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United Nations Office for Partnerships and  
the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Corporate Citizenship Center

**March 4 and 5, 2015**

**March 4:**

Microsoft  
11 Times Square  
New York, New York

*All registered guests must check in at the Microsoft Welcome Center (entrance on 8th Ave. between 41st and 42nd Streets)*

**March 5:**

The United Nations  
ECOSOC Council Chamber  
46<sup>th</sup> Street and First Avenue  
New York, New York

**The Empowerment Bridge: Building a Lifetime of Opportunity for Women and Girls**

In New York City on March 4 and 5, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Corporate Citizenship Center, United Nations Office for Partnerships, and UN Women will bring together leaders committed to the economic empowerment of women at the International Women's Day Forum.

This inspiring, solutions-focused annual event has hosted speakers such as Chelsea Clinton, Melanne Vermeer, Soledad O'Brien, and Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, and offers deep dives into the many challenges and opportunities inherent in tackling women's economic empowerment. This year's Forum, The Empowerment Bridge: Building a Lifetime of Opportunity for Women and Girls, will focus on the tools and tactics that help bridge the opportunity gap for women and girls around the world. Expert-led discussions will delve into the critical underpinnings of economic empowerment, such as technology, STEM education, health care, and job and business skills training; they will also look at creating an ecosystem that supports women entrepreneurs, from encouraging girls to pursue their business dreams to ensuring that women-owned businesses can succeed and scale. Plenaries and breakout sessions will also explore the research and data that support expanding the roles that women and girls play in the global economy, effective frameworks for cross-sector partnerships with measureable results, the impact of storytelling on putting vital stepping stones into place, and specific interventions for women in various roles within the global value chain. Each of these discussions will touch on the often-catalytic role of the private sector, including in addressing the emerging Sustainable Development Goals.

We invite you to come together with more than 500 private and public sector leaders to explore empowerment solutions that bridge opportunity gaps and result in increased independence for women and girls around the world.

## Draft Agenda

<b>Wednesday, March 4, 2015</b> <i>Microsoft NY Offices</i>	
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. <i>Microsoft NY Offices</i>	<b>Registration</b>
1:30 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Marc DeCoursey</b>, Executive Director, Corporate Citizenship Center, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation</li> <li>- <b>Lori Harnick</b>, General Manager, Citizenship &amp; Public Affairs, Microsoft</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
1:40 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. <i>Microsoft NY Offices</i>	<b>Leadership Dialog: View From the Top – Accelerating STEM</b> Hear from senior policy makers and issue experts on why this is the time for collective action to change the landscape of women and girls in STEM. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Anna Maria Chávez</b>, Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts USA</li> <li>- <b>Margo Day</b>, Vice President, U.S. Education, Microsoft</li> <li>- <b>Moderator: Soledad O'Brien</b>, CEO, Starfish Media Group</li> </ul>
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. <i>Microsoft NY Offices</i>	<b>Plenary Panel: Leveraging Technology for Access and Impact</b> Learn from business leaders across industries on innovative ways that they are using technology as a lever to reach more people, create greater impact, provide more access and information, measuring and evaluation, and increased scale. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Angela Baker</b>, Senior Manager of Wireless Reach and Government Affairs, Qualcomm</li> <li>- <b>Catalina García</b>, Communications &amp; Sustainable Development Director, SABMiller LatAm</li> <li>- <b>Suzanne Fallender</b>, Director, Global Girls and Women Initiative, Intel</li> <li>- <b>Moderator: Katie Dowd</b>, Director of Digital Strategy, Office of Hillary Clinton, Clinton Foundation</li> </ul>
3:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. <i>Microsoft NY Offices</i>	<b>Networking Break</b>
3:50 p.m. – 4:20 p.m. <i>Microsoft NY Offices</i>	<b>Screening of <i>Big Dream</i></b> <i>Big Dream</i> follows the intimate stories of seven young women who are breaking barriers and overcoming personal challenges to follow their passion in science, math, computing and engineering. From small town Iowa to the bustling streets of the Middle East, <i>Big Dream</i> immerses viewers in a world designed by and for the inspiring next generation of girls.

