

**European Business Schools/Women on Board Initiative announces  
Global Board Ready Women (GBRW) Searchable Data Base**

*Group supports European Commission Vice President,  
Viviane Reding's Call to Action to use all talents for Europe's corporate boardrooms*

*Cooperation with  
Financial Times Non Executive Directors' Club, LinkedIn, and BoardEx*

**12/12/12. Brussels, London, New York, Paris, Milan, Madrid, Barcelona,  
Cambridge, Lille, Berlin, Rotterdam, Istanbul, St. Gallen, Geneva, Lausanne,  
Mumbai, Hong Kong**

The European Business Schools/Women on Board initiative of which INSEAD is a member has today announced at press conferences and via press releases around the world the formal establishment of the Global Board Ready Women (GBRW) searchable database to respond to global corporate governance needs for more gender diversity on publicly quoted company boards in Europe.

During the last year and a half, Europe's leading business schools have been working with the European Commission and Senior Executive Women to produce a Call to Action (05 December 11), Selection Criteria Guidelines and a growing list of now more than 8000 Board Ready Women (07 March /19 June 2012), [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-12-622\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-12-622_en.htm)). This list of 8000 Board Ready Women is currently being migrated into the Global Board Ready Women searchable database.

The "Global Board Ready Women" searchable database list and forum will be administered by the Financial Times Non-Executive Directors' Club on the global business platform, LinkedIn. The Group consists of women who already serve on a board or who are ready to take on a new mandate. All women listed in the Global Board Ready Women (GBRW) searchable database are suitable to be considered for publicly listed company board-level positions and meet a clear set of criteria as developed and defined over the last year and a half by the organization members of the European Business Schools/Women on Board initiative (see below).

In addition, the European Business Schools/Women on Board initiative has arranged for each of the individuals selected for the Global Board Ready Women (GBRW) searchable database to be linked with BoardEx 's Profiles and to access BoardEx's database of more than 500,000 corporations and companies.

Lesley Stephenson, Publisher of the FT Non Executive Directors' Club and member of the European Business Schools/Women on Board initiative commented that the "Global Board Ready Women group launched today will provide executive search firms, companies and investors and those looking to make board appointments with a list of board qualified women. Women in the Group can ensure that their profiles

and experience are kept up to date while companies and recruiters can easily search and identify those candidates whose experience most closely match their requirements and contact them directly.”

Sherry Coutu, herself Member of the Advisory Board of LinkedIn commented, "I'm extremely pleased to be part of this initiative to identify and promote the profiles of the board-ready women in the quest for a more transparent and balanced corporate governance. LinkedIn is the perfect platform for this Global Board Ready Women searchable database".

European Commission Vice President Reding commented, "We need to use all of our society's talents to ensure that Europe's economy takes off," said Vice-President Viviane Reding, EU Justice Commissioner. "I often hear the argument that there are not enough qualified women to occupy positions in the boardroom. Today the European Business Schools/Women on Board initiative is shattering those myths as well as glass ceilings! The Global Board Ready Women searchable database currently being populated from the lists of more than 8000 qualified Board Ready Women identified and compiled by them and their colleagues around the world is proof – Companies should now make use of this untapped pool of talent."

For more information, please contact: [corporate.governance@insead.edu](mailto:corporate.governance@insead.edu)

### **GBRW Selection Criteria**

Every application to this closed group is formally assessed and reviewed and only those women who meet the criteria below are accepted. Those participating Business Schools and Professional organizations have applied the same criteria for their participating Alumnae and Members.

All women on the list must have at least 5 years' experience in 1 or more of the following roles:

- Chair and/or NED of listed/private corporations
- CEO, COO, CFO or other C-suite exec/director level in listed/private corporations
- Family member and controlling shareholder of boards of large family companies
- Director of government agencies
- Director of non-profit orgs
- Institutional investment community senior professional
- Professional firms senior partner serving boards and their committees as clients
- Leading Academics with relevant experience
- Entrepreneur

A list of business schools and other professional groups supporting this initiative is here: <http://www.uploadlibrary.com/nonexecs/GBRW.Groups.list.amended.pdf>

For further information about the list please contact:

INSEAD  
Corporate Governance Initiative  
Bd de Constance - 77305 Fontainebleau Cedex - France  
Email: [corporate.governance@insead.edu](mailto:corporate.governance@insead.edu)  
INSEAD - The Business School for the World®  
[www.insead.edu](http://www.insead.edu) / [www.insead.edu/governance](http://www.insead.edu/governance)

**Members of the European Business School / Women On Boards Initiative  
Business Schools**

Bocconi

Cambridge Judge Business School

EADA

EDHEC Business School

EFMD – European Federation of Management Development

ESMT

ESSEC business school

HR College of Commerce and Economics

IAUW – International Association of University Women

IESE

IFPM Female Board Pool at the University of St.Gallen

IMD

INSEAD

Kellogg School of Management

London Business School

Oxford

RSM

Sabanci University

Skema

University of Mumbai

## **Professional Organizations**

American Chamber of Commerce France and Spain

Bellisario Foundation

BoardEx

Business and Industry Advisory Council

Canadian Women in Communications

Deutscher Juristinnenbund e.V.

EPWN (European Professional Women's Network)

Forte Foundation – Major Corporations and Business Schools

The Financial Times Non-Executive Directors' Club

G16+

GTWN - The Global Telecom Women's Network

GGI – Geneva Group International

IFA Institut Francais des Administrateurs

International Corporate Women Directors

TIAW - The International Alliance for Women

WiTT - Women in Telecoms and Technology

WCD - Women Corporate Directors

Women's Forum of New York

## **Corporate Women**

Lady Barbara Judge

Bridget Cosgrave

Lori Gonnu

Cristina Vicini

Lesley Stephenson

Brigitte Boone

Candace Johnson

Audrey Mandela

Diane Morgan

Irene Navitividad

Anne Negre

Indu Shahani

Susan Ness

Marina Niforos

Ingrid Silver

Susan Stautberg

Myla Villanueva