

Women Leaders Network of APEC: 1996 - 2010

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Purpose

- ‘To seek ways and develop strategies so that women’s concerns are heard, their aspirations considered, and their involvement firmly established when decisions and policies are made within APEC’



Specifically, to:

- Foster regional cooperation to advance the status of women in Asia and the Pacific
- Formulate a framework for gender considerations to be included in developing human resources and in pursuing sustained growth and equitable development in the region



continued

- Organize a pool of experts to serve as partners and whose expertise could be tapped in identifying the gender dimension within APEC
- Orient the participants on APEC and its structures and how these can be maximized as possible points for policy interventions



WLN Hosted by APEC Hosts

- 1997 – Canada, 1998 – Malaysia
- 1999 – New Zealand, 2000 – Brunei
- 2001 – China, 2002 – Mexico
- 2003 – Thailand, 2004 – Chile
- 2005 – Korea, 2006 – Vietnam
- 2007 – Australia, 2008 – Peru
- 2009 – Singapore, 2010 – Japan



WLN Future Hosts

- 2011 – United States
- 2012 – Russia
- 2013 - Indonesia



Structure

- Multi-sectoral approach
- High level commitment
- Host economy commitment
- APEC secretariat role
- Continual commitment from WLN participants



Achievements!

- Launching with support of APEC Leaders
- Creating awareness
- 15 years of meetings
- 2 Ministerial meetings for Ministers Responsible for Women's Affairs
- AGGI



More Achievements

- Gender Training/ Gender Focal Point Network
- APWINC (Asia-Pacific Women's Information Network Center)
- Best practice recognition at the OECD
- Access to Ministers
- Participation and Education of more than 7000 women



More Achievements!

- 1999 – Indigenous Women Exporters in Business Seminar
- Recognition of ‘unique contribution of indigenous women’ 1999, New Zealand
- Creation of MESWG of SMEWG
- Micro enterprise development project



Recognition for Women's Economic Contribution

- Forget China, India and the internet: economic growth is driven by women (The Economist, April, 2006)
- ‘...there is a business case for expanding women's economic opportunities: its called smart economics. (The World Bank Group, September 2006)



Going Forward

- Japan's Theme: Creation of New Global Economic Activities by Women: Realization Through People, Nature and Culture



Thank You!
And now to the panel:

