



11 February 2016

Dear Mr. Seth,

We would like to express our support and appreciation for UNITAR's Women's Leadership Programme. We hope many organizations and permanent missions in International Geneva will partner with UNITAR on this Programme so that we can further accelerate our joint efforts toward gender equality.

Since it was launched in 2015, we have seen first-hand the way in which The Women's Leadership Programme has increased the capacity of female professionals from numerous countries who have come to Geneva for multilateral engagements and negotiation processes, including the World Meteorological Organization Congress (Cg-17) in June 2015 and the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) in November 2015. The Programme has also promoted women's participation and empowerment in other fora, including during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) sessions in Bonn in June 2015 and the Secretary-General's High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in New York in July 2015.

Without a doubt, 2015 was an important year for advancing gender equality across International Geneva. The launch of the Geneva Gender Champions network has been successful in focusing attention and resources on the issue of women's empowerment, with over 75 senior officials joining the network, signing the pledge to pursue gender parity on panels, and taking on two additional concrete commitments to advance gender equality within their respective institutions. We would like to thank you again for your own personal commitments as a Geneva Gender Champion.

Mr. Nikhil Seth
Executive Director
UNITAR

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We believe UNITAR's Women's Leadership Programme will continue to be instrumental in 2016 in taking proactive measures to deliver on gender equality commitments and can provide support for other Geneva Gender Champions in fulfilling their commitments as well. Together we can ensure that gender equality will be at the heart of the work of International Geneva and amplified at national levels, particularly as we move forward with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Yours sincerely,



Pamela K. Hamamoto
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
United States of America



Michael Møller
Director-General
United Nations Office at Geneva