

**REPORT OF 13TH MEETING OF
APEC WOMEN LEADERS' NETWORK**

On behalf of Minister of Women and Social Development, Dr. Nidia Vilchez Yucra, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Minister of Community Development, Youth and Sports for your invitation. Unfortunately, it is not possible for us to be in such marvelous event, but I would like to express a warm greeting to all of the representatives and delegates of each economy, most of them were with us in our meetings in Peru. I would like to express one more time, Peruvian People's gratitude for all experiences we shared last year.

Accepting the commitment and responsibility we had as Chair of the 13th Meeting of APEC Women Leaders' Network 2008, we would like to report that there were more than three hundred women and men from the public and private sectors, civil society, and academia, who shared key issues to promote the APEC 2008 agenda and the Goals of Trade among developed economies by 2010, which will be extended to all economies by 2020.

As a result of three days sharing knowledge, research and valuable experiences of women from 21 APEC economies, Women Leaders' Network - WLN made a paper with proposals as a corollary of 13th Meeting of Women Leaders' Network, and asked Ministers Responsible for Trade to implement the recommendations I detail below and corresponding to this Foro:

1. Guidance of your portfolio to:

- Develop and provide accessible and affordable credit plans to export and micro finance for small and micro enterprises, and

- Develop capacity building programs to assist women head of enterprises to access global supply chains, especially in the service sector, and poor rural native women.
- 2 To search and involve women as well as women's organizations in planning, negotiating and implementing trade agreements. This is to ensure that gender issues and the results are included as an integral part of all negotiations and reports in relation to some or all trade agreements.**
- To improve collection and analysis of gender-disaggregated data on trade and business and
 - To continue research commission and case studies to monitor these results.
- 3 To deal with issues related to Intellectual Property Protection of Indigenous Knowledge, art and design, and to prevent the exploitation of traditional knowledge and their lifestyles.**
- Also, we issued this document with recommendations to the 6th Meeting of Gender Focal Points, who has welcomed the recommendations and incorporated them into their respective agreements and recommendations to the SOM II.

On this point, I would like to inform that the document containing the recommendations of the Meeting of APEC Women Leaders' Network was very well received and our proposals were assumed by this meeting chaired by Dr. Mercedes Aráoz, who was in full agreement with the recommendations and outcomes reached; the Ministerial Declaration states:

"Gender

We welcomed the reports from the Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN) and Women Leaders' Network (WLN), and recognized the

importance of integrating gender considerations into the development of trade policy, and the need to strengthen APEC's capacity in this regard.

We welcomed initiatives for the promotion of women exporters in the APEC region, particularly in developing economies, and reinforced the importance of continued cooperation between APEC and the business community to ensure that women entrepreneurs are able to both contribute to and benefit from free trade in the Asia-Pacific region”.

This document was introduced in Chiclayo city on 26 August and the SME Working Group Meeting delegates took note of it

Likewise, recommendations were issued at the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Small and Medium Enterprises last August 29 in the city of Chiclayo. The Chairman of the Meeting, Rafael Rey Rey took note, and in the Ministerial Declaration it agreed: (line 7)

Ministers recognized the specific challenges faced by youth, women and minority-led SMEs and supported the inclusion of “Youth, Women and Minorities” as the cross-cutting theme within the priorities of the Strategic Plan.

Finally, I would like to say that Peru reaffirms the commitments to recognize the contribution of women to develop and to promote their participation on equal terms with men and we offer our host all our support and best wishes to reach stronger agreements to build a more equitable and supportive world.