkey	Turkmenistan
Tuvalu	Ukraine	United Kingdom	United States	Zimbabwe
Andean Parliament	European Parliament			
International Organizations (8)				
The Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB)	The International Olympic Committee (IOC)	International Triathlon Union (ITU)	The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	UN Women
Women 20 (W20) Japan	The World Health Organization (WHO)	Women Political Leaders (WPL)		

2 Delegations (Excluding Japanese parliaments)

1. Members of Parliaments

AFGHANISTAN

NABIA MUSTAFAZADA (Ms.) Member of the House of Elders

FATEMA AKBARI (Ms.) Member of the House of Elders

ALGERIA

LEILA BRAHIMI (Ms.) Member of the Council of the Nation

AMAL DEROUA (Ms.) Member of the People's National Assembly

ARGENTINA

CARMEN LUCILA CREXELL (Ms.) Member of the Senate

MARTA LUCÍA AGOSTINI (Ms.) Member of the Senate

ARMENIA

LENA NAZARYAN (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia

MANE TANDILYAN (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia

AZERBAIJAN

SAHIBA ALI GAFAROVA (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Azerbaijan

BAHRAIN

EBTESAM MOHAMED ALDALLAL (Ms.) Member of the Bahrain Shura Council

SABEEKA KHALIFA ALFADHALA (Ms.) Member of the Bahrain Shura Council

FAWZIA ABDULLA ZAINAL (Ms.) Speaker of the Council of Representatives

FATEMA ABBAS MOHAMED (Ms.) Member of the Council of Representatives

KALTHAM A. KARIM ALHAIKI (Ms.) Member of the Council of Representatives

SAWSAN MOHAMED KAMAL (Ms.) Member of the Council of Representatives

BANGLADESH

MEHER AFROZE (Ms.) Member of the Bangladesh Parliament

SELIMA AHMAD (Ms.) Member of the Bangladesh Parliament

APARAJITA HAQUE (Ms.) Member of the Bangladesh Parliament

BELGIUM

AN SABINE MICHELINE CAPOEN (Ms.) Member of the Belgian Federal Parliament

BULGARIA

MENDA STOYANOVA (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria

DANIELA DARITKOVA (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria

BURKINA FASO

FONIYAMA ELISE ILBOUDO
THIOMBIANO (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

KARIDIA ZONGO-YANOOGO (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

BURUNDI

GAHWAYI AGNES (Ms.) Member of the Senate of Burundi

NDAYONGEJE ODILE (Ms.) Member of the Senate of Burundi

NIYUBAHWE ANABELLE (Ms.) Member of the Senate of Burundi

CAMBODIA

KHENG LORK (Ms.)	Member of the National Assembly
PONNA EM (Ms.)	Member of the National Assembly
KHUN DY KHOUN (Ms.)	Member of the Senate
SANDAP MOM (Ms.)	Member of the Senate

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

EMILIE BÉATRICE EPAYE (Ms.)	Member of the National Assembly
RACHEL NINGA-WONG MALLO NÉE MBAIKANDJI (Ms.)	Member of the National Assembly

CHILE

MARÍA LORETO CARVAJAL AMBIADO (Ms.)	Deputy Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile
MAITE ORSINI PASCAL (Ms.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile
MARIA JOSÉ HOFFMANN OPAZO (Ms.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile
MARCELA XIMENA HERNANDO PEREZ (Ms.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile
KARIN LUCK URBAN (Ms.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile
IRLE ANDREA PARRA SAUTEREL (Ms.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

ASSA BOBY AHOU EMILIENNE (Ms.)	Member of the Senate
MAKANI DIABY (Ms.)	Member of the Senate

CYPRUS

ANNITA DEMETRIOU (Ms.)	Member of the Cyprus House of Representatives
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CZECH REPUBLIC

JAROSLAV KUBERA (Mr.)	Speaker of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
MILUŠE HORSKÁ (Ms.)	Deputy Speaker of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
ZDENKA HAMOUSOVÁ (Ms.)	Member of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
EMILIE TRŠKOVÁ (Ms.)	Member of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

ECUADOR

ELIZABETH ENRIQUETA CABEZAS GUERRERRO (Ms.)	Speaker of the National Assembly of Ecuador
JEANNINE DEL CISNE CRUZ VACA (Ms.)	Member of the National Assembly of Ecuador
MARÍA GABRIELA LARREATEGUI FABARA (Ms.)	Member of the National Assembly of Ecuador
MARÍA MERCEDES CUESTA (Ms.)	Member of the National Assembly of Ecuador
CRISTINA REYES (Ms.)	Member of the National Assembly of Ecuador

EL SALVADOR

AUDELIA GUADALUPE LOPEZ (Ms.)	Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador
KARLA ELENA HERNÁNDEZ (Ms.)	Member of the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador
PATRICIA ELENA VALDIVIESO (Ms.)	Member of the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

PURIFICACION BOHARI LASAQUERO (Ms.)	Member of the Senate of Equatorial Guinea
SILVIA PALOMA OBONO EDJANG (Ms.)	Member of the Senate of Equatorial Guinea

ESTONIA

MARIS LAURI (Ms.)	Member of the Estonian Parliament
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ESWATINI

LINDIWE THULILE DLAMINI (Ms.) President of the Senate

FIJI

MERESEINI WAKOLO RAKUITA
VUNIWAQA (Ms.) Minister For Women, Children And Poverty
Alleviation
Member of the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji

SALOTE CARAQETI RADRODRO (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji

GAMBIA

MARIAM JACK DENTON (Ms.) Speaker of the National Assembly of the Gambia

FATOU K. JAWARA (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly of the Gambia

GHANA

GIFTY TWUM-AMPOFO (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Ghana

SARAH ADWOA SAFO (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Ghana

COMFORT DOYOE CUDJOE-
GHANSAH (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Ghana

GUATEMALA

EVA NICOLLE MONTE (Ms.) Member of the Congress of the Republic

GUINEA

TARORE DJESSIRA (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly

HAWA BINTA DIALLO (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly

ICELAND

ANNA KOLBRÚN ÁRNADÓTTIR (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Iceland

LILJA RAFNEY MAGNÚSDÓTTIR (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Iceland

INDONESIA

NURHAYATI ALI ASSEGAF (Ms.)	Member of the Indonesia House of Representative
DWIE AROEM HADIATIE (Ms.)	Member of the Indonesia House of Representative
SITI MASRIFAH (Ms.)	Member of the Indonesia House of Representative

IRAN

FATEMEH HOSSEINI (Ms.)	Member of the Islamic Consultative Assembly
NAHID TAJEDIN (Ms.)	Member of the Islamic Consultative Assembly
FATEMEH ARAB BAFRANI (Ms.)	Member of the Islamic Consultative Assembly

IRAQ

HAYFAA KADHIM ABBAS AL-QARAGHULI (Ms.)	Member of the Council of Representatives of the Republic of Iraq
VIAN SABRI ABDULKHALEQ (Ms.)	Member of the Council of Representatives of the Republic of Iraq

IRELAND

IVANA BACIK (Ms.)	Member of the Senate
MARCELLA MARY "CORCORAN" KENNEDY (Ms.)	Member of the House of Representatives
MARGARET ANNE MURPHY O'MAHONY (Ms.)	Member of the House of Representatives

ITALY

PAOLA TAVERNA (Ms.)	Deputy Speaker of the Italian Senate
ANNA ROSSOMANDO (Ms.)	Deputy Speaker of the Italian Senate
MARIA EDERA SPADONI (Ms.)	Deputy Speaker of the Italian Chamber of Deputies

JORDAN

ALIA ODEH ABUHLAIL (Ms.)	Member of the Jordanian House of Representatives
HUDA HUSSEIN ETOOM (Ms.)	Member of the Jordanian House of Representatives
RANDA ABATA ASHA'AR (Ms.)	Member of the Jordanian House of Representatives
ZEINAB HUMOD AL-ZUBAD (Ms.)	Member of the Jordanian House of Representatives

KAZAKHSTAN

OLGA PEREPECHINA (Ms.)	Member of the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan
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KENYA

FLORENCE MWIKALI MUTUA (Ms.)	Member of the Kenya National Assembly
PURITY WANGUI NGIRICI (Ms.)	Member of the Kenya National Assembly
GERTRUDE MBEYU MWANYANJE (Ms.)	Member of the Kenya National Assembly
FLORENCE ATIENO OLOGI (Ms.)	Member of the County Assembly of Busia

KYRGYSTAN

RADA TUMANBAEVA (Ms.)	Member of the Supreme Council
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LAO PDR

MANIVANH YIAPAOHER (Ms.)	Member of the the National Assembly of Lao PDR
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LATVIA

INĀRA MŪRNIECE (Ms.)	Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia
INESE LĪBIŅA - EGNERE (Ms.)	Deputy Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia
ANDA ČAKŠA (Ms.)	Member of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia

LESOTHO

MAMONAHENG MOKITIMI (Ms.) President of the Senate - Parliament of Lesotho

MAKHOLU LEBOHANG MOSHOESHOE (Ms.) Member of the Senate - Parliament of Lesotho

LIBERIA

JEWEL C. HOWARD TAYLOR (Ms.) Vice President of Liberia,
President of the Senate of Liberia

LITHUANIA

IRENA SIAULIENE (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the Seimas of the Republic of
Lithuania

VIKTORIJA CMILYTE-NIELSEN (Ms.) Member of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

LUXEMBOURG

LYDIA BERNARDINE MUTSCH (Ms.) Member of the Chamber of Deputies

NANCY ARENDT (Ms.) Member of the Chamber of Deputies

MALAYSIA

ALICE KIONG YIENG LAU (Ms.) Member of the House of Representatives

MARIA CHIN ABDULLAH (Ms.) Member of the House of Representatives

CHONG SWEN ONG (Ms.) Member of the Senate

RAJ MUNNI SABU (Ms.) Member of the Senate

DAROYAH ALWI (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the Selangor State Legislative
Assembly

ELIZABETH WONG KEAT PING (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the Selangor State Legislative
Assembly

GINIE LIM SIEW LIN (Ms.) Member of the Malacca State Legislative
Assembly

HANIZA MOHAMED TALHA (Ms.) Member of the Selangor State Legislative
Assembly

JUWAIRIYA ZULKIFLI (Ms.) Member of the Selangor State Legislative Assembly

MEXICO

VERÓNICA DELGADILLO GARCÍA (Ms.) Member of the Senate of the Republic

ROCÍO ABREU ARTIÑANO (Ms.) Member of the Senate of the Republic

BEATRIZ ELENA PAREDES (Ms.) Member of the Senate of the Republic

INDIRA DE JESUS ROSALES SAN ROMAN (Ms.) Member of the Senate of the Republic

MARÍA LUCERO SALDAÑA PÉREZ (Ms.) Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico

MARTHA ANGÉLICA TAGLE MARTÍNEZ (Ms.) Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico

LYNDIANA ELIZABETH BUGARÍN CORTÉS (Ms.) Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico

MARGARITA GARCÍA GARCÍA (Ms.) Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico

ELBA LORENA TORRES DÍAZ (Ms.) Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico

MA. GUADALUPE ALMAGUER PRADO (Ms.) Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico

MARÍA DEL PILAR LOZANO MAC DONALD (Ms.) Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico

SONIA ROCHA ACOSTA (Ms.) Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico

MOROCCO

HAYAT EL MACHFOU (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives

MARYAMA BOUJEMAA (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives

ASMAA RHLALOU (Ms.) Member of the House of Representatives

AMAL MISRA (Ms.) Member of the House of Councilors

FATIMA LAHBOUSSI (Ms.) Member of the House of Councilors

NAJAT GOUMIR (Ms.) Member of the House of Councilors

MYANMAR

MAY WIN MYINT (Ms.) Member of the House of Representatives

NEPAL

PAMPHA BHUSAL (Ms.) Member of the House of Representatives

DHANA KUMARI KHATIWADA (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly

UTOL TAMANG (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly

NORWAY

ELIN RODUM AGDESTEIN (Ms.) Member of the Norwegian Parliament

ÅSLAUG SEM-JACOBSEN (Ms.) Member of the Norwegian Parliament

OMAN

SUAD MOHAMED AL LAWATI (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the State Council

PAKISTAN

AYESHA RAZA FAROOQ (Ms.) Member of the Senate of Pakistan

SEEMEE EDZI (Ms.) Member of the Senate of Pakistan

PALAU

RUKEBAI KIKUO SKEY INABO (Ms.) Member of the the Senate, Palau National Congress

JERRLYN UDUCH SENGEBAU (Ms.) Member of the the Senate, Palau National Congress

VICTORIA NGIRATKAKL KANAI (Ms.) Member of the House of Delegates

PERU

NELLY LADY CUADROS (Ms.)	Member of the Congress of the Republic of Peru
MARITA HERRERA (Ms.)	Member of the Congress of the Republic of Peru
TAMAR ARIMBORGO (Ms.)	Member of the Congress of the Republic of Peru
BETTY GLADYS ANANCULI (Ms.)	Member of the Congress of the Republic of Peru

PHILIPPINES

ROSE MARIE JIMENEZ ARENAS (Ms.)	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives
EVELINA GUEVARA ESCUDERO (Ms.)	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives
DULCE ANN KINTANAR HOFER (Ms.)	Member of the House of Representatives

POLAND

MARTA KUBIAK (Ms.)	Member of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland
BOZENA SZYDLOWSKA (Ms.)	Member of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland
JADWIGA ROTNICKA (Ms.)	Member of the Senate of the Republic of Poland

QATAR

REEM MOHD AL-MANSOORI (Ms.)	Member of the the Shura Council
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ROMANIA

