

15th January, 2010

**Invitation to International Forum
on Women in Urban Development
and Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary
of the Fourth World Conference on Women**

Your Excellency,

The All-China Women's Federation is pleased to invite you to the *International Forum on Women in Urban Development and Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women* (hereafter referred to as the Forum) from 16th to 18th September 2010 in Shanghai, China. The Forum will be hosted by the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF) with support of Shanghai Women's Federation.

The Forum is an important part of the World EXPO 2010. With Better City, Better Life as its theme, the EXPO, to be held in Shanghai China from May to October in 2010, features a series of forums on different topics and subjects. Furthermore as 2010 sees the 15th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Forum will also commemorate this milestone event in the history of women's movement. With focus on the theme of women in urban development as well as on the overall review of our efforts and progress over the past 15 years in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Forum will provide a good and unique platform for participants to share good practices in pursuing women's advancement, to explore new trends of women's participation in economic, political, cultural and social development, and to discuss issues regarding women in urbanization and sustainable development in the context of increasingly deepening globalisation.

The Forum will bring together around 300 outstanding women leaders in various fields and sectors from around the world, including ministers and high-level government officials responsible for women's affairs/ gender issues, as well as high-level officials from the United Nations. Members of international

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organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, the media and non-governmental organizations are also welcome to participate and make contributions to the Forum. Under the main theme of the Forum, participants are expected to deliberate on topics including “women in leadership: beyond the glass ceiling”, “women and urbanization: mobility, transition and sustainable development” and “challenging the gender roles: potentials, rights and responsibilities”. A photo exhibition on China and Chinese women's development will be available at the Forum and a guided tour to the Shanghai EXPO on 18th September will be provided for all participants. The forum is expected to achieve a consensus declaration stating major achievements and results of the Forum, which is to be shared and communicated to the Summit of the World EXPO joined by heads of states and government leaders of the world in October 2010. Please refer to enclosed tentative program of the Forum (Annex 1) for more information.

We sincerely hope that you and your delegation would come to the Forum and join other women leaders in Shanghai to share your experiences and stories of success, and to contribute to the further development of women's movement.

The working languages for the Forum are Chinese and English with simultaneous interpretation available. The Forum itself is free of registration fee. However, all participants are kindly requested to cover their own travel and hotel expenses in China.

Should you have any inquires, please contact Ms. Hongju Zhao of International Department, All-China Women's Federation (Tel : 86-10-65103281, 65266501, Fax: 86-10-65136044, Email: wforumexpo@yahoo.cn). It will be highly appreciated if you would confirm your attendance by returning the completed registration form (Annex 2) by 1st May 2010.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.



MENG Xiaosi

Chair, China Organizing Committee of the Forum
Vice-President, All-China Women's Federation

Annex 1: Tentative Program
Annex 2: Registration Form
Annex 3: Hotel Reservation Form