4:20 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. <i>Microsoft NY Offices</i>	<p><b>Building on <i>Big Dream</i></b></p> <p>Join the director and young women from the film to discuss the mission and goals of the film. Let's tackle how we can continue to grow this movement to engage girls into STEM, create the building blocks to continued opportunities, and empower generations to come.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Kelly Cox</b>, Director, Big Dream</li> <li>- <b>Anna Fälth</b>, Manager, EmpowerWomen, UN Women</li> <li>- <b>Karen Peterson</b>, CEO, National Girls Collaborative Project</li> <li>- <b>Cassidy Williams</b>, Big Dream star, and Software Engineer and Developer Evangelist, Venmo</li> <li>- <b>Moderator: Rane Johnson-Stempson</b>, Principal Research Director, Microsoft</li> </ul>
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. <i>Microsoft NY Offices</i>	<p><b>Networking Reception</b></p>

<b>Thursday, March 5, 2015</b> <i>United Nations</i>	
8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Registration and Networking Breakfast</b>
9:15 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Opening Remarks</b> - <b>Marc DeCoursey</b> , Executive Director, Corporate Citizenship Center, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation
9:20 a.m. – 9:25 a.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Welcoming Remarks</b> - <b>Ann de la Roche</b> , Officer-in-Charge and Chief of Operations, United Nations Office for Partnerships
9:25 a.m. – 9:55 a.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Keynote Interview</b> - <b>Dr. Sakena Yacoobi</b> , Executive Director, Afghan Institute of Learning
9:55 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Investing in Women’s Health: Engagement Strategies for Successful Outcomes</b> <p>Women’s health interventions are a critical global investment. Women’s health and economic empowerment are inextricably linked; without health, a woman cannot maintain sustainable employment. This panel will examine a variety of health-related engagement strategies, from philanthropy to shared value, that have proven successful.</p> <p>This panel will examine a variety of health-related engagement strategies, from philanthropy to shared value, that have proved successful in improving options for women globally.</p> - <b>Jacob Kumaresan Ph.D</b> , Executive Director, World Health Organization, Office at the United Nations in New York - <b>Nana Kuo</b> , Senior Manager, Every Women Every Child - <b>Katherine Pickus</b> , Divisional Vice President, Global Citizenship and Policy, Abbott Vice President, Abbott Fund - <b>Moderator: Barbara Bush</b> , CEO and Co-Founder, Global Health Corps
10:45 a.m. – 11:05 a.m. <i>United Nations</i>	Networking Break
11:05 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Story of Impact: A Case Study</b> - <b>Nely Galán</b> , Founder, Adelante Movement
11:20 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Fostering a Way Forward: Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in the Global Economy</b> <p>For many women around the world, entrepreneurship offers one of the best opportunities to ensure sustainable livelihoods for themselves, their families, and their communities. What are the most effective ways to instill the skills and confidence necessary for successful entrepreneurship, as well as build capacity so that the resulting businesses are fit for purpose? This panel will examine several frameworks, strategies, and partnership models that have seen promising results in bringing more women into the global economy, and, in turn, ensuring that their communities as a whole have a more sustainable economic future.</p> - <b>Selima Ahmad</b> , President of the Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BWCCI) - <b>Bridgette Beam</b> , Global Entrepreneurship Manager, Google Ventures - <b>Linda Rottenberg</b> , CEO and Co-founder, Endeavor - <b>Jeff Terry</b> , Global Head, Corporate Social Responsibility, Amway - <b>Moderator: Diane Melley</b> , Vice President at IBM, Global Citizenship Initiatives, IBM

12:10 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. <i>United Nation</i>	<b>Transition to Lunch</b>
12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Luncheon and Keynote Interview</b> Join us during this networking lunch and interview. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Erin Burnett</b>, News Anchor and Journalist, Erin Burnett OutFront, CNN</li> <li>- <b>Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka</b>, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and the Executive Director of UN Women</li> </ul>
1:45 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.	<b>Transition to Breakout Sessions</b>

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1:55 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.  
*United Nations*

#### Breakout Sessions

- **Expanding Financial Inclusion: New Tools for Empowerment**  
Through a variety of innovative programs, women around the world have benefited from increased access to credit—yet financial inclusion remains a challenge for many. This session will examine new approaches to access to finance that may complement existing programs as well as reach those whose needs go beyond credit.
  - o **Anna Gincher**, Chief Product Development Officer, Women's World Banking
  - o **Nathalie Roberts**, Director, HerProject
  - o **Douglas Sabo**, Vice President, Head of Global Corporate Philanthropy & Responsibility, Visa
  - o **Moderator: Henriette Kolb**, Head, IFC Gender Secretariat, International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank Group
  
- **Increasing Resilience in the Global Food System: The Case for a Focus on Women**  
If women farmers had the same access to productive resources as their male counterparts, they could increase farm yields by 20% to 30% and reduce the number of hungry people globally by up to 150 million. Women are also more likely than men to reinvest any earnings back into their household for nutrition, health care, and education. This session will examine how best to engage with women farmers to increase yield, meet demand, and create stable and sustainable communities.
  - o **Lorin Fries**, Associate Director, New Vision for Agriculture, World Economic Forum
  - o **Patricia Morris, Ph.D.**, President, Women Thrive Worldwide
  