DOINA-ELENA FEDEROVICI (Ms.)	Member of the Senate of Romania
ALINA-ȘTEFANIA GORGHIU (Ms.)	Member of the Senate of Romania
SILVIA-MONICA DINICĂ (Ms.)	Member of the Senate of Romania
TAMARA DORINA CIOFU (Ms.)	Member of the Parliament of Romania, Chamber of Deputies

ROZALIA IBOLYA BIRO (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Romania, Chamber of Deputies

CRISTINA MĂDĂLINA PRUNĂ (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Romania, Chamber of Deputies

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

LIUDMILA BOKOVA (Ms.) Member of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation

TAMARA PLETNEVA (Ms.) Member of the the State Duma

RWANDA

HARERIMANA FATOU (Ms.) Vice President of the Senate

SAUDI ARABIA

MODY ALKHALAF (Ms.) Member of the Shura Council

SULTANAH ALBEDAIWI (Ms.) Member of the Shura Council

SLOVENIA

BOJANA MURŠIČ (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia

ANDREJA ZABRET (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia

SUZANA LEP ŠIMENKO (Ms.) Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia

SOMALIA

SADIYA YASSIN HAJI (Ms.) Member of the House of the People - Federal Parliament of Somalia

NURA FARAH JAMA (Ms.) Member of the Upper House

SOUTH SUDAN

ABUK PAYITI AYIK (Ms.) Member of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly

MARY KIDEN KIMBO (Ms.) Member of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly

NYITUR DANIEL DHIEU (Ms.) Member of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly

SPAIN

MARIA GLORIA ELIZO SERRANO (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the Congress of Deputies

ANA MARIA PASTOR JULIAN (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the Congress of Deputies

SOFIA DEL CARMEN HERNANZ COSTA (Ms.) Member of the Congress of Deputies

PATRICIA ISAURA REYES RIVERA (Ms.) Member of the Congress of Deputies

SURINAME

JENNIFER SIMONS (Ms.) Speaker of the the National Assembly of the Republic of Suriname

KRISHNAKOEMARIE MATHOERA (Ms.) Member of the the National Assembly of the Republic of Suriname

AIDA LOUISE NADING (Ms.) Member of the the National Assembly of the Republic of Suriname

SWEDEN

ÅSA MARGARETHA LINDESTAM (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the Swedish Parliament

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

AMIRA STEPHANOU (Ms.) Member of the People's Assembly

ASHWAQ ABBAS (Ms.) Member of the People's Assembly

FARAH HAMSHO (Ms.) Member of the People's Assembly

TURKEY

CANAN KALSIN (Ms.) Member of the Turkish Grand National Assembly

GAMZE TASCIER (Ms.) Member of the Turkish Grand National Assembly

TÜLAY KAYNARCA (Ms.) Member of the Turkish Grand National Assembly

TURKMENISTAN

AYSHAT GOJENOVA (Ms.) Member of the Assembly of Turkmenistan

JENET OVEKOVA (Ms.) Member of the Assembly of Turkmenistan

TUVALU

OTINIELU TAUTELEIMALAE TAUSI (Mr.) Speaker of the Parliament of Tuvalu

UKRAINE

IRYNA GERASHCHENKO (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Ukraine

ALONA SHKRUM (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Ukraine

UNITED KINGDOM

PAULINE ELIZABETH LATHAM (Ms.) Member of the House of Commons

ZIMBABWE

MABEL MEMORY CHINOMONA (Ms.) President of the Parliament of Zimbabwe

TSITSI GEZI (Ms.) Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Zimbabwe

BARBARA RWODZI (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Zimbabwe

KERESENCIA CHABUKA (Ms.) Member of the Parliament of Zimbabwe

ANDEAN PARLIAMENT

PATRICIA MABEL TERAN BASSO (Ms.) Member of the Andean Parliament

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

ULRIKE TREBESIUS (Ms.) Member of the European Parliament

JADWIGA MARIA WIŚNIEWSKA (Ms.) Member of the European Parliament

EDOUA ASSITA KANKO (Ms.) Member of the European Parliament

2. Session Speakers/ Moderators

MASOUMEH EBTEKAR (Ms.) Vice President for Women and Family Affairs, Iran

ZURAIIDA KAMARUDDIN (Ms.) Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Malaysia

NADIA CALVINO (Ms.) Minister of Economy and Business, Spain

PAULA ANN COX (Ms.) Former Premier of Bermuda

HELEN ELIZABETH CLARK (Ms.) Former Prime Minister of New Zealand

AMINATA TOURE (Ms.) Former Prime Minister of Senegal

JOSE MANUEL BARROSO (Mr.) Former President of the European Commission

AKIKO YAMANAKA (Ms.) Senior Diplomatic Fellow of Cambridge Central Asia Forum, Cambridge University UK, President of International Tsunami Disaster Prevention Society, Former Vice minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan and Member of the House of Representative

REBECA GRYNSPAN (Ms.) Ibero-American Secretary-General

MARIA SOLEDAD CASADO (Ms.) International Olympic Committee (IOC) Member, President of the International Triathlon Union (ITU)

YUMIKO MURAKAMI (Ms.) Head of OECD Tokyo Centre

PHUMZILE GLORIA MLAMBO-NGCUKA (Ms.) Executive Director of UN Women

HARUNO YOSHIDA (Ms.) Women 20 (W20) Japan

TEDROS ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS (Mr.) Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO)

SILVANA KOCH-MEHRIN (Ms.) President of Women Political Leaders (WPL)

HANNA BIRNA KRISTJÁNSDÓTTIR (Ms.) Women Political Leaders (WPL)

AMANDA NATALIE ELLIS (Ms.)	Executive Director Hawaii & Asia-Pacific, Arizona State University
GIOVANA RODRIGUES MANFRIN (Ms.)	Fellow, Women and Public Policy Program, Harvard Kennedy School of Government
ATSUSHI SUNAMI (Mr.)	Executive Advisor to the President of the Ocean Policy Research Institute, the Sasagawa Peace Foundation, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies
KAREN DIEBEL SESSIONS (Ms.)	Vice President, Department of Congressional and Public Affairs, Millennium Challenge Corporation
ANDRE ALTON MUSTO (Mr.)	Regional Vice President – APAC Biopharma, Merck
DORTHE MIKKELSEN (Ms.)	President, Asia Pacific, MSD
AMY WEAVER (Ms.)	President, Legal & Corporate Affairs, Salesforce
KATJA IVERSEN (Ms.)	President/CEO of the Women Deliver
ANNA KITANAKA (Ms.)	Bloomberg LP
KANA NISHIZAWA (Ms.)	Bloomberg LP
LUCY CRAFT (Ms.)	CBS News
SARAH BIRKE (Ms.)	The Economist
SAYURI DAIMON (Ms.)	The Japan Times
MARIKO SATO (Ms.)	NHK
ALASTAIR CHRISTOPHER GALE (Mr.)	The Wall Street Journal

3 Mayors and Local Assembly Members in Japan

(As of June 2019)

Mayor of the City of Yokohama	Ms. FUMIKO HAYASHI
Mayor of the City of Otsu	Ms. NAOMI KOSHI
Mayor of the City of Shimada	Ms. KINUYO SOMEYA
Member of Miyagi Prefectural Assembly	Ms. MIYUKI YUSA
Member of Ibaraki Prefectural Assembly	Ms. KEIKO TAMURA
Member of Saitama Prefectural Assembly	Ms. KYOUKO YAMAGUCHI
Member of Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly	Ms. NAOMI IZUMI
Vice Speaker of the Tsukuba City Council	Ms. MIWA YAMAMOTO
Member of Mito City Council	Ms. NORIKO SUZUKI
Member of Shinagawa City Assembly	Ms. YUMIKO ABE
Member of Toshima City Assembly	Ms. AIKO FUJISAWA
Member of Toshima City Assembly	Ms. HIROKO NAGANO
Member of Osaka City Council	Ms. YOSHIKO KATO

V Programme

TUESDAY, 25 JUNE

09:00-16:30 **LEARNING JOURNEY**
Venue: National Diet of Japan, Yokohama City

13:00-16:00 **EARLY REGISTRATION**

18:00-20:00 **WELCOME RECEPTION**
Venue: Kaiun Club
Hosted by the Japanese Delegation

WEDNESDAY, 26 JUNE

Venue: First Members' Office Building, House of Representatives, National Diet of Japan

08:00- **ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS**

09:10-09:40 **OPENING SESSION: TAKING ACTIONS TO ADVANCE SOCIETY THROUGH SDGs**

Master of Ceremonies: Assita Kanko, Member of the European Parliament
Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Opening Remarks:

- Tadamori Oshima, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan
- Silvana Koch-Mehrin, President of WPL
- Yoko Kamikawa, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, WPL Ambassador, Minister of Justice (2014-2015, 2017-2018)

09:40-09:50 **KEYNOTE: TAKING ACTIONS TO ADVANCE SOCIETY THROUGH SDGs**

Master of Ceremonies: Assita Kanko, Member of the European Parliament
Venue: Multipurpose Hall

- Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan (video)

09:50-10:35 **PLENARY SESSION 1: WOMEN AND THE ROLE OF ASIA IN THE WORLD**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

The WPL Summit is convening in the Asia/Pacific region for the first time. Accounting for over 60% of the world's population and creating over 60% of global growth, Asia will play a key role in the world's economic, social, and cultural development. Asian states have produced many women leaders.

However, challenges still remain on the path to equality between women and men. It is now essential to promote women's rights and enhance women's participation in public life in order for whole societies across the region to advance.

- Satsuki Katayama, Minister in charge of Women's Empowerment, Minister of State for Gender Equality of Japan, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan
- Masoumeh Ebtekar, Vice President of Iran for Women and Family Affairs
- Zuraida Kamaruddin, Member of Parliament and Minister of Housing and Local Government of Malaysia, WPL Ambassador
- Ayesha Raza Farooq, Member of the Senate of Pakistan, Chairperson Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges
- Mereseini Wakolo Rakuita Vuniwaqa, Member of Parliament, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation of Fiji

Moderated by: Lucy Craft, Reporter for CBS News

10:30-11:10 COFFEE BREAK

11:10-12:15 **PLENARY SESSION 2: ADVANCING SOCIETY WITH WOMEN AS POLITICAL LEADERS**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Good governance is directly linked with women in power. Societies and countries that benefit from good governance are fertile ground for getting more women in the highest positions of leadership. However, global data indicate that the world is far from benefiting from the potential of half its population: women. Less than 10 percent of Heads of State and Government and only around 24 percent of Parliamentarians are women. The OECD, the World Bank and others indicate that countries with more women in positions of political leadership invest more in health and education, and enjoy higher public trust in politicians. This suggests that all policy making can benefit from women's points of view. From education and social welfare to finance and defence to building a society resilient to disasters, how can women's perspectives be included in all policies?

- Fumiko Hayashi, Mayor of the City of Yokohama, Japan
- Jewel Howard Taylor, Vice President of Liberia, WPL Board Member
- Anna Rossomando, Vice President of the Senate of Italy
- Paula Cox, Premier of Bermuda (2010-2012)
- María Loreto Carvajal Ambiado, First Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile
- Hanna Birna Kristjánsdóttir, Senior Advisor at UN Women, Chair of the WPL Board, Minister of Interior of Iceland (2013-2014)

Moderated by: Sayuri Daimon, Managing Editor of The Japan Times

12:15-14:00 LUNCH

Venue: Large Conference Hall

14:00-15:15 **PLENARY SESSION 3: ADVANCING THE WORLD WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

At the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015, 193 countries unanimously agreed to adopt the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) consisting of 17 interconnected ambitious goals and 169 closely linked targets. The SDGs address global challenges related to poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice. Among G20 countries, Japan is a leader in working side-by-side with local partners around the world to realise a society where no one is left behind. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can only be achieved if it translates into the reality of people at a local level. The session will aim to discuss the key challenges and opportunities for Parliamentarians to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

- Yoko Kamikawa, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, WPL Ambassador, Minister of Justice (2014-2015, 2017-2018)
 - Mabel Memory Chinomona, President of the Senate of Zimbabwe, Chairperson of the Women's Committee of the African Parliamentary Union (APU), WPL Ambassador
 - Åsa Lindestam, First Deputy Speaker of the Riksdag of Sweden, WPL Ambassador
 - Elizabeth Cabezas Guerrero, Member of the National Assembly of Ecuador
 - Nurhayati Ali Assegaf, Member of Parliament of Indonesia, WPL Board Member
 - Andre Musto, Regional Vice President - Asia Pacific at Merck Biopharma
- Moderated by: Amanda Ellis, Executive Director, Hawaii & Asia-Pacific of ASU JA Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability

15:15-15:50 COFFEE BREAK

15:50-17:40 **POLICY-FOCUS SESSIONS (PFS)**

8 simultaneous sessions

PFS 1.1 – ROLE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS IN PROMOTING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Hosted by: The House of Representatives

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Studies from the public and private sectors have found that diversity and inclusion are crucial drivers of innovation and a critical component for success and growth. Different perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds foster new ideas. Governments are meant to represent and protect the interests and rights of the multiple communities that compose their societies, recognising their inherent

diversity and working towards policies that adapt to specific needs. The richness in diverse age groups, abilities, gender, ethnicity, and other factors, can make a country progress. Therefore, how can Parliamentarians ensure that policies are inclusive and promoting equity, so that all groups of the population are represented?

- Maki Ikeda, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan
- Kimie Hatano, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan
- Åslaug Sem-Jacobsen, Member of the Stortinget of Norway, WPL Ambassador
- Mamonaheng Mokitimi, President of the Senate of Lesotho
- Ināra Mūrniece, Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia

Moderated by: Yumiko Murakami, Head of Tokyo Center, OECD

PFS 1.2 –SDG 3: WOMEN PROMOTING A SOCIETY OF GOOD HEALTH AND LONGEVITY

Hosted by: The House of Representatives

Venue: International Conference Hall

The good health and longevity of women is a social characteristic of Japan. Women’s average lifespan is about 87 years, which is the longest in the world, and average healthy life expectancy is rising. With Maternal and Child Health Handbooks, Japan has reached one of the highest standards of maternal and child health in the world. This session aims to share good practices to bring about societies of good health and longevity globally. It will explore what can be done to achieve SDG3: to “ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”.

- Noriko Furuya, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, State Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare (2016-2017)
- Yuka Miyazawa, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan
- Gifty Twum Ampofo, Member of Parliament and Deputy Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection from Ghana, WPL Ambassador
- Suad Mohamed Al Lawati, Deputy Speaker of the State Council of Oman

Moderated by: Mariko Sato, Correspondent for NHK

PFS 1.3 – SDG 14: ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY – TACKLING THE ISSUE OF MARINE PLASTIC

Hosted by: The House of Representatives

Venue: Conference Room 1

According to the World Economic Forum, at the current rate, oceans will contain more plastic than fish by 2050 (by weight). To reduce the amount of plastic in the oceans, which has reached dangerous levels, both industrial and developing countries must cooperate globally, and people must also adapt their individual consumption behaviors. Participants will have the opportunity to develop and share ideas for effective solutions to address marine plastic.

- Toshiko Takeya, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan, Chairperson of the Committee on General Affairs of the House of Councillors (2017-2018), Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Finance (2014-2015)
 - Kaori Takagi, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan
 - Jerrlyn Uduch Sengebau Senior, Senator of Palau
- Moderated by: Anna Kitanaka, Editor at Bloomberg

PFS 1.4 – HEALTHY WOMEN, HEALTHY ECONOMIES

Hosted by: Merck

Venue: Conference Room 2

“Healthy Women, Healthy Economies” (HWHE) is an innovative public-private partnership initiated under the auspices of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Merck, and the U.S. and Philippine governments. This initiative is meant to advance women's health and well-being as well as increase their economic participation. HWHE brings together evidence about women's health and well-being and its impact on economic growth with best practices that governments, employers, and non-governmental organizations can follow. Integral to this effort is the WPL Policy Forum in which female political leaders share their experiences in advancing women's labour force participation through better health. The session focuses on solutions to reduce barriers that prevent women from entering, rising, and thriving in the workforce. The objectives of this panel discussion are to (i) increase participants' awareness of the relationship between women's empowerment and health, especially economic empowerment, and (ii) discuss examples of policy initiatives that can be implemented at the country level.

- Naomi Koshi, Mayor of Otsu
- Paula Cox, Premier of Bermuda (2010-2012)
- Elba Lorena Torres Díaz, Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico
- Ana Marie Pastor Julia, Third Deputy Speaker of the Bureau of the Congress of Deputies of Spain
- Marcella Corcoran Kennedy, Dáil Éireann (Parliament) Ireland
- Andre Musto, Regional Vice President - Asia Pacific at Merck Biopharma

Moderated by: Ahinara Bascuñana López, WPL Communications Expert

PFS 1.5 – SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH: THE ROLES OF POLITICS AND BUSINESS

Hosted by: MSD for Mothers

Venue: Conference Room 3

MSD for Mothers and Women Political Leaders (WPL) bring together political and business leaders to provide insights for the global policy agenda around Universal Health Coverage (UHC). As a cornerstone of the Sustainable Development Goals 3, achieving UHC will require meeting the unique health needs of women, including maternal health. In this policy-focus session,

panelists and audience members will identify opportunities to create and sustain the right environment that leverages private sector capacity and expertise to increase access to maternal and reproductive health services. These inputs will formally feed into the global consultative process under the UHC2030 agenda.

- Dorthe Mikkelsen, President Asia Pacific at MSD
- Norwu Howard, Deputy Minister of Health for Administration of Liberia
- Rose Marie Jimenez Arenas, Deputy Speaker of Parliament, House of Representatives of the Philippines, WPL Ambassador
- Nurhayati Ali Assegaf, Member of the House of Representatives of Indonesia, WPL Ambassador
- Meher Afroze, Member of Parliament & Chairman of the Standing Committee on Ministry of Women & Children Affairs of the Parliament of Bangladesh

PFS 1.6 – PUTTING POLICY TO WORK: PROMOTING WOMEN IN THE ECONOMY

Hosted by: Millennium Challenge Corporation

Venue: Conference Room 4

Strengthening economic opportunities for women is fundamental to MCC achieving its mission to reduce poverty through economic growth. As part of its data-driven model, MCC consistently works with partner countries to unlock the economic potential of women and overcome financial, legal, and cultural barriers that prevent women from fully engaging in their countries' economies. Through its investments, MCC strengthens the U.S. government's ability to change the landscape of women's economic empowerment around the world. This will be an engaging session focused on how governments, donors, and the private sector can work to practically unlock the economic empowerment of women. MCC has worked with more than two dozen countries around the world – from Georgia to Morocco and beyond. Join this session to learn about MCC's investments along with our engagement with the U.S. Government's recently launched Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative.

- Makani Diaby, Senator of the Republic of Ivory Coast
- Asmaa Rhlalou, Member of the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Morocco
- Mariam Jack-Denton, Speaker of the National Assembly of Gambia
- Karen Sessions, Vice President, Congressional & Public Affairs at the Millennium Challenge Corporation of the United States of America
- Casey Dunning, Director- Results and Learning, Department of Policy and Evaluation, Millennium Challenge Corporation
- Sara Reef, Team Lead, External Affairs, Millennium Challenge Corporation

PFS 1.7 – EMPOWERING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Hosted by Development Bank of Japan

Venue: Conference Room 5

Fostering women entrepreneurship is one of the major social and economic agendas in many countries. Women entrepreneurs have been playing growing roles in economic development by creating jobs and boosting new markets; however, still they face more challenges than their male counterparts. The speakers will present recent trends of women entrepreneurship, current examples of actual female entrepreneurs, as well as information about various measures and policies. The session is expected to include extensive interaction with the floor, aiming for sharing of experiences and opinions among all participants in order to discuss how to achieve our common goals.

- Fumiyo Harada, Senior Advisor, Women Entrepreneurs Center, Development Bank of Japan
- Rika Yajima, Founder & CEO, aeru company
- Junko Kemi, Founder and Lead Designer, kay me Ltd.
- Mane Tandilyan, Member of Parliament of Armenia
- Alona Shkrum, Member of the Parliament of Ukraine

PFS 1.8 – SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING: CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITIES (1st SESSION)

Hosted by Facebook

Venue: Conference Room 6

This social media training session is catered for those who are just getting started or already regularly updating a social media page. The session includes the sharing of best practices on connecting with communities and will focus on the types of content that work well on social media as well as how to use to leverage tools like livestreaming to set your page up for success. It will also bring you through on how to think about measuring results on your page and address important issues of online safety as you conduct these engagements.

- Rebecca Oh, Politics & Government Outreach Associate Manager, Facebook
- Roy Tan, Politics & Government Outreach Manager, Asia-Pacific, Facebook

18:30-20:00 CULTURAL DINNER

Venue: Meiji Kinenkan

Hosted by: Tadamori Oshima, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan

THURSDAY, 27 JUNE

Venue: First Members' Office Building, House of Representatives, National Diet of Japan

08:00- ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

08:45-09:00 VIDEO MESSAGES

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

- Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, President of Croatia
- Dalia Grybauskaitė, President of Lithuania
- Hilda Heine, President of the Marshall Islands
- Pedro Sánchez, Prime Minister of Spain
- Carrie Lam, Chief Executive of Hong Kong
- Ángel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD

09:00-09:15 Q&A: ADVANCING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

- Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women
- Silvana Koch-Mehrin, President of WPL

09:15-09:45 A CONVERSATION: HEALTH AND WOMEN

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Health is the foundation of social and economic strength. Understanding and addressing women's specific health needs and social conditions is crucial to ensure the wellbeing of both women and society as a whole. The WHO has found that inequality between women and men leads to health risks for women and girls. For example, women are burdened with an unequal share of unpaid work. They are not only working in their offices, the agricultural sector, schools, hospitals, businesses or elsewhere, but they are also the main unpaid workers at home. This double burden of work puts extra pressure on women's physical and mental health. Social practices that undermine women's ability to act independently for themselves impede their well-being and health. If countries want to have healthier societies and thriving economies, women leaders are part of the solution. They can tackle these challenges by conceiving and promoting more effective measures to ensure a healthy society.

- Emiko Takagai, State Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan
- Marcella Corcoran Kennedy, Member of the Parliament of Ireland, Minister of State for Health Promotion (2016-2017)
- Dorte Mikkelsen, President Asia Pacific at MSD

Moderated by: Katja Iversen, President and CEO of Women Deliver

09:45-09:55 KEYNOTE: ADVANCING HEALTH FOR ALL

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

- Tedros Adhanom, Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO)

09:55-10:55 **PLENARY SESSION 1: ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE AND ESTABLISHING A RECYCLING SOCIETY**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Climate change poses a threat to the safety, health and the lives of all. The depletion of natural resources is closely correlated to waste, air and marine pollution. Rather than coping with these problems separately, developing a recycling society can contribute to a sustainable society and growth. In the spirit of *mottainai* (a Japanese term conveying a sense of regret concerning waste), this session will explore ideas on how to build an international recycling system of resources and promote a transition to a society with low contamination and pollution by encouraging reduction and the appropriate treatment of waste.

- Naomi Tokashiki, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, State Minister of the Environment (2017-2018), State Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare (2015-2016)
- Paola Taverna, Vice President of the Senate of Italy
- Verónica Delgadillo García, Member of the Senate of Mexico, WPL Ambassador

Moderated by: Kana Nishizawa, Tokyo Bureau Chief, Bloomberg

10:55-11:25 COFFEE BREAK

11:25-11:45 **G20 & WOMENOMICS – SETTING THE SCENE**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

- Nadia Calviño, Minister of Economy and Business of Spain
- Rebeca Grynspan, Ibero-American Secretary-General, Under Secretary General of the United Nations (2010-2014), Vice-President of Costa Rica (1994-1998)

Moderated by: Rick Zednik, Managing Director at WPL

11:45-12:55 **PLENARY SESSION 2: G20 & WOMENOMICS – THE SMART CHOICE**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Women are less likely than men to join the labour market. Social stereotypes and preconceived expectations of the role of women affect their participation in the economy, the type of jobs they get, and their earnings. This represents an economic cost not only for women but for communities and countries. As Kristalina Georgieva, Interim President and CEO of the World Bank, said “the world is essentially leaving \$160 trillion on the table when we neglect inequality in earnings over the lifetime between men and women”. “Womenomics” is the term Japan adopted to refer to policies aimed at increasing women’s participation in the labour market. At last year’s G20 in Buenos Aires, the

Leaders' Declaration confirmed again that equality between women and men is crucial for fair and sustainable economic growth. This session will aim to promote the importance of women's success for economic growth as a premise for further advancement at this year's G20.

- Tomoko Abe, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan
 - Mody Al Khalaf, Member of Parliament of Saudi Arabia
 - Canan Kalsin, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, Chairperson of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity for Women and Men
 - Liudmila Bokova, First Chairperson of the Federation Council Committee for Constitutional Legislation and State Building of Russia
 - Haruno Yoshida, W20 Co-chair of W20 in Japan
 - Amy Weaver, President, Legal & Corporate Affairs, for Salesforce
- Moderated by: Sarah Birke, Tokyo Bureau Chief, The Economist

12:45-13:15 FAMILY PHOTO

Venue: In front of Central Entrance of the National Diet of Japan

12:45-14:00 LUNCH

Venue: Large Conference Hall

14:00-15:30 POLICY-FOCUS SESSIONS (PFS)

7 simultaneous sessions

PFS 2.1 – CAN SPORTS LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS?

Hosted by: The House of Representatives

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Sports are a critical tool for the fulfillment of various SDGs, such as SDG3, “Good health and well-being”, or SDG4, “Quality education.” Japan will host the 2019 Rugby World Cup and 2020 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games, and is making active efforts to achieve the SDGs concerning sports. How can sports contribute to the international community as a bridge between people and countries?

- Natsue Mori, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan
- Junko Mihara, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan, Chairperson, Committee on Health, Welfare and Labour of the House of Councillors (2016)
- Marisol Casado, President of the International Triathlon Union and Member of the International Olympic Committee
- Viktorija Čmilytė, Member of the Seimas (Parliament) of Lithuania
- Nancy Kemp-Arendt, Member of Parliament of Luxembourg

Moderated by: Alastair Gale, Japan Editor for The Wall Street Journal

PFS 2.2 – THE FEMALE POLITICAL CAREER: BUMPS, BARRIERS AND BRIDGES

Hosted by: The House of Representatives

Venue: International Conference Hall

Twice as many women now sit in national parliaments as did 20 years ago. Yet women are still outnumbered by men in those chambers by 3 to 1 on average around the world. What are the non-legal barriers – cultural, economic and other – that women still face in pursuing a career in politics?

- Yasuko Komiyama, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the House of Representatives (2012)
- Tomoko Tamura, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan
- Mariam Jack-Denton, Speaker of the National Assembly of Gambia
- Annita Demetriou, Member of Parliament of Cyprus

Moderated by: Giovana Manfrin, Harvard Kennedy School of Government Fellow, Women and Public Policy Program

PFS 2.3 – SOCIETY 5.0 BRINGING ABOUT A SOCIETY OF ABUNDANCE

Hosted by: The House of Representatives

Venue: Conference Room 1

Society developed in stages: hunting (1.0), agriculture (2.0), industrial (3.0) and information (4.0). Contemporary society will be further enriched by entering the new stage of Society 5.0. This will occur by fusing physical and cyber space at a high level, and balancing economic growth with solutions for the associated social issues (rising energy and food demands, aging society, intensifying international competition, inequality) by using big data and sophisticated analysis with Artificial Intelligence (AI). This session will focus on concrete examples of and issues with Society 5.0.

