

Organised by:



CORPORATE WOMEN SUMMIT

~Women in Business and Management~
30 August 2013 (Friday) ❖ Hotel Istana Kuala Lumpur

Women have made much progress, pushing the envelope in many fields, yet there is still much room for improvement especially in the field of business and management.

The United Nations acknowledges that gender equality is central to achieving development as empowering women fuels thriving economies and spurs productivity and growth. However, women are underrepresented in political and economic decision-making. The UN Secretary-General had stated that “where women are educated and empowered, economies are more productive and strong. Where women are fully represented, societies are more peaceful and stable.”

The World Economic Forum’s Global Gender Gap Report highlighted a strong correlation between gender equality and a nation’s economic competitiveness and prosperity.

Given this strong case for promoting gender diversity, it is essential for businesses to nurture women’s role as a major driving force in economic growth.

According to the Department of Statistics Malaysia, 48.6% of the total population in Malaysia comprise of women. The UNDP Human Development Report highlighted that women’s participation in the workforce amounts to 43.8%.

In 2011, the Malaysian Cabinet under Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak approved legislation requiring businesses to achieve 30% representation of women in decision-making positions. However, only 26% of senior management roles are filled by women with the most common positions being Human Resource Director, Chief Financial Officer and Sales Director according to the Grant Thornton International Business Report. Women’s representation in boards is recorded at a mere 7.8% by the Korn/Ferry Institute.

ASLI’s Corporate Women Summit aims to address the underrepresentation of women in boards and senior management positions by providing a platform for businesses to explore ways of furthering the advancement of women. Participants will receive useful insights on key success factors and common pitfalls or hurdles; learn about policies and issues concerning gender equality in the workplace, as well as assistance and opportunities available; form partnerships or networks with like-minded people; and share their thoughts of ways to work together to advance women in business and management.

PROGRAMME

08:30	Arrival and Registration of Participants	10:00	Morning Refreshments & Networking Session
09:00	Arrival of VIPs	10:30	SESSION 1 – Looking Forward, Looking Back: How far have women advanced in business and management? Although women have pushed the envelope in many fields, there is still much room for improvement. This session examines whether a growing economy equals growing opportunities for women, and explores how far women have progressed in the field of business and management over the last decade as well as whether women can reshape the future for other women. Emphasis is given on sharing key success factors and tips to encourage and assist women in advancing along the pathway to success
09:15	WELCOMING REMARKS Puan Sri Datin Seri Dr Susan SC Cheah Director, Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute, and Executive Committee Member, Sunway Group		
09:30	OFFICIAL OPENING AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS – “Empowering Women to Advance in Business and Management: How do we make it happen?” YB Datuk Rohani Abdul Karim Minister, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia		

especially in getting to and staying at the C-Level.

Moderator:

- **Ms Yeo Eng Ping***
Head of Tax, Ernst & Young (EY) Malaysia

Speakers:

- **Ms Alicia Yi**
Managing Director, Asia Pacific Consumer Market, Korn/Ferry International
- **Dato Dr Nellie S L Tan-Wong**
Co-Founder / CEO (Honorary), Women's Institute of Management Kuala Lumpur
- **Datuk Wira Jalilah Baba**
Chairman, Crewstone International Sdn Bhd
- **Ms Noormah Mohd Noor***
CEO, Express Rail Link Sdn Bhd

11:45

SESSION 2 – Promoting Gender Equality in the Workplace

We need to acknowledge the fact that gender disparity is a challenge faced by many organisations and take action to remedy the situation, especially concerning the underrepresentation of women in senior management and board levels. The business case for this is strong in terms of the impact on long term growth measured through productivity and profitability. This session explores the cultural, economic and social barriers that make it more difficult for women to reach the pinnacle and how to overcome them, as well as how to bridge the gender gap with equal opportunities.

