

Remarks not checked against delivery

Remarks by Silvana Koch-Mehrin,
President & Founder Women Political Leaders

Leaders' Special Event on Women's Empowerment at G20 Summit

Osaka, 29 June 2019

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Women Political Leaders (WPL) is the global network of female politicians. Members are Women Parliamentarians, Ministers, Prime Ministers and Presidents from around the world. The mission of WPL is to increase both the number and the influence of women politicians.

This week, women politicians from 87 countries convened for the annual WPL Summit, co-hosted by the Japanese House of Representatives in Tokyo. The focus of the discussions was on how to advance society by taking action through the Sustainable Development Goals.

It was consensus, that the SDGs can only be achieved in 2030, if equality between women and men is achieved.

For political representation, parity is the goal. Parity, which mirrors that half of society are women.

A “to do” especially for politicians: ditch laws that treat women and men as not equal. Only 6 countries in the world, only one of the G20 countries, is free of discriminatory laws, states the World Bank.

WPL applauds the commitment of the G20 to women empowerment. Many of the G20 leaders made strong remarks, when traveling to this G20 Summit. WPL asks this question to each of the G20 leaders: how will you use your power and get more women into political leadership? What will be your legacy?



Thank you.