- Wakako Yata, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan
- Akiko Yamanaka, Senior Diplomatic Fellow, Central Asia Forum, Cambridge University; President of International Tsunami Disaster Prevention Society; Member of the House of Representatives of Japan (1996-2000, 2005-2009)
- Karen Sessions, Vice President, Congressional and Public Affairs, at the Millennium Challenge Corporation of the United States of America
- Maris Lauri, Member of Parliament of Estonia

Moderated by: Atsushi Sunami, Executive Advisor to the President of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)

PFS 2.4 – MEASURING THE G20'S PROGRESS ON W20 RECOMMENDATIONS

Hosted by: W20

Venue: Conference Room 2

“Governance” has been one of the key focus areas of W20 in 2019. In addition to monitoring the progress of the 2014 Brisbane commitment to reduce the gender gap in labour force participation by 25 percent by 2025, establishing effective and transparent governance and accountability mechanisms for gender equality should be the urgent agenda for G20 leaders and is one of the W20 recommendations to G20 leaders. Dr. Mari Miura, committee member of W20 Japan Steering Committee, will facilitate the discussion how each country, supported by international organizations, can develop gender segregated data to be monitored, and which KPIs should be developed and monitored. Guest speakers will provide some best practices of national action plans to nurture the discussion by policy makers from various countries.

- Mari Miura, Professor of Political Science at Sophia University, W20 Japan Committee Member
- Helen Clark, Prime Minister of New Zealand (1999-2008), UNDP Administrator (2009-2017), Patron of The Helen Clark Foundation, WPL Board Member
- Yoriko Meguro, Professor Emeritus, Sophia University / Co-Chair of W20 Japan Steering Committee
- Asako Osaki, Visiting Professor, Kansei Gakuin University / Director, Gender Action Platform (GAP) / Member of W20 Japan Steering Committee
- Kouji Tabira, Director, Gender Policy Bureau, Cabinet Office of the Japanese Government

PFS 2.5 –DATA BEYOND BORDERS

Hosted by: Salesforce

Venue: Conference Room 4

Global data flows contribute to a rise in GDP in the global economy. McKinsey estimates that global data flows account for 3 percent of global GDP output, or USD2.3 trillion. The Brookings Institution estimates that unobstructed digital trade raises the GDP by 3.4 to 4.8 percent, contributing to the creation of 2.4 million new jobs. Despite this some governments use privacy or security disguised as market barriers or protectionist policies, to impede cross border data flows. At the 2019 World Economic Forum at Davos, Japan’s Prime Minister Shinzo Abe proposed the creation of a framework for cross-border data sharing, based on freedom and trust, to achieve sustained development in the global economy. This session will deep dive into this issue and explore how countries could commit to cross border data flows responsibly and securely. The session will also reveal a new report ranking G20 economies in their openness towards cross border data flows, and provides recommendations to strengthen its mechanisms.

- Amy Weaver, President, Legal & Corporate Affairs, for Salesforce
- Silvia-Monica Dinică, Senator, Secretary of the Standing Bureau of the Senate of Romania

- Dwie Aroem Hadiatie, Member of the House of Representatives of Indonesia
- Beatriz Paredes Rangel, Member of the Senate of Mexico

PFS 2.6 – PREGNANCY, PARENTING & OLD AGE: PROPER CARE AT EACH STAGE OF LIFE

Hosted by: UCB Japan

Venue: Conference Room 5

Women’s perspectives should be implemented more into healthcare policies. Two major topics that will be discussed at this session are:

1. The current status of medical care in Japan for pregnant and child-bearing generations.
2. How do we strengthen the ability to lead healthy, active lives in the later stages of a woman’s life.

- Naomi Tokashiki, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, State Minister of the Environment (2017-2018), State Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare (2015-2016)
- Kanako Kikuchi, President, UCB Japan
- Hidenori Arai, President, National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology, Japan
- Atsuko Murashima, Head of the National Center for Child Health and Development, Head of the Department of Maternal Medicine, Japan Drug Information Institute in Pregnancy

Moderated by: Ichiro Umeda, Chairman, General Incorporated Association Institute for New Era Strategy (INES)

PFS 2.7 – SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING: CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITIES (2nd SESSION)

Hosted by Facebook

Venue: Conference Room 6

This social media training session is catered for those who are just getting started or already regularly updating a social media page. The session includes the sharing of best practices on connecting with communities and will focus on the types of content that work well on social media as well as how to use to leverage tools like livestreaming to set your page up for success. It will also bring you through on how to think about measuring results on your page and address important issues of online safety as you conduct these engagements.

- Rebecca Oh, Politics & Government Outreach Associate Manager, Facebook
- Roy Tan, Politics & Government Outreach Manager, Asia-Pacific, Facebook

15:30-15:45 **NEXT GENERATION LEADERS, CALL TO ACTION**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

The #Girl2Leader initiative launched by Women Political Leaders (WPL) aims to socially empower girls around the world. The case for more women in positions of politics and leadership needs to be more loudly heard. Today's political leaders are almost all men: 94.4% of Heads of State and 92.7% of Heads of Government! It's time for change. It's time for girls and women to lead the world with brains and hearts. For change to happen, we need to connect today's leaders to the next generation of leaders. This session aims to bring #Girl2Leader Ambassadors together to share their experiences and inspiration of guiding the next generation of leaders and highlights the importance of the #Girl2Leader initiative.

- Nurhayati Ali Assegaf, Member of Parliament of Indonesia, WPL Board Member
- Zuraida Kamaruddin, Member of Parliament and Minister of Housing and Local Government of Malaysia, WPL Ambassador

Moderated by: Silvana Koch-Mehrin, President of WPL

15:45-16:05 **WALK THE TALK**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Two Prime Ministers, two global leaders, a woman and a man who walk the talk. From New Zealand to Portugal to the United Nations and the European Commission to the non-for profit to the corporate sectors, in every step, words turned into actions. This conversation will offer an opportunity to discuss two extraordinary journeys that pave the path to progress.

- José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission (2004-2014), Chairman of Goldman Sachs International, WPL Advisory Board Member
- Helen Clark, Prime Minister of New Zealand (1999-2008), UNDP Administrator (2009-2017), Patron of The Helen Clark Foundation, WPL Board Member

Moderated by: Silvana Koch-Mehrin, President of WPL

16:05-16:15 **CLOSING REMARKS & WPL SUMMIT 2019 DECLARATION**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Following two days of discussion and debate, WPL Summit 2019 participants express their consensus view of the big issues that they have addressed collectively. These women political leaders hereby share their joint declaration to the global community, including the leaders convening the next day for the start of the G20 Summit.

- Hanna Birna Kristjánsdóttir, Senior Advisor for UN Women, Chair of the WPL Board, Minister of Interior of Iceland (2013-2014), Mayor of Reykjavik (2008-2010)
- Shinako Tsuchiya, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, Leader of the Delegation for the WPL Summit 2019 in Japan, Chairperson of the Special Committee on Consumer Affairs of the House of Representatives

- Yoko Kamikawa, Member of the House of Representatives, Minister of Justice (2014-2015, 2017-2018) of Japan, WPL Ambassador

16:15-18:40 **STATEMENTS BY NATIONAL DELEGATION LEADERS**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Moderated by:

- Yuko Obuchi, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (2014)
- Seiko Noda, Chairperson of the Committee on Budget of HR, Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications (2017-2018), Minister in charge of Women's Empowerment (2017-2018)
- Shinako Tsuchiya, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, Chair of the Committee, Leader of the Delegation for the WPL Summit 2019 in Japan, Chairperson of the Special Committee on Consumer Affairs of the House of Representatives
- Midori Ishii, Chairperson of the Committee on Audit of House of Councillors
- Midori Matsushima, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, Minister of Justice (2014)

18:00-18:45 **PRESS CONFERENCE**

Venue: International Conference Hall

- Shinako Tsuchiya, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, Chair of the Committee / Leader of the Delegation for the WPL Summit 2019 in Japan, Chairperson of the Special Committee on Consumer Affairs of the House of Representatives
- Yoko Kamikawa, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, WPL Ambassador, Minister of Justice (2014-2015, 2017-2018)
- Silvana Koch-Mehrin, President of WPL

VI Summary of the Plenary Sessions

<Wednesday, 26 June>

1. OPENING SESSION

Tadamori Oshima, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan, gave the following opening address:

Dear participants in the WPL Summit 2019. Welcome to Japan. I am Tadamori Oshima, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan. We are honored to have your attendance.

The WPL Summit is an annual international conference held to enhance the networks of female politicians in the world, provide opportunities for them to send out messages, and increase their influence among others.

This 8th Summit is hosted by Japan. We are honored to be the host of the event especially because it will be the first time the Summit has been held in the Asia-Pacific region.

Since the inaugural event in Europe, the WPL Summit has expanded its activities to Africa, South America, the Middle East, and this time the Asia-Pacific region.

This clearly suggests that the significance of the Summit – female political leaders are being provided with opportunities to discuss the world’s most important challenges, thereby stimulating meaningful discussions, and are expected to increase their influence in politics – has gone beyond regional boundaries and been universally accepted.

Now, let me present to you Ms. Shinako Tsuchiya, Leader of the Delegation for the WPL Summit 2019 in Japan, who has put in a tremendous effort as the Chair of the Committee for the WPL Summit 2019 in Japan.

During the period leading up to this Summit, all WPL officials, including President Silvana Koch-Mehrin, and the relevant parties in Japan with Ms. Tsuchiya as a key person, worked very hard. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to them.

At this Summit, we are going to have a two-day discussion on the main theme, “Taking Action to Advance Society Through the SDGs.”

The SDGs, or Sustainable Development Goals, were set to realize harmony between the environment and development and make an inclusive society a reality. In the meantime, I’m sure you have seen, in various media, Japanese traditions and culture in which gratitude towards nature and goods and compassion for others are considered key elements. Being held in Japan, a country where people have valued the coexistence of

nature and humans and a society where everyone helps each other, while enjoying the benefit of science and technology, this WPL Summit will provide an opportunity that offers precious inspiration to realize the vision set by the SDGs.

Opinions of women who offer abundant viewpoints as ordinary citizens are indispensable for achieving the SDGs. Female leaders getting together and exchanging opinions with a view to improving the quality of life and happiness of everyone are able to not only help expand expertise in the concrete actions needed for achieving the SDGs. It also leads to strengthening the voices of female politicians while contributing to promoting the development of society at a global level.

As the host of the Summit, we, the House of Representatives of Japan, are overjoyed to see so many have joined this Summit, as it indicates the importance of the conference's theme and high levels of participants' awareness.

Deepening discussions on the SDGs on this occasion has great political significance for Japan as well. The Japanese government recognizes that realizing a society where no one will be left behind is an important challenge which is to be met through cooperation among the central and local governments, corporations, NGOs, and others.

This year, Japan will host a number of international conferences, including the G20 Summit soon to be held in Osaka, and is expected to lead discussions in international society as a reliable leader of the SDGs.

In the meantime, Japan needs to promote various reforms while facing difficulties such as a population decline and an aging society stemming from its economic and social structure. We hope that discussions in this Summit will provide great ideas that might suggest the path Japan should take.

As well, I hope this Summit will give a jump start to women's empowerment in Japan's politics.

Currently, women hold only around 10% of the seats in the House of Representatives and 20% in the House of Councillors, and there is only one female Cabinet member. Lack of diversity in the political sphere has recently gained increasing attention in Japan too, and there is a move afoot to promote women's participation. For example, political parties have been obliged to make a sincere effort to field female candidates as a result of last year's nonpartisan legislation by House members. At the first nationwide local elections after the law's enactment, the percentage of women who secured seats in local assemblies increased.

However, we must admit that Japan lags behind other countries in women's participation in politics. I hope that the Summit will encourage women in Japan who serve or aspire to serve as lawmakers and be a big help in promoting gender equality in

the political sphere.

In Japan, a new emperor ascended the throne on the first day of last month and a new era, Reiwa, has begun.

The name Reiwa includes the meaning of “culture coming into being and flourishing when people bring their hearts and minds together in a beautiful manner.” This wish has much in common with the philosophy of the SDGs, which aim for a well-balanced society in the three aspects of economy, society and environment.

Apart from this new era name, Japan is rich in tradition and culture. I hope this Summit will provide good opportunities for participants to experience Japanese culture and enjoy interaction with each other.

I am going to close my speech by expressing my wish that the two-day meeting will be productive and that you will meet many new people, make lasting friendships with them and enjoy your stay in Japan.

Thank you.

Silvana Koch-Mehrin, President of Women Political Leaders (WPL), gave an opening address, which is summarized as follows:

We need to take action together. The UN set a target date of 2030 for the SDGs. To achieve them by then, new policies and new actions must be adopted. Women are recognized as having key perspectives, being helpful and contributing to all 17 SDGs. WPL welcomes invited participants from around 80 countries. The WPL Summit 2019 is extremely significant in terms of its timing in light of the SDGs’ target date. While the UN will evaluate achievements in the SDGs in 2030, we should go ahead and discuss the current status in relation to the SDGs at this Summit. Reiwa means harmony and expresses the way women understand and respect others’ opinions. WPL is set to submit an outcome document to the Osaka G20 Summit. The world needs more female political leaders, and future G20 Summit group photos need more women in them. I want to thank the Ministers, organizers, and MP Yoko Kamikawa. I hope to see productive and influential discussions during this two-day event.

Yoko Kamikawa, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, WPL Ambassador, Minister of Justice (2014-2015, 2017-2018), gave an opening address as follows:

Good morning, everyone. I am overwhelmed with emotion as I see members of parliaments from many countries have filled this place this morning following last

nights' welcome reception. Considering the short preparation period, I worried that there wouldn't be many people joining us all the way from their home countries. Thank you for coming and making it possible to start this two-day meeting on a beautiful day like this.

I think the WPL Summit 2019 is significant for two reasons. First, as presented by Mr. Oshima, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan, this will be the first time the event has been held in Asia, the world's fastest-growing region. In Asia, marked development is seen in not only the economy but also women's empowerment. Second, this Summit is taking place just before the G20 Summit chaired by Japan, as mentioned by President Silvana Koch-Mehrin. We can approach governments of various nations and seek joint action with them by presenting the outcome of the WPL Summit to the G20 leaders. I hereby officially announce that together with Ms. Tsuchiya, Leader of the Delegation, and President Silvana Koch-Mehrin, I will present Prime Minister Abe with the Outcome Declaration which is set to be agreed on by all the participants here, at the G20 official special "Women's Empowerment" event tomorrow.

The main theme of this Summit is "Taking Action to Advance Society Through the SDGs." While the SDGs call for achieving gender equality in Goal 5, we will not stop there but also cover economic/social challenges to achieve the SDGs as subtopics, including a recycling-based society, which contributes to sustainable development, and health, which is a foundation for women's participation. We, as women, are expected to promote the 17 goals on our own; in other words, we need to become powerful players in achieving the SDGs. Even today, there are more than 60 million children in the world who cannot go to elementary school. As well, women are said to account for two-thirds of those who cannot read.

I would like to reiterate the importance of securing educational opportunities for women in order to realize a society in which no woman will be left behind, and to further realize a diverse and inclusive society in which no one will be left behind. Our goal is twofold: To ensure that female leaders attending the Summit seize opportunities to make the next leap forward by inspiring each other through actively exchanging opinions and sharing best practices, and to send out a strong message for the development of a global society.

Let me take this opportunity to brief you on the current state of Japan. In Japan, women's suffrage was realized in 1945, ushering in women's participation in politics. In 1985, the Equal Employment Opportunity Law, which banned workplace discrimination based on gender and called for equal treatment of men and women, was enacted, laying the groundwork for promoting women's participation in the economic field. However,

the female employment rate remained low and there were actually not enough opportunities for women to display their abilities. Why did women's participation fail to make progress as expected despite the enactment of the relevant laws? I think it is because society's overall awareness remained unchanged, as evidenced by deeply-entrenched gender bias concerning the roles of men and women and an enduring custom of long working hours.

In recent years, however, Japanese society has been transforming itself very rapidly to encourage participation by women. Labor system reform is underway, aiming to put an end to the custom of long working hours and to allow diverse workstyles so that people can work the way that suits their individual lifestyles. As the Act on Promotion of Gender Equality in the Political Field, which aims to equalize the numbers of male and female candidates for public offices, was enacted last year, the trend of women's participation is accelerating in society as a whole.

In the meantime, with a view to achieving the SDGs, there are some practices in Japan we want to share with you by all means, including measures for women's health such as using mother-and-child health handbooks that have helped to realize maternal and child health at a high level, and efforts to address various social challenges through technological innovation.

Under such circumstances, we, the female politicians of Japan, have come to this conference highly motivated to accelerate women's empowerment and promote the SDGs globally. With your cooperation, we would like to send out strong messages through this conference and follow up with action.

Especially considering the significance of this Summit taking place for the first time in Asia, we believe that this Summit will not just send out messages inside the region but also trigger powerful network building by female world leaders and provide a solid foundation for future action. We look forward to continuing working with you all.

Thank you.

2. KEYNOTE: TAKING ACTIONS TO ADVANCE SOCIETY THROUGH SDGs

Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan (video)

Good afternoon to the women political leaders attending from various countries around the world. I am Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

I am delighted that you have come to Japan. I welcome your visit here wholeheartedly and applaud you for holding WPL Summit 2019. I understand that you here today are demonstrating strong leadership and also making great efforts day in and day out in politics and a wide range of other fields.

I hope that today you deepen your bonds of solidarity with fellow women political leaders as you talk extensively about the experiences and ideas you have gained in the course of your activities and engage in lively discussions.

What is important is action. “Without a society in which women shine or without the empowerment of women, there can be no revival of the Japanese economy.” I placed the active engagement of women at the very heart of Abenomics when I became prime minister seven years ago.

I have carried out the first reforms to Japan’s work system in 70 years by reforming the system for taking childcare leave to strongly encourage men’s participation in child-rearing, preparing childcare arrangements, breaking off the custom of working long hours, and making possible various ways of working that are compatible with people’s lifestyles. Over the last six years, Japan’s economy has grown by more than 10%. That power arose from the 2.8 million women who newly entered the workforce. The percentage of women in the workforce within the working generation has risen by 8.9% over the past six years. This is the highest rate of increase among the G20 nations. The percentage of women in Japan’s workforce now surpasses that of the US for all age groups over age 25, and the landscape of Japan has changed dramatically. With a definitive vision and concrete actions, society can indeed change, and I consider this proof of it. This is to say nothing of the fact that if each of you, the women political leaders here today, takes action, it will be possible to change the world more and more. I believe this strongly. Let us together take action towards societal development by achieving the SDGs. The key to sustainable economic growth is education. In the three years leading up to 2020, Japan will provide opportunities for high-quality education and human resources development for a minimum of four million women in total in developing countries.

At the G20 Summit that starts the day after tomorrow, Japan, having the presidency of the summit, will raise this issue. I intend to confirm with the other leads our determination as the G20 to aim at a world in which all girls are able to access a minimum of 12 years of high-quality education. In order to realize “25 by 25” vision, which aims to reduce the gender employment gap by 25% by 2025, I will demonstrate leadership through the creation of a framework for following up on how far along each country has come in implementing its commitment.

In 2025, the Osaka Kansai Expo will also be held. I sincerely look forward to all of you coming to this expo. At that time I also want to celebrate together with you our achievement of “25 by 25”. I extend my best wishes for today’s conference to become a powerful engine that helps propel your future actions.

As I end my remarks, I also wish to express my sincere respect to Ms. Shinako Tsuchiya, Leader of the Delegation for the WPL Summit 2019 in Japan; Ms. Silvana Koch-Mehrin, WPL President; Ms. Yoko Kamikawa, Japan's WPL Ambassador; and everyone else who worked so hard to convene today's meeting. Please accept my very best wishes as you hold today's summit.

3. PLENARY SESSION 1: WOMEN AND THE ROLE OF ASIA IN THE WORLD

Satsuki Katayama, Minister in Charge of Women's Empowerment, Minister of State for Gender Equality in Japan, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Since the inauguration of Prime Minister Abe in 2012, the Japanese government has placed women's empowerment at the core of the country's economic growth strategy and pushed forward a wide range of strong efforts that are extremely comprehensive. These include development of nurseries, workstyle reforms, and a change of men's mindset, while the Act on Promotion of Women's Participation and Advancement in the Workplace is now law. As a result, the term "*Josei Katsuyaku*" (Japanese equivalent of women's empowerment) has become a household expression in Japan as well since 2013.

Over the past six years, the number of female workers has grown by 2.88 million, the employment rate of women in the child-rearing generation has increased to 76.5%, and the number of female directors has nearly tripled. The so-called M-shaped curve of the female employment rate has flattened and their rate exceeds the American counterpart across all age groups. One of the characteristics of Japan that has remained true up until recent years is around 60% of Japanese women leaving the labor force before or after having their first baby. Today, more than half of women keep working before or after a childbirth.

Japan will stop at nothing to advance gender equality and women's empowerment. The Japanese government has adopted a "Key policy for accelerating women's empowerment 2019." It states the government's determination to go all out to pursue two main pillars: supporting recurrent education to secure diverse options for women in the age of 100-year lifespans, and ensuring safe and secure living by eradicating diverse problems women are facing such as violence and harassment against them.

While promoting women's empowerment in Asia is hugely significant, we must admit that Asian countries, with a few exceptions, are lagging behind the Western countries in gender equality. We need to join forces and advance female empowerment aggressively especially in Asia, where significant growth is expected. This is

corroborated by some international reports that have pointed out a pressing need to empower women in Asia. We must note, however, that Asia has cultures and customs unique to each country, therefore examining whether the same measures the Western countries have taken hold are applicable as is.

WPL leaders who are here today must share the questions why women's empowerment is not advancing in Asia and what should be done to promote it, and own them as their problems. It is indispensable to sustainably develop the world economy, and I hope discussions at this conference will deepen and contribute to the Outcome Declaration.

Masoumeh Ebtekar, Vice President for Women and Family Affairs of Iran, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

As Asian power grows, the role of women is increasing in importance. Iran has seen a dramatic improvement in women's education and lifespan, and women are actively participating in academic circles too. A 30% quota system has been introduced to Iran's high-ranking government official positions.

Peace and security are the foundations for sustainable development, and the lives of women are affected by unsustainable development, dangerous conflicts, terrorism and wars. The current sanctions are preventing the advancement and inclusion of women in Iran. Our values, derived from Islam and the Iranian Revolution, integrate with politics. These values thoroughly consider the promotion of the dignified advancement of women in a society.

I needed to balance my life as a mother and a politician, but I knew supporting a family would contribute to educating the next generation.

Zuraida Kamaruddin, Member of Parliament and Minister of Housing and Local Government of Malaysia, WPL Ambassador, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

This is the fourth time I have attended WPL. In Malaysia, we are doing pretty well in terms of women's health and education but as for politics, women account for less than 10% of the representatives. Today, the 14 of us, including MPs, joined this conference from Malaysia and we look forward to participating in future events as well.

While female representatives are indispensable in local governments, we would not be able to achieve a 30% target without affirmative action. As well, the housing issue requires women's participation but we are short of female architects.

In Malaysia, Muslim women have made progress. The whole Asia will improve through the inclusion of women. Once women assume political positions and take action with confidence, they can develop policies. In addition, to bring change, women need to support young leaders.

Ayesha Raza Farooq, Member of the Senate of Pakistan, Chairperson of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

I was born in Pakistan and lucked out many times in my life. I was able to receive an education and was blessed with a family and in-laws who encourage female public figures. Still, the government adopts a patriarchal system where a man, either the head of a family or a clan, holds primary power, and considers the roles of women to be reproduction and housework among others. However, affirmative action has brought a change to women in leadership positions. My family and friends support me being in the world of politics. It is my family that is fostering change.

Mereseini Wakolo Rakuita Vuniwaqa, Member of Parliament, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation of Fiji, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

In Fiji, women have 19.6% of the Parliamentary seats, whereas there is no woman legislator in three of the other Pacific countries. Women holding public offices are facing a huge challenge.

There are some important challenges concerning the SDGs. Efforts to meet all the goals and indices of the SDGs are required to facilitate women's access to official posts. The world would be in a pathetic state if we were to still strive for gender equality in political representatives at the 2030 WPL Summit. I gained my political power by nothing else but encouraging other political leaders. Now, it is our responsibility as leaders to guide the next generation.

4. PLENARY SESSION 2: ADVANCING SOCIETY WITH WOMEN AS POLITICAL LEADERS

Fumiko Hayashi, Mayor of the City of Yokohama, Japan, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Compared to many other countries in the world, Japan has very few female politicians. As of today, Minister Katayama is the only female minister and women account for 10% of the House of Representatives and just 2% of local government

heads. Nonetheless, we, female politicians, can bring unique ideas and measures to improve our society by drawing on our findings from the ordinary citizen's perspective and compassion for the weak.

I started working for a company at the age of 18, served as president at a number of companies, and eventually became a mayor. When I was employed by the first company, a very popular company indeed, my role was just supporting male coworkers because the company had a clear line dividing the jobs of men and women. I grew up in a single-mother family and started working right after graduating high school in my ardent desire to help my mother, but I didn't get a responsible job at all. So I changed jobs a number of times and found a job selling cars. But that company was also an overwhelmingly male-dominated organization, where only technical knowledge on vehicles was valued. However, I accumulated achievements by adding a human touch to hardware sales from a woman's perspective, proposing suitable products to customers' lifestyles, and became the number-one sales representative, eventually holding the top job in the company. I tried to help realize customers' dreams by telling them what life would await them with new cars.

Through this experience, I was convinced that by having women in a male-dominated organization and letting both men and women make the most of their strengths, namely, men's breakthrough power and women's magnanimity, the organization will be revitalized, improving performance. I believe men and women will be able to work together and produce good results by women being considerate of others' feelings and further taking advantage of their abilities to draw out others' thoughts. Shouldn't politicians engage in discussions with a view to cooperating for realizing policies not just opposing each other? Serving for a municipality, I see people's everyday living with my own eyes. That way, I can clearly see what is really important in people's lives. If you govern far away from the people, you will lose sight of them. We need to make sure that women who have an ordinary citizens' perspective are more involved in politics.

Jewel Howard Taylor, Vice President of Liberia, WPL Board Member, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

The inauguration of the first female President will open new doors for other people too. We have discussed the issue of why women are facing discrimination but now we need to focus on how we could bring about change. Women must strive much harder than men to succeed in this world. The Abe administration is working on women's issues in Japan. To make a true change, we need to approach men in authority. The G20 will be a good opportunity for us to inform the world's leaders about our hardship. To

achieve the agenda of women, we need to make sure that women who won an election or were elected through a quota system are supported. We need to take action. Many women have been elected as leaders so far. This is not an issue that should be left up to men to address but an issue of how we, women, could change the world by ourselves.

Anna Rossomando, Deputy Speaker of the Italian Senate, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

I started my career as a lawyer but always had an interest in politics as a way to contribute to society and roles in it. Female criminal lawyers, while still few in number, are becoming more common these days. Maternity leave must be allowed for lawyers, too.

The Istanbul Convention should be ratified for gender equality. The law should protect disadvantaged members of society such as women. Power is only a means to an end, but women are often excluded from exercising power.

We need to talk with each other in simple terms. If we, women, want to change the world, we need to exist in a world we want to change. Ruling parties can make change immediately through legislation. We can witness change achieved through quota systems, which could lead to gender equality.

More women should take up executive positions. However, quota systems are not the only way. We need to make sure a higher priority will be placed on women by emphasizing that women are valuable and capable.

