On the occasion of the 63rd Commission of the Status of Women, we invite you to attend “Closing the Gender Gap for New Prosperity.”

At the Buenos Aires Summit in 2018, G20 leaders declared gender mainstreaming strategy across the G20 agenda to be its focal pillar and discussing all G20 agenda from gender perspectives and closing the gender gaps in any socio-economic aspects will strongly contribute to SDGs. We welcome the G20’s strong commitment to gender equality and wish to further accelerate the pace of implementation of its commitments. The W20Japan Summit (March 22~24, Tokyo) will be the fifth meeting since the W20 was established. It is time to assess our achievement and identify the challenge ahead of us in order to make the W20 a more effective forum for all women and girls affected by G20 decisions. The panel discussion will focus on how to promote the implementation of policies recommended by W20 to G20 on the empowerment of women and girls and gender equality. In so doing, we would move on to redefining the meaning of ‘prosperity’ from a gender perspective and would be able to place gender equity at the heart of transformation of society.

10:00 - 11:15am, Wednesday, March 13, 2019
UN Headquarters Conference Room 11, 405 East 42nd Street, New York, NY.

Program

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**Introductory Remarks**

H.E. Mr. Koro Bessho  
Ambassador, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

**Panel Discussion**

**Speakers**

Yoriko Meguro  
Co-Chair, W20Japan2019 Steering Committee, on “Governance for Gender Equality”

Madeline DiNonno  
Chief Executive Officer of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media, on “Unpacking Bias in Media”

Mekala Krishnan  
Senior fellow at the McKinsey Global Institute(MGI), McKinsey’s business and economics research arm, on “The Power of Parity”

Bathyle Missika  
Head of the Networks, Partnerships and Gender Division, OECD Development Centre, on “Discriminatory Laws and Social Norms”

Anna Falth  
Manager “WE EMPOWER through responsible business conduct in G7 countries” Programme, UN Women, on “Strategies for Women’s Economic Empowerment”

**Moderator**

Asako Osaki  
Director, Gender Action Platform
Profile of Speakers

Yoriko Meguro
Dr. Yoriko Meguro is a Professor Emeritus of Sophia University, Tokyo. She is a pioneer in Sociology of Gender in Japan and is the author of numerous books, chapters and articles in the fields such as family, social network, life course and socio-economic development. She has been active in policy and public advocacy through public lectures, seminars and international conferences in and out of Japan. She was an alternate representative of Japanese government to the UN General Assembly in 1994 and ‘95, and served as the representative of Japan to the UN Commission on the Status of Women from 1998 to 2010. She is the chair of the Evaluation Committee on National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security at present.

Madeline DiNonno

Mekala Krishnan
Dr. Mekala Krishnan is senior fellow at the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI), McKinsey’s business and economics research arm, based in Boston, MA. She co-leads MGI’s research on global gender equality and is an author of the MGI report ‘The Power of Parity: How advancing women’s equality can add $12 trillion to global growth’. She has provided research support to the UN’s High Level Panel on Women’s Economic Empowerment and serves on the board of the Global Fund for Women, a leading public foundation dedicated to improving global gender equality. Mekala is a frequent speaker on these topics as well as on broader global economic trends.

Bathylle Missika
Head of the Networks, Partnerships and Gender Division OECD Development Centre
Missika is Head of the Networks, Partnerships and Gender Division at the OECD Development Centre. Ms Missika oversees the Development Centre’s work on the development narrative and the contribution of its various stakeholders, ranging from the contribution of non-state actors (foundations, MNAs) to engaging citizens in support of Sustainable Development Goals. She also oversees regional dialogue and major development fora, together with the OECD Development Centre’s work on gender equality. Ms Missika re-joined the OECD in 2012 after working in UNDP’s Conflict Bureau and the UNDP’s Democratic Governance Trust Fund.

Anna Falth
Manager “WE EMPOWER through responsible business conduct in G7 countries” Programme, UN Women
As such, Anna heads the Secretariat of the Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPs), EMPOWERWomen.org, that promotes online collaboration, learning and innovation to advance women’s economic empowerment in over 190 economies; and the WeLearn, a virtual skills school that will tackle some of the skills gaps faced by women and girls for the jobs of the future.
An economist, Anna has more than 20 years of experience as economic advisor within the UN system, including UNGTAD, UN-DBSA, UNDP and UN Women. She has a MSc in Economics from Lund University, Sweden, and a Masters in Law and Economic from Hamburg University, Germany.

Moderator
Asako Osaki
Director, Gender Action Platform
After receiving an M.A. in international affairs from Columbia University, she joined UNDP and served as the program manager for gender equality and women’s empowerment. Since her return to Tokyo in 2005, she has been active in mainstreaming gender in Japan’s policies and programs, both those of domestic and overseas assistance, working with government, international organizations, NGOs and research institutions. She is a member of the W20 Japan 2019 Steering Committee and the National Coordinator for WE EMPOWER Japan.