



High Level Event
“Women in power and decision-making: Building a different world”
Santiago de Chile, February 27-28, 2015
Centro Cultural Estación Mapocho

Official Program

Friday 27 February

09:00 **Registration**

10:00 – 11:00 **Opening Ceremony**
Plaza Alta, Central Hall

Every session will be held in Nave Central (west wing of Estación Mapocho).

11:00 - 13:00 Session 1: **Getting there: Perspectives on how women get into leadership.**

Despite the road blocks, many women have managed to forge interesting and varied paths to leadership. Those who have succeeded have stories and lessons to share for those interested in following in their footsteps. This session will ask prominent leaders to reflect on their own paths to leadership, including the role of mentors and supportive networks and other enabling factors that contributed to their success.

Presentations to be followed by a plenary discussion.

13:00 - 14:30 **Lunch hosted by Mr. Hernando Muñoz, Minister of Foreign Affairs**
Pedro Prado Hall

14:30 – 16:30 Session 2: **Making a difference: Lessons learned on 20 years of women’s leadership.**

There are great expectations of women in positions of power. This session will consider strategies that have worked for women in leadership in driving gender sensitive reforms. Is there a ‘woman’s style of leadership’? How do women leaders develop, champion and transform ideas into reality? How do women leaders circumvent cultural stereotypes that prefer men in positions of power, and the increasing trend of harassment and discrimination of women in positions of authority? How have women used their leadership positions to champion a gender equality and women’s empowerment agenda?



Presentations to be followed by a plenary discussion

16:30 – 18:30

Session 3: Secrets to share: Women’s leadership in the construction of a more equal society.

Gender equality and women empowerment are crucial to achieve inclusive development and a more equal society. There are several initiatives that focus on the role of women to advance towards a society closer to that goal. This requires driving practices and policies that lead to equality and the empowerment of women, both in economic and social spheres. Among others, the promotion of gender equality in the workplace is one of the fundamental ways to build a more inclusive world. This session will address the contribution of women’s leadership in building a more equal society, opening up opportunities and overcoming the obstacles along the way.

Presentations to be followed by a plenary discussion.

20:30

Gala Dinner hosted by Her Excellency Michelle Bachelet, President of Chile
La Moneda Palace

Saturday 28 February

9.30 – 11:30

Session 4: Creating Opportunities: Good practices to ensure women’s full and equal participation in decision-making.

There is now international consensus on the need to develop public policies to overcome the underrepresentation of women in decision-making positions. Major obstacles to women reaching these positions include the unequal distribution between men and women of unpaid care work and responsibilities within the family, and the reduced opportunities for women to develop leadership skills. What measures can be implemented to establish parity in the representation of men and women positions of leadership across the public and private sectors? How could policies be designed to encourage the redistribution between men and women of unpaid care work and responsibilities? How do we build women’s capacity to exercise leadership and thereby access senior decision-making positions?

Presentations to be followed by a plenary discussion.



11:30- 13:30

Session 5: Moving forward: What will it take to ensure women can take their seats?

The fact that women leaders are still a minority suggests there is a long way to go before gender equality is fully realised. Looking at the actions outlined in Critical Area G of the Beijing Platform for Action (at Annex 1), this session will ask participants to ‘think outside the box’ and prioritise, and consider new, strategies to accelerate the pace of change for women in power and decision making. How can we empower even more women to participate in leadership? How do we support the women who are currently in leadership? How can men be involved in the promotion of women? What resources are needed and how can they be mobilised? What partnerships and solidarity networks (e.g. South-South, public-private) need to be forged to strengthen women’s leadership in all areas?

Presentations to be followed by a plenary discussion.

13:30 – 14:00

Adoption of a Call for Action and Closing Remarks
Plaza Alta, Central Hall