

REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

Business Roundtable: Advancing gender equality and women's leadership in selected industries

7 APRIL 2022, 1:00–2.30 p.m. (Geneva)

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EQUALITY



Business Roundtable: Advancing gender equality and women's leadership in selected industries

"Women are scandalously underrepresented in the halls of power and the boardrooms of business."
Antonio Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations, 8 March 2022

Part of:

Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region taking place in Geneva and online, 6-7 April 2022. The most up to date programme is continuously being updated on the event's [webpage](#).

Session Description:

Some of the fastest growing industries are also the most male-dominated ones. And even when gender equality is prioritized, progress often tends to not be evenly spread, with barriers for women persisting in certain corporate functions. During this session, leaders from various industries will address how they are advancing gender equality in the workplace and marketplace and share their solutions to questions like: How can you set realistic but ambitious targets for women's leadership when female workforce participation is low? How do you ensure flexibility and support working parents when simply working from home is not an option? How can you anticipate backlash, tackle stereotypes and engage male leadership and colleagues in meaningful ways?

Date and Time:

- April 7, 1.00-2.30PM CET

Length:

- 1 ½ hours

Platform:

- Zoom webinar style
- Registration link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_I5cwdNf3QWKh3AKYySJjrQ

Session Objectives:

Attendees leave feeling:

- Convincing that driving gender equality is possible (and necessary) including in industries and sectors that traditionally have had an overwhelmingly male workforce
- Equipped with practical tips and tools on how to unpack common arguments and convey benefits of gender equality efforts to male colleagues and leadership
- Inspired and motivated by good practices from the private sector

Opening Remarks:

- Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, UNECE

Moderators:

- Salome Zurabishvili, Executive Director, Global Compact Network Georgia
- Anabela Vaz Ribeiro, Executive Director, Global Compact Network Portugal

Keynotes:

- Ursula Wynhoven, Representative to the UN in New York, I TU
- Aldijana Susic, Chief, Multi Stakeholder Partnerships and Advisory Services, UN Women

Business Panelists:

- Pascale Alpha, Director, Public Affairs and Global Communications, CAE Inc, Canada
- Juliet Thomson, EVP People, John Menzies plc, UK
- David Garcia Nuñez, Communications Director, FCC Construcción, S.A, Spain
- Thomas Nagbøl Mejlgård, Senior Vice President, People, Brand & Sustainability, Semco Maritime, Denmark
- Esra Beyzadeoglu, Chief People and Culture Officer, Hepsiburada Turkey
- Nataša Malić, Operations Director, Hrvatski Telekom, Croatia
- Asel Kubanychbekova, Founder, Women's Entrepreneurship Development Fund, Kyrgyzstan.

Final Call to Action:

- Dan Thomas, Chief of Communications, UN Global Compact

Run of show:

5 min	Welcome: The moderator sets the context for the session, summarizes the agenda and introduces the panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Opening Remarks by UNECE
40 min	Part I – Workplace Dimension <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Keynote Speech: I TU▪ Roundtable discussion with all panelists moderated by Anabela Vaz Ribeiro diving into issues such as hiring practices, family-supportive workplaces, flexibility policies, equal pay, mentorship and professional development support.
40 min	Part II – Marketplace Dimension <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Keynote Speech: UN Women▪ Roundtable discussion with all panelists moderated by Salome Zurabishvili diving into issues such as tackling stereotypes, marketing practices, inclusive language, gender-responsive procurement and support for women entrepreneurs.
5 min	Wrap up: The moderator summarizes key action points, and thanks the panelists and audience and gives the floor to a UN Global Compact representative for a final call to action