

# W20 Governance

## What does W20 stand for?

- Established in 2015 under Turkish G20 presidency, the W20 is a policy recommendation and engagement group part of the G20 process but independent from governments. In its functioning, it mirrors the G20 process.
- Its primary objective is to ensure that gender considerations are mainstreamed into G20 discussions and translate into the G20 Leaders declaration as policies and commitments that foster gender equality and women's economic empowerment.
- For that purpose, the W20 develops and addresses to the G20 Leaders' Sherpas a Communiqué which contains a series of actionable policy recommendations aimed at fostering gender equality and women's economic empowerment in order to boost gender-inclusive economic growth for each and every country.

## *Presidencies and Troika*

The Presidency and the Troika are the backbone of the W20. As in the G20, the Presidency must work together with past and future presidencies to ensure continuity, thus forming the Troika.

### *Role of the Presidency*

- The Presidency must collect funds for the organisation of the annual Summit.
- It is in charge of the preparation of the Communiqué and, to ensure continuity and transparency, works with the Troika and in close collaboration with W20 delegates.

- It has been customary for the presidencies to set the year's agenda as well as to take a lead role in moderating the development of the Communiqué, following an agreed framework which expresses the priority areas of the W20: labour, finance and entrepreneurship, as well as digital and the fourth pillar which reflects the strategic priority of the current presidency.
- It establishes the policy recommendations to be included in the Communiqué after consultation and discussions with the W20 delegates.
- It collects evidence-based information and research on the issues at stake together with a balanced mix of delegates, experts and knowledge partners. In order to do this it may also create working groups and task-forces on specific issues. The composition of these working groups is determined by the Presidency in consultation with delegates and includes delegates and experts chosen according to their field of expertise making sure that a balanced representation of all regions of the W20 is respected.
- It develops external advocacy and communication plans related to the Communiqué to be shared and discussed with delegates.
- It evaluates the impact that the W20 Communiqué had on the G20 as per the final Leaders' Declaration, and informs the delegates of the outcome.

### ***Presidency process***

- The W20 chair is appointed by the G20 Presidency. The W20 chair supporting team, preferably experienced W20 delegates, should be known and in place ideally 12-18 months before the handover from one presidency to the other.
- Preparation of the Communiqué: whether the W20 Presidency decides to set up working groups, task-forces or not, it should plan a series of webinars through an online collaboration platform. It is essential for delegates to take an active part in these webinars which are constitutive of the final communiqué content. The Presidency may also organise meetings alongside international events half way before the Summit making sure that those delegates who cannot participate in person can connect and participate remotely.
- The presidency must be in close contact with relevant G20 engagement and working groups to build the case for women's economic empowerment, and, when relevant, with international NGO's. It should also ensure its participation as an observer in the meetings of the governing board of We-Fi and take part in relevant international events such as CSW. In addition, it can organize side events and meetings of W20 delegates present in these international fora.

- The Communiqué is adopted by consensus like in any other G20 processes.

## Delegates

Each G20 member has a W20 **delegation** constituted by delegates chosen according to each G20 member's process. W20 Presidencies can invite experts as well as 'friends of the Presidency' for the duration of their mandate but cannot appoint additional delegates in other members' delegations.

### *Selection process:*

- Currently the W20 is made up of delegates representing business, international organisations, civil society, think-tanks and academia across the G20 members.
- The selection process is Sherpa-led. It has so far been very different from one W20 member to the other and includes: the designation by the Sherpa of individuals or organisations, organisations designating individuals; organisations having themselves to open up participation to other groups; large delegations, small delegations, etc... Now that the W20 has gained experience of this process during the last five years, the best practice for W20 members should be a delegation of a manageable size, composed of a balanced number of delegates coming from business, civil society and academia/think tanks who should be able to contribute to the three priorities of W20: labour inclusion, financial inclusion and digital inclusion.

### *Delegates' profile*

- Delegates should :
  - Be independent from government and administration;
  - Have a proven expertise in gender equality and women economic issues ;
  - Have the ability and time to play an active role during the preparation of the Summit and during the Summit;
  - Have experience in international/multilateral or high level domestic forum/negotiations;
  - Have the capacity to liaise with their Sherpa;
  - Have experience in networking;
  - Should preferably be fluent in English since discussions take place and all documents are in English.

### *Role of the delegates*

- Must take an active role in the preparation of the Communiqué during the year (i.e. via their active participation in webinars or working groups, editing of the communiqué on the platform, suggestions of best practice,

- etc.). Any delegate who does not fulfill these functions over a period of two years should expect not to be asked to return as a delegate;
- Should endeavor to represent the overall position of women's organizations in their country in all their diversity;
  - Should liaise with their Sherpa (especially the head of delegation);
  - Should ensure broad dissemination of the content of the Communiqué, especially when they are taking part in local or international events.

Delegates should be able to cover the cost of taking part in the annual Summit if they plan to attend.

### ***Heads of delegation***

- For coordination purposes and to speak with one voice, each delegation appoints its Head of Delegation/Co-Heads of Delegation according to the local context.

**This document is a living document which can be reviewed and updated by successive presidencies as needed.**