Women are calling for national and local governments to improve budgetary allocation functions. Therefore, what is important is to encourage women to participate in politics as a way to support communities. This can be done through networking at events like this Summit.

Paula Cox, Premier of Bermuda (2010-2012), gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Women need to maintain their passion. Former President of Ireland Mary Robinson says countries that are not inclusive for women are not humane rather than just not feministic. Depriving women of the right to vote makes no economic sense.

I have a career in the Ministry of Finance, where I learned that finance was an extremely important field for enabling empowerment. We need to make sure that women's interests receive fair treatment. At the Ministry of Finance I prioritized policies, which is what I'm most proud of.

We have supported a family-friendly environment. Young women have been barred or excluded from workplaces. Through the improvement of childcare, women's quality of life has also improved. Housing secured for a long term has made people feel secure, given them many rights, and been respected, although that is not a common ground of voters. The government should make the most of economic empowerment and entrepreneurship for people and the empowerment of their lives. In the Islands of Bermuda, people's voices are valued, which has led to restrained tax revenue from housing and premises.

María Loreto Carvajal Ambiado, Deputy Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Six MPs from Chile are here today. We are in sympathy with Prime Minister Abe's determination to promote fair treatment of women. We need to take action. MPs should not represent their countries but the whole world. Female legislators should attend events like this to promote gender equality.

The President of Chile is a pioneering advocate of gender equality and has appointed women to public posts. As well, through a quota system, Chile has promoted women's participation in assemblies. Women and the quality of their actions are advancing as well. Laws to protect women's safety have been established in Chile. Now we are playing an active role in legislation. We need to cooperate with each other for equality and fight violence against women. Assemblies mean a lot to women when creating change. Women need to increase their participation in assemblies, but cultural barriers remain. Equality requires proper understanding of rights and protection of women against violence. In this sense, their economic independence is as essential as reducing wage differentials and improving political representatives.

Hanna Birna Kristjánsdóttir, Senior Advisor at UN Women, Chair of the WPL Board, Minister of Interior of Iceland (2013-2014), gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

It is great that women gather at a Summit like this. We should go beyond questioning "why" in our agenda. We should move forward and start asking "how."

Women are absolutely necessary in government. This need could be met only by legislators working together across party lines in parliaments. Women need to have their networks as men have their own. We need to not just change but improve the world. The question of "how" comes down to numbers. We need to increase the number of female

legislators. Change cannot be called change if it is intangible. Quota systems may not be the best measure but still produce some results. Without such efforts, gender equality is expected to take more than 270 years to achieve.

5. PLENARY SESSION 3: ADVANCING THE WORLD WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Yoko Kamikawa, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, WPL Ambassador, Minister of Justice (2014-2015, 2017-2018), gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

The SDGs were set to realize a sustainable society where a good balance is maintained among achieving economic growth, resolving social issues, and conserving the environment among others, and call for cooperative action for resolution while having the idea of realizing a society where no one will be left behind shared as a common language.

I think two elements are key to this end. First, instead of the conventional framework of the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) based on a dichotomy between developing countries and developed nations, we need a platform where all countries on the globe—both developing and developed countries—unite and work together.

The second key element is coordination between multiple stakeholders. It is extremely important for companies, individual citizens, local governments, and investors to fulfill their respective responsibilities and address social challenges, instead of relying solely on the implementation of policies between governments.

Women play various roles and have the power of diversity because we are parents who bear and rear children, consumers who buy all sorts of things in our daily lives, and ordinary citizens who live their lives at home, or maybe even politicians or MPs who speak on this stage.

Therefore, I recognize that women are expected to play a huge role in resolving problems going forward, and make a difference in terms of quality as well. To enhance the power of us, women who have diverse roles, we cannot help revisiting the importance of education.

Let me brief you on the history of Japanese education. In the 17th century, Japan was in the Edo period, when private organizations called Terakoya were formed. Terakoya were schools in local communities to teach reading and writing and the use of an abacus. The modern equivalent would be today's basic subjects such as Japanese and arithmetic. They were a familiar part of commoners' existence. Back then, the class system was firmly established in society, but at Terakoya, farmers, merchants, and artisans received

education despite the difference in their social status.

In the 19th century, Japan went through the Meiji Restoration and began working towards a modern nation. As part of the efforts, the government positioned education as the most important pillar in its nation-building strategy, focused on the roles of schools, compulsory education in particular, and put a lot of effort into developing the human resources who would make a difference in society.

Today, I am looking forward to discussing with you efforts in compulsory education and the vital field of lifelong education, including recurrent education for women after maternity leave. I hope we can work together to find ways to meet each country's needs concerning the importance of education.

Mabel Memory Chinomona, President of the Parliament of Zimbabwe, Chairperson of the Women's Committee of the African Parliamentary Union (APU), WPL Ambassador, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

In the Third World, starvation and poverty have become salient issues due to a lack of financial resources. With regard to funds and projects, the Zimbabwean government has prioritized ten of the SDGs. This is because the government understands that the other seven goals should follow the ten key targets. Illegal sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe are an obstacle to achieving the 2030 agenda. I have witnessed wars, revolutions, and political inequality among others. The Zimbabwean government has made great progress toward achieve the agenda by empowering women. We have established a quota system to elect six female representatives from each region, resulting in the election of 60 female legislators. There are six female cabinet ministers, and policies on gender equality have been adopted. The chair of the Womens Caucus is an advocate of positive thinking. There are many women electors who vote for male candidates at present, but to properly promote female participation, we need to change our mindsets. Achieving the SDGs requires the parliament's involvement. To re-elect ourselves as MPs, we must educate ourselves through WPL Summits and the like, and encourage younger generations to get involved. We need to set an example by demonstrating that women can achieve social success.

Åsa Lindestam, Deputy Speaker of the Swedish Parliament, WPL Ambassador, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

In Sweden, women account for 47% of the parliament and we also have a feminist government. Ministers are supposed to work on issues from the feminist perspective.

The way of developing a budget also respects equal rights of men and women. Every year our legislature enacts 1,000 laws, which need to go through a number of committees. By controlling the budget, the Minister for Finance has the power to make decisions in the government. The current Minister for Finance is a woman. Because much of our feminist budget has been allocated to male sports, the Minister has reallocated the budget to create a good balance between male and female sports. As a result, female sports have improved. The budget reallocation, however, required detailed and individual analyses of approaches concerning the budget from a gender perspective. Free education and childcare, and childcare leave for men and women are indispensable.

Elizabeth Cabezas Guerrero, Speaker of the National Assembly of Ecuador, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Our country has made some key efforts concerning the SDGs. Our sustainable urban development and other issues are being taken care of by the national assembly through proper procedures on an ongoing basis. We have established laws for safe and sustainable environment, education, and elimination of discrimination. Equal educational opportunities should be free and compulsory.

Ecuador needs to improve education for young people to develop the talent who will lead international efforts to deal with issues such as energy efficiency. The efficient use of energy, sustainable transportation and sustainable energy require a long-term outlook. A number of committees have already started working on this topic. Realizing sustainable development is indispensable to three noteworthy regions of Ecuador, especially the resource-rich areas.

In Ecuador, the eradication of inequality, including inequality of participation in the national assembly, is underway. We need to continue making progress with respect to women who are in public office in Ecuador.

Regarding the allocation of funds to realize policy, there are various issues. Our legislature protects women against violence, but legislation alone is not enough. We need to continue our efforts and follow up on the progress. Implementing laws requires an input of resources and funds. Laws concerning gender equality are facing a shortage of funds, and the issue of gender equality will be subject to evaluation for many years to come. Since half of the world's population comprises women, we are obliged to take action to achieve equality throughout the world. To improve people's lives, we must respect each other's views, share them with others, and listen to people about what they want.

Nurhayati Ali Assegaf, Member of the Indonesia House of Representative, WPL Board Member, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

The SDGs have shed light on many challenges and opportunities, but the poor recognition level of the SDGs is still a problem. Unlike the top-down-style MDGs (Millennium Development Goals), the SDGs assume a bottom-up approach. The Indonesian government has launched a taskforce to familiarize people with the SDGs. We allocate 20% of our budget to education, and MPs need to play an active role in achieving the SDGs. Education will lead to sustainable energy and social inclusion. While Indonesia has experienced both terrorism and climate change, the country's high susceptibility to natural disasters suggests climate change is the most critical issue in Indonesia. The poor, in particular, are exposed to its risks. Funds are crucial to the achievement of the SDGs. In Indonesia, funds are provided through an Islamic fund called "Zakat" that finances sustainable power plants. This initiative enables Indonesia to work on issues from different perspectives.

Andre Musto, Regional Vice President - Asia Pacific at Merck Biopharma, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Many women in the world are facing obstacles in the fields of education and health. Implementing healthcare policies that affect women in particular, and investing in stocks of companies that have adopted approaches conscious of gender equality, will produce better results for both men and women compared to the current state. Earnings in the private sector have also improved thanks to programs with a good gender balance. Promotion of gender equality will improve business results, health, and the country's GDP. Non-communicable disease (NCDs) such as thyroid diseases, circulatory diseases and cancer are creating health risks for women. Cancer deaths of women are expected to rise until 2020. Resources for natural economy and medical nursing care are absolutely necessary, especially in Japan. Working women are facing the problem of having babies at an older age. Healthy women will lead to healthy economy, so improving women's health will contribute to their and their families' welfare in communities. Leadership with a good gender balance is extremely important. While women receive an excess of advice, they do not receive sufficient financial assistance. Companies must conduct unconscious-bias training while promoting childcare leave.

<Thursday, 27 June>

1. VIDEO MESSAGES

A video message was received from Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, President of Croatia. The following is a summary of it:

I serve as the chair of an organization called the Council of Women World Leaders (CWWL). CWWL consists of 75 members who have held important posts in governments, including current and former Presidents and Prime Ministers, and has worked together with WPL for the past three years. I place prime importance on gender equality and women's empowerment, and promote the protection of women's rights. Human rights, young people, the environment, climate change, poverty and inequality among others are all important issues to human beings and the world. To address these global issues, the SDGs have been established. Efforts to achieve gender equality are an important part of the endeavor to universalize the dignity of people, and other SDGs would be likely unattainable without gender equality. Without women, sustainable peace could not be realized and global development would be hindered, too. Therefore, it is of primary importance that women secure completely equal opportunities. Peace and development will further advance by women having a voice and participating in decision making. As well, good democracy and governance cannot be achieved without women's political participation. Meetings like this event are truly important. Listening to women about various issues will lead to and promote true change. We need to explore a range of possibilities, learn from best practices, past experiences, and discussions, and encourage change. There must be more we can do, and we need to make further efforts to create a better future for women, men and the whole world.

A video message was received from Dalia Grybauskaitė, President of Lithuania. The following is a summary of it:

This WPL Summit is a wonderful opportunity for female leaders to bond female leaders. All of you who are there today are trying to change the world with courage and ambition. The SDGs are our guiding principles. Change should happen if hundreds of female leaders seek it. I believe that this Summit will inspire everybody and lead to empowerment. It will lead to action, too. That will support communities, countries, and continents. I wish you success.

A video message was received from Hilda Heine, President of the Marshall Islands. The following is a summary of it:

This is the first WPL Summit held in the East Asia/Pacific region, and I give my wholehearted support to the mission of the WPL. The WPL's mission is to increase the number and influence of women in political leadership positions. I express my admiration for many female leaders. You are working hard with endless enthusiasm. We are leaders representing excluded members of society, so should continue advancing our efforts. To promote the empowerment of women and girls, I convened the first Pacific Women Leader's Coalition (PWLC) Conference in March. At that conference, we examined various options. It is imperative to open more possibilities for women, elect many female leaders and ensure their voices are heard at supreme decision-making bodies. There is no gender restriction in leadership; it is all up to us. It is our job to persuade women of the future generation. I am convinced that this Summit will be a success. I hope your action and dialogue will be connected to each other and contribute to the SDGs. May this Summit serve as a preface to more women becoming community leaders.

A video message was received from Pedro Sánchez, Prime Minister of Spain. The following is a summary of it:

Gender equality is justice in the world and could be a powerful driving force for economic development and inclusive and sustainable growth. We must eliminate the gender gap and obstacles that prevent women from making the most of their ability in the political world. It is also one of the priority policies of the Spanish government ahead of the G20 Summit in Osaka. We hope that the world's economic powers will take responsibility for gender equality policies. But first, I wish to express my support for you all, the world's female political leaders who are present at the WPL Summit in Tokyo, in your continuous efforts with an aim to create a sustainable and prosperous society by fulfilling your respective roles.

A video message was received from Carrie Lam, Chief Executive of Hong Kong. The following is a summary of it:

As Hong Kong's first female Chief Executive, I am in a position to help resolve global issues such as poverty, inequality and injustice. Many women aspire to become leaders. I would like you to encourage this movement. At this WPL Summit, female leaders have gathered from all over the world to build mutual connections, share information, and be inspired. I believe this Summit will have a huge impact, and I hope it will be a success.

A video message was received from Ángel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD. The following is a summary of it:

Female leaders are needed to promote sustainable development. Countries which have many female cabinet ministers or MPs, compared to ones that do not, have smaller disparities, greater trust in politicians, and higher budgets for healthcare. Despite this, the percentage of women cabinet ministers and MPs is still below 30% in OECD countries. Under these circumstances, I hope you keep working towards women's empowerment. Let's build on your past achievements, and make the most of what you will gain from the WPL Summit 2019.

2. Q&A: ADVANCING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Looking at the current state of the year 2019, a year before the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration (adopted in September 1995), the SDGs are viewed as a common platform for improving gender equality, and some progress has been made in each country and society.