- **Gender Lens Investing: Using Capital to Improve the Lives of Women and Girls**  
Gender lens investing encourages the use of capital to deliver financial returns and improve the lives of women and girls and their communities. By increasing women's access to capital, promoting workplace equity, and creating products and services that improve the lives of women and girls, this strategy yields both financial and social impact. This session will examine gender lens investing and how it bridges the market logic of financial returns with women's equality.
  - o **Joy Anderson**, President and Founder, Criterion Institute
  - o **Julie T Katzman**, Executive Vice President/COO, Inter-American Development Bank
  - o **Asya Troychansky**, Impact Officer, Root Capital
  - o **Jackie VanderBrug**, Senior Vice President and Investment Strategist, U.S. Trust
  - o **Moderator: Sarah Kaplan**, Associate Professor of Strategic Management, Rotman School, University of Toronto

1:55 p.m. – 2:55 p.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<p><b>The Corporate-Grassroots Connection: Effective On-the-Ground Partnerships</b></p> <p>Interventions for the economic empowerment of women and girls are most successful when they are created and implemented with a local lens. This session will examine how companies are best situated to achieve sustainable impact when they work with grassroots women’s organizations, whose leadership and staff members are trusted community members with a deep understanding of cultural and political norms and whose connections can prove invaluable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Dina Dublon</b>, Member of the Board of Directors of Microsoft Corp, PepsiCo and Accenture</li> <li>○ <b>Daniel Lee</b>, Executive Director, Levi Strauss Foundation</li> <li>○ <b>Melanie Minzes</b>, Senior Director of Development, CARE</li> <li>○ <b>Claire Winterton</b>, Vice President of Advocacy and Innovation, Global Fund for Women</li> <li>○ <b>Moderator: Marissa Wesely</b>, Global Fellow, Global Women’s Leadership Initiative, Wilson Center</li> </ul> <p><b>From Podium to Participants: Continuing the Plenary Conversations around Entrepreneurship</b></p> <p>Let’s continue this plenary discussion in this interactive breakout session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Natalie Byrne</b>, Director of Global Impact, Dermalogica</li> <li>○ <b>Naomi Whittel</b>, Founder and CEO, Reserveage Nutrition</li> <li>○ <b>Elizabeth Vazquez</b>, President, CEO, and Co-Founder, WEConnect International</li> <li>○ <b>Moderator: Jeff Terry</b>, Global Head, Corporate Social Responsibility, Amway</li> </ul>
2:55 p.m. – 3:20 p.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Afternoon Tea and Networking</b>
3:20 p.m. – 3:35 p.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<p><b>Story of Impact: A Case Study</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Sydney Price</b>, Senior Vice President of Corporate Social Responsibility, Kate Spade &amp; Company</li> </ul>
3:35 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<p><b>Release of Path to Empowerment Report</b></p> <p>The Power of Partnerships: Hear from Jane Nelson and Marc DeCoursey on the Path to Empowerment roundtable series and the findings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Marc DeCoursey</b>, Executive Director, Corporate Citizenship Center, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation</li> <li>- <b>Jane Nelson</b>, Director, Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative, Harvard Kennedy School</li> </ul>

3:50 p.m. – 4:50 p.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<p><b>The Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of the Business Community</b></p> <p>Women and girls are most often disproportionately affected by the challenges that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will aim to conquer; these challenges are so complex and critical that they can only be overcome through effective, inspired leadership and functional, practical partnerships. This panel will delve into specific partnership and leadership strategies that will help “reinforce the universal, integrated, and transformative nature” of the upcoming SDGs, as well as examine the importance of the private sector in ensuring country level implementation.</p> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Amina J. Mohammed</b>, United Nations’ Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Post-2015 Development Planning</li> </ul> <p><b>Panelists</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Kathy Calvin</b>, President and CEO, UN Foundation</li> <li>- <b>Lori Harnick</b>, General Manager, Citizenship &amp; Public Affairs, Microsoft</li> <li>- <b>Kathleen McLaughlin</b>, President, Walmart Foundation</li> <li>- <b>Moderator: Jane Nelson</b>, Director, Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative, Harvard Kennedy School</li> </ul>
4:50p.m. – 5:05 p.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Closing Keynote</b>
5:05 p.m. – 5:10 p.m. <i>United Nations</i>	<b>Closing Remarks</b>
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. <i>World Bar</i>	<b>Reception</b>