
Summary of W20 Communiqué

Xi'an, China, 26 May 2016

The Women 20 (W20) engagement group for the G20 met in Xi'an, China on 24-26 May 2016. The representatives of G20 countries and invited guests agreed a communiqué to be presented to the G20 leaders in the lead-up to the Hangzhou Summit. The support of the vice-president of China and many ministers shows the increasing legitimacy and urgency of the gender and growth agenda, which the Chinese term 'she-power'.

Declaration

We reaffirm the importance of the '25 by 25' female labour force participation target agreed in 2014 at the Brisbane Summit.

We urge G20 leaders to request that G20 employment and labour ministers' work with the W20 on the implementation of the agreed target of reducing the female labour force participation gap by 25 per cent by 2025.

We urge member states to update and publish their strategies for achieving the target, and to adopt a transparent and rigorous monitoring process.

We also call upon the G20 leaders to consider 22 recommendations. Highlights of some commitments the G20 Leaders could make include:

1. Gender equality perspective in global economic governance

Taking special measures to include more women-led businesses as suppliers for governments and corporations. This should be done by establishing a framework which includes baseline data, targets and the need to report on progress.

Providing economic and trade incentives for businesses that are at least 51 per cent owned, managed and controlled by one or more women.

2. Women's employment, entrepreneurship and social protection

Committing to embark on national income accounting that systematically recognizes and measures all forms of work, including unpaid care work.

Launching specific programmes to support women entrepreneurs, helping them not only to overcome start-up barriers, but also to grow and sustain their businesses, including through trade.

Improving access to credit and investor networks, training, information services and technical support.

3. Women's role in the digital economy

The G20 Skills Agenda and the new G20 Blueprint for Innovative Growth can incorporate the following recommendation:

The G20 Leaders should work to narrow and remove the digital divide. This should be done by helping women gain equal access to the internet, providing effective digital skills training for women, setting targets for women and girls to study STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), and strengthening the capacity of women to undertake internet-based entrepreneurship and employment.

Next steps

The next W20 Summit will be hosted by Germany in 2017 with the full support of Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Please click [here](#) to read the full document.