However, there are still remaining issues: some countries have introduced legal systems that are free of discrimination but fail to execute them, and many countries still have discriminatory legal systems. Only six countries have developed discrimination-free legal systems. Although girls' school enrolment rates have improved, drop-out rates remain still extremely high. In particular, violence against women and a shortage of female leaders in political and economic circles are the largest issues women are facing. To facilitate change, we need to make the most of great abilities of female leaders and work together with the UN towards achieving our objectives. There are still many things we, women, should do.

As well, we need to “reverse” the reversal in gender equality and any rising gender gaps, and gender equality initiatives need more funding—gender equality programs receive funds equivalent to only 10% of national economies. Together with raising donations internationally, we need to approach financial authorities for funds to execute and spread the programs among civil society.

We do not have to be disappointed with the “reversal” in the gender gap and the remaining issues. Female legislators have come very close to putting an end to

discriminatory legal systems, but we need to accomplish an increase of women in cabinets and political parties. Laws that have been passed must be implemented and monitored. We must stand up to traditional norms and prejudices, which are more influential than laws, and never be satisfied with just having a woman taking the helm but also support other women working in political circles. This requires the mobilization of funds and resources. To this end, I ask you, female legislators, to take action.

3. A CONVERSATION: HEALTH AND WOMEN

Emiko Takagai, State Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Female legislators bear responsibility for creating public policies so that women in all age groups can make the most of their characters and abilities in places of their choice. While Japanese women have the world's longest lifespan, they have the shortest sleep in the world, too. This is because many of them do the housework by cutting sleep. In fact, the difference between Japanese women's healthspan and lifespan amounts to 13 years. Without them knowing, long periods of endurance and burdens in their everyday lives are ruining what would be healthy years of their senior lives.

It is urgently necessary to comprehensively promote women's health over each phase of their lives, and it is also important to develop a social foundation to review housework sharing.

I would like to make two suggestions here. The first is to develop legal systems through which society as a whole provides comprehensive support to women's health through scientific research. The second is to drive the agility of ministers in charge of women's policies by establishing a cross-cutting, ministry-integrated framework that enables policy planning for the first suggestion. Women's health does not just benefit women but is indispensable for maintaining various types of vitality in households and communities over the long term. We all need to work together to usher in a new era in which the world is full of smiling women.

Marcella Corcoran Kennedy, Member of the House of Representatives, Minister of State for Health Promotion (2016-2017), gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

As we need to ensure that elected women can put a higher priority on women's health and other goals concerning women, we have established in the Parliament a council for female political party leaders in which all parties participate. We had the council bring forward a motion calling for the government to put an end to the era of poverty. Today,

hygiene products are supplied to women at public facilities.

It was a big challenge to work on the abortion issue in Ireland (where a majority of people are Catholics). Our solution was having the issue discussed in community meetings and seeking advice from experts on the issue. We established a committee and generated and submitted a report to the government, which eventually led to a referendum. As a result, the provision of full services for women started.

More women taking leadership will contribute to health support for women. Ireland's health framework improves physical and mental health of all people. Under the National Strategy for Women and Girls, we have set action plans, listened to experts, and considered best practices from around the world.

With regard to a quota system, we will introduce it at the regional level following success in having more women elected at a national level.

Dorthe Mikkelsen, President Asia Pacific at MSD, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

To achieve gender equality, we need women to be healthy. We have been thinking about what private pharmaceutical companies and the like can do to that end. We, at MSD, have responded to the HIV crisis, prevented many pregnant women's deaths, made donations to support the needs of mothers, and worked to eliminate occupational fatalities.

We have looked at care quality and local private suppliers and made it possible to increase supply capability of not just the public sector, but the private sector as well. This is because half of women seek private medical care, and 3.5 million deaths are caused by care being inaccessible while 5 million die from poor care quality. This suggests that care quality is more important than access. MSD's program conducted in some states of India, where the mortality of expected and nursing mothers is high, supported the health of women before and after delivery through multiple institutions. The program demonstrated to other countries how important the level of care quality and the involvement of multiple stakeholders would be.

4. KEYNOTE: ADVANCING HEALTH FOR ALL

Tedros Adhanom, Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO), gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

The WHO fully supports the UN's Call to Action. The WPL Summit will be an event that is an opportunity to call for gender equality ahead of the Osaka G20 Summit. To

achieve our top-priority issue of universal health coverage, women need to benefit completely from health coverage and its costs should not be borne by households. Female leaders are in positions that are indispensable to removing obstacles against women receiving reproductive health-related services. Women may come down with non-infectious diseases caused by meals and lifestyles. While women are not just served by health workers but also provide them, taking care of their families, they settle for their low status and wages. They are under-represented in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields and the medical field. In health systems, science and technology, and governmental institutions, your leadership is the key. The commitment of people at the highest political levels is required to achieve universal health coverage and gender equality. A high-level meeting on universal health coverage to be held by the UN General Assembly in September will be an unprecedented opportunity to seek political commitment from leaders from around the world, and the commitment will require legislators' support. Last year, the WHO signed a memorandum with IPU for political support action. The WHO wishes to ask for three favors from you. First, support initiatives to make universal health coverage a priority issue in your country's government and parliament. Second, ask leaders who take action related to healthcare, especially those who hold influence over women, to get involved in cervical cancer campaigns. Third, urge your country's leaders to attend the universal health coverage meeting when they take part in the UN General Assembly.

5. PLENARY SESSION 1: ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE AND ESTABLISHING A RECYCLING SOCIETY

Naomi Tokashiki, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, State Minister of the Environment (2017-2018), State Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare (2015-2016), gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

I served as State Minister of the Environment for one year until last year, during which I attended a number of international conferences. Every time I joined such a conference, I saw that women were offered opportunities to get involved in environmental issues and were actively participating, which was encouraging. Environmental issues concern us all, so everyone in the world must work together to resolve them.

We, the people of Japan, have been in fact quite unique in the way we deal with the environment. In this small country, our ancestors had no choice but live together with nature. Under such circumstances, Japanese people created ways to get along with nature while cultivating the land. That must be the source of all the concepts we still

treasure, such as *Mottainai* (too good to be wasted) and *Omoiyari* (sympathy). However, as our economy grew and we became used to mass consumption, mass disposal and mass production, our ties with nature or a cycle involving us and nature were severed. Recently, marine plastic pollution is making headlines, which I believe is caused by the loss of such a cycle.

Maintaining a strong cycle in Japan—this is what I think is important in environmental issues today. As part of efforts to create such a cycle, we enacted relevant laws in 2000, according to which we worked hard for around 15 years and achieved around a 20% cut in waste. Today, we are planning to promote the idea of a recycling-based society to everyone's benefit by introducing our efforts in Japan to the world.

With regard to promoting a recycling culture, it is important to make people think it is better to create a strong one recycling-based society. Another important thing is creating a sustainable society by growing the recycling-based economy. Unfortunately, quite a few people in Japan still think working on environmental issues will pull down the economy, which is the crux of the problem. We Japanese must also grapple squarely with environmental issues. A recycling-based society essentially needs innovation, which is hard for the government to create alone without help from the private sector. So, we need to work on both the economy and the environment.

The coming G20 will also cover two major topics: one is an effort to connect the environment and the economy; other is the pressing issue of plastic pollution in the oceans. In June, the first G20 environment ministers' meeting was held in Karuizawa, where the similar topics were discussed. Recently, environmental issues have been addressed by setting common goals under an international framework. It is important for each country to independently decide how it wants to achieve the goals and to raise people's awareness to motivate them.

Paola Taverna, Deputy Speaker of the Italian Senate, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

The environment is an important issue for the Senate of Italy. Female politicians have the power and rights to change politics, and it is time to put an end to excessive consumption by changing our behavior and habits. As Italy is surrounded by sea, marine plastic pollution is considered a major environmental problem.

We must put into practice separation of garbage at home. Children may give you a hard time if you fail to separate garbage the right way. In Italy, sorted garbage collection has been included in a law. Recycling diapers is also an issue. As climate change is partly caused by garbage, we need to make huge investments in creating a recycling

system and renewable energy. This issue may drive the earth into ruin. Desertification is expanding, which creates refugees and could lead to immigration issues. To prevent this, we must establish recycling economy, which we are greatly responsible for.

We called for competent ministers to adopt a zero-plastic policy. Ministries and agencies need to promote recycling. Apart from plastic grocery bags, supermarkets use plastic for many products, so we will urge suppliers to use less packaging. These concrete actions, although they may look like a small step, will lead to change. As half of the world's population is women, we can approach governments as a powerful lobby group.

In Italy, we are forging ahead with recycling by establishing targets. We would like to eliminate waste and aim for a society without it. We are aiming to create a society where no garbage is generated.

Verónica Delgadillo García, Member of the Senate of Mexico, WPL Ambassador, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

We must correct the current state, namely, the depletion of natural resources, the destruction of nature, global warming, and a sea level rise that will impact all the life on Earth. All players ranging from local governments to entities operating across national boundaries need to be involved. It is also important to identify which countries are creating pollution. When working on the issues, a multi-stakeholder approach will enable cooperation and necessary communication. Recycling of water is extremely important as it leads to clean food, clothing, and well-being. A particular mentality is also important, which means children's education is also important. And children's education could contribute to adults' education, too.

With particular regard to plastic, a material created as a result of human development, only around 10% of it is recycled. Experts have issued an alarm about marine plastic pollution growing more serious at this rate. A recycling system starts at the household level, and using a system that separates materials at recycling boxes placed in stores is a simple yet important and globally applicable approach. Experts, scholars and legislators have held discussions, created laws for the Earth's future, and called for change. We must continue our activities to protect nature in order to create a society that is sustainable in every aspect.

Developing countries need support, which may bring us to a solution for the recycling issue. Japan and other countries have advanced recycling systems whereas developing countries need basic goods such as water and food. Despite the difference in the circumstances, all countries must face up to the climate change issue. We should

leave no country behind.

Hon Tsitsi Gezi, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Zimbabwe, the Republic of Zimbabwe, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

A cyclone has destroyed people's lives and infrastructure in Zimbabwe, and we have also experienced drought caused by global warming. We can contribute to action against climate change by reducing deforestation through paper recycling and cutting waste by developing new materials. However, Zimbabwe is struggling with a shortage of resources to take on such challenges. Female legislators are supporting a President who is committed to improving the situation. The effect of natural disasters on women is unreasonable, so we need to support the environment to save women. In the Third World, women should lead efforts to promote recycling so as to create jobs and improve employment opportunities for women. In Zimbabwe, we have banned the use of plastic shopping bags for environmental conservation. People also have to report waste. The determination of female leaders will lead us to celebrate a clean environment.

6. G20 & WOMENOMICS – SETTING THE SCENE

Nadia Calviño, Minister of Economy and Business of Spain, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Gender equality is a major priority for the Spanish government. In Spain, men and women have equal rights and believe that they should take childcare leave equally. We cannot afford to waste the talent of 50% of the population. Women need to be there when decisions are made in the parliament and the like, which will lead to better decisions in the government and private companies. Our target is “No disparity” in income or labor. While this is an ambitious challenge, we need to fight discrimination in terms of the labor force just as we are grappling with the issue of an aging society. As women have a low profile in the field of technology, the bias will worsen if we do not act. It would be best to repeal all the laws that discriminate against women.

Rebeca Grynspan, Ibero-American Secretary-General, Under Secretary General of the United Nations (2010-2014), Vice-President of Costa Rica (1994-1998), gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

While gender equality is one of the SDGs, none of the goals can be attained without gender equality. Discriminatory laws still exist, standing in the way of economic empowerment. Women's property rights are impaired as evidenced by unpaid work,

wage differences, etc. We conduct thorough investigations and research on each country to identify laws that should be repealed or revised. At the last community summit, the focus of discussion was on women, yet no female leader was present. Women's economic empowerment is the only way to address aging societies. We cannot wait 200 years to attain SDG 5. Why can't we accelerate the pace of change? We need to challenge the social norms in a more visible manner. The G20 Summit needs to adopt the agenda of equality and remove all obstacles preventing women's empowerment.

7. PLENARY SESSION 2: G20 & WOMENOMICS – THE SMART CHOICE

Tomoko Abe, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Womenomics, the idea that women's active participation in economic activities and an increase in the number of female workers will revitalize economy and increase consumption, has been advocated since 1999 in Japan. It is attracting attention again since the Abe administration included it in Japan's growth strategy.

Japan established and revised laws promoting women's participation, starting from the enactment of the Equal Employment Opportunity Act in 1986 through the Act on Promotion of Women's Participation and Advancement in the Workplace in 2015. However, Japan's standing in the Global Gender Gap Index is still low as of 2016. One of the reasons is that women tend to stop working before or after giving birth and return to work only as non-regular employees, failing to advance their careers.

In addition, as a result of Japanese employment practice, the lifetime employment system predominantly favors men, and companies still have few female managers and pay women lower wages than men. Coupled with this, while the number of non-regular employees has increased since the enactment of the Temporary Staffing Services Law in 1985, 60% of working women are non-regular employees.

Under such circumstances, what does Japan need to realize Womenomics in a true sense? First and foremost, we need to increase the ratio of women working in a professional capacity—a ratio that is currently far below that in other developed countries. In the political sphere as well, we need to increase the ratio of women in assemblies. To this end, last year we enacted a law aimed at equalizing the numbers of male and female candidates for public offices.

I believe that the assignment of more women to professional positions in the fields Japan is expected to lead at the G20 Summit, namely, education, medical care, and disaster aid in emerging countries, will ensure the provision of skilled human resources. Considering that the G20 is expected to address issues such as global warming,

measures against new viruses, and support for developing countries, I am certain that women's participation through Womenomics will play enormous roles in these challenges.

