

# Ring the Bell for Gender Equality



## **The 4th Annual Ring the Bell for Gender Equality Ceremony.**

### **Introduction:**

The [UN Global Compact](#), [UN Women](#), [Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative](#), [World Federation of Exchanges](#) and [Women in ETFs](#) (the “Partners”) are coming together to organize a collective global action for gender equality via exchanges’ bell ringing ceremonies. The Ring the Bell events will showcase the business case for gender equality and highlight how private sector leaders are already taking concrete steps to invest in women in the workplace, marketplace and community.

UN Women Pakistan in collaboration with Pakistan Stock Exchange and Women on Boards has planned a Ring the Bell ceremony on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 in Karachi from 9 am to 1 pm. The aim of ‘bell ringing’ is to show solidarity with the global action for gender equality, to bring attention to the pivotal role the private sector can play in advancing gender equality to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and raising awareness about the Women’s Empowerment Principles and encourage private sector to sign WEP.

It is envisioned that the ceremony will achieve following outcomes:

- Raise awareness of the importance of private sector action to advance gender equality
- Convene champion business leaders, investors, government, civil society and other key partners at the country-level to highlight the growing business and economic case for gender equality.
- Showcase how the private sector is already taking concrete steps to empower women in the workplace, marketplace and community.
- Demonstrate the linkages between gender equality, sustainable development and business
- Encourage business to take actions to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and promote uptake of the Women’s Empowerment Principles.
- Showcase how stock exchanges can help advance the SDGs by promoting gender equality.

**Partners:** UN Women Pakistan, Women on Boards and Pakistan Stock Exchange.

**Participation:** The event will be attended by representatives of private sector companies, Government of Sindh, civil society organizations, academia and women led business.

**Venue:** Pakistan Stock Exchange (TBC)

**Provisory agenda (8:30 am to 1pm)**

The event would include the following activities (and approximate timings):

- Registration/ (30 min)
- **The event will start at bell ringing at 9:30 am** (Bell Ringing by Representatives of UN Women, Women on Boards, Pakistan Stock Exchange, Norwegian Representative)
- Welcome by MD, Pakistan Stock Exchange (10 min)

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- Greetings by UN Women Pakistan Country Representative Mr. Jamshed M. Kazi (10 min)
- Greetings by CEO/ President Women on Boards (10min)
- Speech by Norwegian Representative on the Importance of Women's Empowerment (10 min)
- Group Photo
- Tea Break (30)
- **Role of Pakistan Stock Exchange in Women's Empowerment (10 min)**
- Questions and answers (10 min)
- Panel discussion (women's empowerment in the private sector through Women Empowerment Principles, why, how and best practices (30 min)
- **Moderator: Sani Mehmood, Head of Marketing PSX**
- **Panelist: TBC**
- Questions and answers (20 min)
- Conclusion by Country Deputy Representative Ms. Sangeeta Thapa (10 min)
- Vote of Thanks, Pakistan Stock Exchange
- Group Photo
- Food and networking time (60 minutes)

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## ABOUT THE PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

### IFC

As a member of the World Bank Group, IFC is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Working with 2,000 businesses worldwide, we use our six decades of experience to create opportunity where it's needed most. In FY16, our long-term investments in developing countries rose to nearly \$19 billion, leveraging our capital, expertise and influence to help the private sector end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity. For more information, visit [www.ifc.org](http://www.ifc.org).

### Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative

The SSE is a peer-to-peer learning platform for exploring how exchanges—in collaboration with investors, regulators, and companies—can encourage sustainable investment and enhance corporate transparency, and ultimately performance, on ESG (environmental, social and corporate governance) issues. The SSE is convened by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the UN Global Compact, the UN Environment Program Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), and the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI). For more information on specific exchanges' sustainability efforts, how to become a Partner Stock Exchange, and further opportunities to advance the integration of sustainability within capital markets, visit [www.sseinitiative.org](http://www.sseinitiative.org). Follow us on Twitter: @sseinitiative.

### UN Global Compact

The United Nations Global Compact is a call to companies everywhere to align their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and to take action in support of UN goals and issues embodied in the Sustainable Development Goals. The UN Global Compact is a leadership platform for the development, implementation and disclosure of responsible corporate practices. Launched in 2000, it is the largest corporate sustainability initiative in the world, with more than 9,500 companies and 3,000 non-business signatories based in over 160 countries, and more than 70 Local Networks. For more information, visit [www.unglobalcompact.org](http://www.unglobalcompact.org). Follow us on Twitter: @globalcompact.

### UN Women

UN Women is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide. UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to implement these standards. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality. For more information, visit [www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org).

### Women in ETFs

Women in ETFs is the first women's group for the ETF industry. Founded in January 2014, WE is a non-profit organization that brings together over 3,200 members, including women and men, in chapters in major financial centers across the United States, Canada, EMEA and Asia Pacific to: 1. CONNECT: Create opportunities for professional advancement of women by expanding connections among women and men in the ETF industry, 2. SUPPORT: Offer guidance for the current and next generation of women in ETFs and 3. INSPIRE: WE achieves this by organizing events at our chapters globally that support our

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goals of education, networking, philanthropy and idea sharing across the industry and beyond. For more information, visit: [www.womeninets.com](http://www.womeninets.com) to learn more, join, or sponsor. Follow us on Twitter [@WomeninETFs](https://twitter.com/WomeninETFs) and on LinkedIn.

## **World Federation of Exchanges (WFE):**

Established in 1961, the WFE is the global industry association for exchanges and clearing houses. The WFE is the definitive source for exchange-traded statistics and publishes over 350 market data indicators. WFE exchanges are home to nearly 45,000 listed companies. The WFE promotes the development of fair, efficient and transparent markets. It works with policy makers, regulators and standard-setters around the world to support the development of effective rules and standards for exchanges and market participants. For more information, please visit: [www.world-exchanges.org](http://www.world-exchanges.org).