



Women 20 (W20) has set the overarching theme “Closing the Gender Gap for New Prosperity” in 2019. W20 fully endorse the statement in the Buenos Aires G20 Leaders’ Declaration that “gender equality is crucial for economic growth and fair and sustainable development,” and handed to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, the Chair of G20, our Communique containing prioritized outline as below on March 23, 2019.

【W20 2019 Communiqué (prioritized outline only)】

1. Request their labour and employment ministers to present a mid-term report on the 2014 Brisbane commitment to reduce the gender gap in labour force participation by 25 percent by 2025 during the 2020 G20.

Major reasons for the existing gender gap in labor force participation include social customs evolved from gender related social norms, the lack or insufficient levels of occupational education and training including encouragement for women and girls. These factors are relevant to the gender gap in wages, pensions and other earnings. Furthermore, gender-based violence and harassment in the workplace are gaining importance in women’s choice of work. In order to promote women’s labour force participation, it is unavoidable to remove systemic legal and social barriers, make equal access to education and training essential for work, and to provide infrastructure to promote shared care responsibility. It is expected that the mid-term report explains promoting and interfering factors and identifies policy effects by using common indicators.

2. Close the digital gender gap, and promote life-long learning and education on gender equality in schools and workplaces to eliminate gender stereotypes and unconscious bias.

Boost equal participation of girls and women of all ages in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM), and prevent amplification of gender discriminations in Artificial Intelligence (AI) by promoting equal participation of women in the design and development of digital technologies.

3. Empower women owned-/led- business including women entrepreneurs.

Ensure financial inclusion, promote women’s entrepreneurship, and accelerate women’s access to investment and markets. Incentivize investors to proactively incorporate gender factors into decision-making.

Links to W20 Communiqué and Menu of Action are follows;

W20 Communiqué: https://w20japan.org/pdf/w20_communique_jp.pdf

Menu of Action: https://w20japan.org/pdf/W20_MoA.pdf

