

Media Release

Business at OECD calls for more urgent action to secure gender equality

Paris, 9 March 2018 —Building on previous work on gender equality, Business at OECD (BIAC) hosted a seminar today to explore how stakeholders can overcome unconscious bias, bringing together OECD governments, senior management, and industry representatives. “We need more determination, open minds and practical steps to employ the great potential of women for more inclusive and productive economies”, said Bernhard Welschke, Business at OECD (BIAC) Secretary General. “Business at OECD engages with our business communities in all OECD countries towards that goal.”

The event marked the launch of a new Business at OECD (BIAC) report “*Preparing All our Minds for Work: Girls, women, and learning over a lifetime*”, which identifies business actions and public policy recommendations focusing on efforts in the technology sector. The report points to the importance of STEM education to advance successful careers of both women and men, and offers insights to address cultural, societal and institutional barriers to gender equality.

Offering examples of current business initiatives, the meeting also featured a presentation by DELL on the MARC (Men Advocating Real Change) initiative, which aims to identify unconscious bias in the workplace and promote a more collaborative leadership style.

The report on gender equality and skills is the fourth in a series of reports, and provides case studies from Business at OECD global members that recognize the links between gender equality and economic prosperity, productivity, and competitiveness. Business at OECD’s work on gender can be found here:

[Putting ALL Our Minds to Work: Harnessing the Gender Dividend](#) (2012);

[Putting ALL Our Minds to Work: An Assessment](#) (2014);

[Putting ALL Our Ideas to Work: Women and Entrepreneurship](#) (2015);

[Preparing all our Minds for Work: Girls, women, and learning over a lifetime](#) (2018)

About Business at OECD (BIAC)

Business at OECD (BIAC) speaks for business at the OECD. Established in 1962, we stand for policies that enable businesses of all sizes to contribute to growth, economic development, and prosperity. Through BIAC, national business and employers federations and their members provide expertise to the OECD and governments for competitive economies, better business, and better lives.

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