Moderator:

- **Mr Johan Mahmood Merican***
CEO, Talent Corp Malaysia

Panellist:

- **Ms Nora Abd Manaf**
Senior Executive Vice President, and Head, Group Human Capital, Maybank
- **Ms Pauline Ho**
Assurance Leader, PricewaterhouseCoopers
- **Professor Christine Ennew**
Provost / CEO, The University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus
- **Ms Rejina Rahim**
Managing Director and Deputy Regional Head of Marketing Asia Pacific ex Japan, Nomura Asset Management Malaysia Sdn Bhd

13:00

Networking Lunch

14:15

SESSION 3 – Overcoming Tendencies to Stereotype Women in the Workplace

In senior management positions, women are best represented in the sectors of finance and human resources. This session seeks to promote more progressive views on women by exploring how women can thrive and

succeed in sectors perceived as 'masculine' from a practical as well as psychological perspective, and also how they can develop their emotional intelligence (EQ) to take on emotionally tough situations such as sexual harassment in the workplace. It also seeks to bring together men and women to collaborate as agents of change in championing the cause to overcome gender stereotyping at the work place.

Moderator:

- **Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther**
Chairman, Malaysian Institute of Management

Panellist:

- **Dr Beth Yam Wei Yin**
Senior Staff Technologist, Intel Malaysia
- **Ms Elizabeth Lee Fuh Yen**
Senior Executive Director and Chairperson, Sunway University
- **Ir Khairiah Salleh***
General Manager – Engineering, Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd
- **Ms Linda Jamaludin***
Director, Guidance and Counselling Division, Department of Women Development, Malaysia

15:30

SESSION 4 – Workshops on Policies, Issues and Practices to Promote the Advancement of Women in Business and Management

The workshops will be formatted a la World Café style with facilitated roundtable discussions to allow for full participation of delegates in all workshop topics to contribute towards more meaningful key takeaways. Proposed topics include mentoring, training and education programmes; assistance and support such as affinity programmes, support groups and networking channels; and work-life balance including stemming the loss of talent from women opting for a sabbatical as well as helping those returning from a sabbatical to readjust themselves.

Facilitator(s):

a) Mentoring, training and education programmes

- **Ms Jenny Ooi**
Senior Director, HR – Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, Agilent Technologies Microwave Products (M) Sdn Bhd
- **Mr Paul W Chan***
Deputy President, Malaysian Alliance of Corporate Directors

b) Assistance and support such as affinity programmes, support groups and networking channels

- **Ms Jacqueline Francis**
Group Chief Executive Officer, AJA EQS International Sdn Bhd

- **Ms Ng Yeen Seen**
SVP & Chief Strategy & Programme Officer, Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI), and Director, Centre for Public Policy Studies

c) Work-life balance including stemming the loss of talent from women opting for a sabbatical as well as helping those returning from a sabbatical to readjust themselves

- **Ms Jennifer Lopez***
Country Head, ACCA Malaysia
- **Puan Sri Datin Seri Dr Susan SC Cheah**
Director, Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute, and Executive Committee Member, Sunway Group

16:30 **SESSION 5 – Piecing the Puzzle: Sharing key takeaways from the workshops**

The chief facilitator for each workshop topic will present their respective key takeaways in five minutes. This will be followed by inputs from the panelists on how those key takeaways can contribute towards promoting balanced success for women, which encompasses both a successful career and a healthy and happy family.

Moderator:

- **Ms Georgette Tan***
Group Head of Communications, MasterCard Worldwide – Asia/Pacific Regional Headquarters

Panellist:

- **Workshop Facilitators – 1 facilitator per topic**
- **Dato' Sri Dr Noorul Ainur Mohd Nur***
Secretary-General, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia
- **Dr Thilla Chelliah**
Chairperson of Environment & Consumer Commissions, National Council of Women's Organisations Malaysia (NCWO)
- **Hajjah Ainon Haji Kuntom**
Chairman, MRP Advisory Services Sdn Bhd, and Director, Yayasan Jantung Malaysia

17:45 End of Conference & Afternoon Refreshments

Notes:

- The Organiser reserves the right to alter the content and timing of the programme in the best interest of the Summit and is not responsible for cancellations due to unforeseen circumstances
- (*) Represent invited but yet to confirm role players
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