Mody Al Khalaf, Member of the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Currently, Saudi Arabia is working on a major shift from its oil-dependent economy, and in this sense, women can be considered the country's largest untapped resource, so the government is promoting women's empowerment accordingly. A majority of women are not employed, but 70% of them are college graduates. Under the country's "Vision 2030," we are aiming to have more women in the workforce by 2030. Saudi Arabia is no exception in that gender stereotypes are a huge problem. As more women participate in the labor market, the wage gap between men and women is increasing. I think a quota system will be instrumental in attracting more women to the workforce. However, women are facing difficulties in returning to work after child-rearing. While a commuting allowance is available from the government, increasing the number of jobs that can be done at home would help women to use their spare moments while parenting. I am optimistic about the future in 2030. More women will be actively participating in various fields.

Canan Kalsin, Member of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, Chairperson of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity for Women and Men, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Driving women's empowerment forward will require elevation of their social status and economic empowerment. There are many factors in the labor market that prevent women's participation, but Turkey is aiming higher than international standards in terms of women's empowerment in the labor field. Turkish women need to strike a balance between motherhood and work. While the number of women in the workforce has increased since 2004, our goal is to prepare for the next generation. In our country, both the central and local governments view gender equality as important. We need to encourage girls to pursue STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education for the future of women and to prepare them for future work does not yet exist. By doing so, we can change the current state of women's participation in the labor market and create an enormous number of new jobs. To this end, Turkey is running a nationwide STEM program.

Liudmila Bokova, Member of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Women's participation in the labor market will improve the economy as a whole. Russian women are blessed with opportunities for high-quality education and starting new businesses. We welcome the decision that the wage gap should be made smaller. Women's participation in the political sphere will also be beneficial. As the digitalization of economies advances, we need to prioritize the encouragement of more women to participate in IT-related industries through lifelong education and remote work. Women need to receive guidance on jobs that have conventionally been considered inappropriate for them, and politicians need to look at gender equality. I, myself, faced many difficulties when aspiring to become a politician, but I have always relied on my education. Therefore, women must be provided with lifelong educational opportunities. If the labor market becomes more flexible, women could find jobs, act as consumers and pay for their children's education. Women could be leading entrepreneurs but they tend to face more barriers than men in starting businesses. We do not have to be pessimistic about the various issues discussed here, as concrete measures for them are being discussed at a number of international conferences and the like.

Haruno Yoshida, Co-chair of W20 in Japan, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

Let me first tell you about a personal episode of mine. When the Equal Employment Opportunity Law was enacted in 1986, I was excited that women would have equal opportunities with men and could have the same jobs as well. However, it was a time when people often unabashedly likened women to Christmas cakes for the difficulties they faced after turning 25 in both landing jobs and finding future husbands, so things did not change as easily as I hoped. As I was unable to find a satisfying job before I turned 25 due to an illness I suffered from when I graduated university, I left Japan and pursued my career overseas. Then I worked for five ICT companies in four countries and now serve as Co-chair of W20 in Japan, in charge of promoting Womenomics. The difficulty in Womenomics lies in how to secure a higher priority on the issue of gender equality. Even if we work hard and put together a wonderful statement, it would not garner as much interest or enthusiasm from the world as topics such as trade wars or climate change. The important thing is that we use the numbers to show that society as a whole will benefit from women's empowerment. In the context of a market economy,

we need to improve the value of our discussions. W20 argues in its communique that incentives should be given to employers working on gender equality and investors who support them. Consumers' action is also important. They could make a big difference by becoming more conscious of whether the manufacturers of products they want to buy have strong interest in gender equality.

Amy Weaver, President, Legal & Corporate Affairs for Salesforce, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

It is important to have a perspective of how the private and public sectors should work together. Measures to achieve equal wages are extremely important. Salesforce has put substantial effort into offering well-balanced wages. I want young female leaders to find and pursue new ways rather than copying what has been done by older generations. Cultural stereotypes affect the workplace and restrict women's participation, but it is women themselves who have to bring pro-female change to workplace culture. Women should account for half of the labor force, although American technology companies have issues with social groups in which women are under-represented. We need to move this issue forward and promote it more strongly.

8. NEXT-GENERATION LEADERS, CALL TO ACTION

Concerning the WPL initiative “#Girl2Leader,” which aims to socially empower women in the world, a discussion was held on promoting political participation by young women.

Zuraida Kamaruddin, Member of Parliament and Minister of Housing and Local Government of Malaysia, WPL Ambassador, presented a Malaysian youth organization which was based on an NGO platform. She noted that as part of its activities, lecturers and volunteers are dispatched to talk with and educate young women.

Nurhayati Ali Assegaf, Member of the Indonesia House of Representative, WPL Ambassador, stated that women should not follow the example of men but take leadership roles in society as women, and went on to explain that the Central Bank of Indonesia was socially responsible in efforts to teach AI and social media to young women.

In addition, delegations from Rwanda and Kenya presented their efforts in each country.

9. WALK THE TALK

José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission (2004-2014), Chairman

of Goldman Sachs International, WPL Advisory Board Member, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

The moderator gave you my background. (At a young age, he was appointed as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Prime Minister of Portugal, and then served as President of the European Commission for 10 years. Currently, he is Chairman of Goldman Sachs International.) I am so honored to have been invited here. And what is more, I feel even more privileged to be here with Ms. Helen Clark.

When we study geography in Portugal, we are taught that it is New Zealand that is exactly on the opposite side of the globe to Portugal. In other words, New Zealand is geographically the farthest country from Portugal. The two countries, however, sit together and discuss to achieve the same goal concerning women's political and social participation. It is quite natural that I committed myself to these issues. I did so because of my family. My mother was a professor of physics. I always thought that even though women did not hold top posts in politics or other public places in Portugal, they were leading men in society in many senses. You may be surprised, but Portugal was not democratized until 1974. There were many restrictions on women, say, they were not able to become diplomats. At the same time, however, just to let you see how the society really was, my mother did not change her family name to my father's. She kept using her maiden name. That was quite rare in Europe back then. My mother was a strong woman, having a lot of influence over me, and after all it was because of her influence that I started to get involved in politics later and eventually became Prime Minister.

I made it a rule to choose women for top positions. For example, I appointed a woman as Minister of Finance, the number-two position in my cabinet, not positions such as those related to social security or health which are often given to women by male premiers. I also gave posts such as Attorney General and Foreign Minister to women. That was quite rare even in Europe. Then, as you know, when the moderator, Ms. Silvana Koch-Mehrin, came to the European Parliament, I tried my best and invited women to the European Commission as new members. I set a target of having women account for a third of the European Commission, which is yet to be achieved. But there was only one woman member when Jacques Delors was President.

This week I flew into Tokyo directly from Brussels. At Brussels, I attended the meeting of the current President of the European Commission with his predecessors, and everyone there was a man. I want to tell you this one thing. This may be the right time – the right time for a woman to take up the President post of the European Commission. Even if it is not the President of the European Commission, the President of the European Parliament should be a woman. We have had many discussions, but that

is not enough. We should have a woman as President of the European Commission sometime soon as the leader of the European Union and the leader of Europe who attends G20 and G8 summits and UN meetings. There are some wonderful candidates. At the end of this week, at the latest, a meeting will be held where European leaders will choose a new leader. Electing a woman there will be a significant message for women's participation in the world of politics, gender inclusion, and diversity.

Helen Clark, Prime Minister of New Zealand (1999-2008), UNDP Administrator (2009-2017), Patron of The Helen Clark Foundation, WPL Board Member, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

The moderator told you I had adopted a pro-women policy as a woman Prime Minister. I received a question asking whether I had received and struggled with criticism at that time that I was not trustworthy because I was a woman. Actually, that was very much not the case. When we dealt with very practical issues, they were very meaningful to society. For example, when trying to increase women's participation in the labor market, granting childcare leave and increasing paid leave would be beneficial to not only women but also everyone in their families.

Another example is about quite a serious problem we handled as a policy. It is the issue of student loans. There was a terrible story of a female student who took out a loan at commercial interest rates and was worried that she would be carrying it all her life. Making student loans free of interest not only helped the female student but also benefited everyone.

When I took the office, there was a powerful female successor in my cabinet. I worked hard for empowerment too. But men also supported me. In other words, when dealing with various enduring issues of inequality, we had support from men as well.

10. CLOSING REMARKS & WPL SUMMIT 2019 DECLARATION

Hanna Birna Kristjánsdóttir, Chair of the WPL Board, gave a speech that is summarized as follows:

On behalf of the WPL, I thank you all for these wonderful two days. Over 400 participants from 87 countries got together here. I sincerely hope that you all maintain your enthusiasm. I want to believe that you had an inspiring two days where you were full of hope, uplifted, enlightened, and encouraged to take action. We have fully discussed the "why." Now, we need to speak of the "how." Rather than remaining in the phase where we could take action, we want to actually take action. Our discussions on

guiding the world have focused on the theme of “Let’s take action.” We will be able to share the outcome of this conference with Prime Minister Abe. We welcome the opinion that we should have more women participate in politics, support the SDGs, promote women’s empowerment and take action towards realizing a society where no one will be left behind. We propose that concrete action should be taken.

The next WPL Summit will take place in New York around this time next year. We have long hoped to have a summit there. Let’s put pressure on the UN. As well, in November this year, we will hold the Female leaders Global Forum in Reykjavik, Iceland.

11. STATEMENTS BY NATIONAL DELEGATION LEADERS

First, Seiko Noda, Chairperson of the Committee on Budget of the House of Representatives of Japan, Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications (2017-2018), Minister in Charge of Women's Empowerment (2017-2018), gave a speech as follows:

Let me speak on behalf of the Japanese Delegation. I am Seiko Noda, a member of the House of Representatives.

Through this Summit, we, Japanese female politicians, were greatly inspired by discussions and exchanges with you, and have renewed our resolve to take on the challenge of developing a diverse, inclusive society.

We, women political leaders, are expected to promote the empowerment of women, and to play active roles in realizing a truly fair society as an extension of women’s empowerment where the skills and efforts of every individual are duly recognized. From this viewpoint, at this Summit, we had quite meaningful exchanges of opinion concerning action to take for developing society.

As well, this Summit served as an opportunity to solidify our determination to promote the participation of Japanese in politics. Female Japanese legislators, although few in number, have diverse backgrounds and perspectives and have worked hard to develop our society. Ideally, however, the place where national policies are decided should have equal numbers of men and women, and it is our responsibility as politicians to change a social structure that is preventing an equal gender representation and to create environment where women and men can work together in politics, the economy and at home.

Thank you for your attention. Thank you very much.

Then, each country’s delegation gave a speech while the meeting was facilitated by moderators in the following order: Yuko Obuchi, Member of the House of

Representatives of Japan; Seiko Noda, Chairperson of the Committee on Budget of the the House of Representatives of Japan; Shinako Tsuchiya, Leader of the Delegation for the WPL Summit 2019 in Japan; Midori Ishii, Chairperson of the Committee on Audit of the House of Councillors of Japan; and Midori Matsushima, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan.

In addition to recognizing the successful completion of the Summit and expressing their thanks to Japan as the host country, delegations supported the Summit's argument that more action is needed to empower women; presented the state of legal developments in their countries concerning gender equality, including quota systems; pointed out the percentage of female legislators and their performance in their countries and the slow progress of gender equality in education and workplaces; and spoke of the importance of gender equality in achieving the SDGs; the steady progress of women's empowerment in their countries; the expectations of and determination for further advances; and the need for global cooperation for future generations of women.

VII WPL SUMMIT 2019 OUTCOME DECLARATION

“TAKING ACTIONS TO ADVANCE SOCIETY THROUGH SDGs”

We, as women political leaders, participated in the WPL Summit 2019 on Taking Actions to Advance Society Through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) held in Tokyo, Japan, from 25 to 27 June, co-hosted by Women Political Leaders and the House of Representatives of Japan.

The WPL Summit 2019 gathers more than 300 women political leaders from all parts of the world, committed to best and fast attaining the SDGs, and to take impactful action. This results in the following outcomes:

We celebrate the first WPL Summit to have been held in the Asia-Pacific region. Accounting for over 60% of the world’s population and creating over 60% of global growth, Asia plays a key role in the world’s political, economic and cultural development. Promoting women’s rights and enhancing women’s participation in public life contributes to advancement not only in the region, but across the world.

We recognise the importance of bringing more women's perspectives to all policies, including the construction of a disaster resistant society responding to the needs of the people, and promote equity between women and men in politics. We encourage women’s participation on all political levels, including local assemblies, to reflect the diversity of public opinion. We support the UN Women Call to Action to Parliamentarians launched at the WPL Summit 2019 in Tokyo and welcome the global guidelines introduced there for progress in Parliaments to improve the lives of women, girls and all society around the world.

We applaud the G20 ambition to reduce the gap in labor force participation between men and women by 25 percent by 2025, bringing more than 100 million women into jobs. We concur that the economic participation of women is essential for development and growth around the world.

We recognise SDGs as the common roadmap. The WPL Summit 2019 is the first worldwide gathering of female politicians on SDGs. Achieving the SDGs will improve

the quality of life of every individual, create happiness, and advancement throughout society. We assert that diversity and inclusiveness are important factors for success and growth, and richness in diversity of age, ability, gender, ethnicity, and other factors, is what enables a country to progress.

We recognize that environmental issues are closely interrelated, and support the G20 goal to find common ground to address climate change and achieve a sustainable society and economic growth. It is essential to aim at the creation of a circular economy from a broader perspective. In the spirit of *mottainai*, we promote building an international resource cycle and the transition to a society with low pollution and emissions. We encourage the implementation of the G20 decision on building an international framework on marine plastic litter.

We recognize that understanding women's specific health needs and comprehensively supporting women's health over their lifetime is crucial to ensure the well-being of both women as individuals, and society as a whole. We promote best practices in maternal and child health.

We, as women political leaders, will take action to promote women's empowerment and bring about a society where no one is left behind. We recognize that girls' education is fundamental. We will report the outcomes of this Summit to the participants of the G20 Summit to be held in Osaka, Japan, and recommend that concrete actions be taken, especially in supporting girls' education.