









United Nations

## **Press Release**

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## **Ring the Bell for Gender Equality**

For the fifth consecutive year, Athens Stock Exchange joined the 'Ring the Bell for Gender Equality' initiative of the World Federation of Exchanges (WFE), with the partnership of UN Global Compact and Sustainable Stock Exchanges (SSE). This year's "Ring the Bell for Gender Equality" Closing Bell took place on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, by honoring women in upper management positions of ATHEX-listed companies.

In more detail, Athens Exchange Group organized the Closing Bell ceremony and a networking event, to honor remarkable women in top-level positions of companies participating in the FTSE/ATHEX Large Cap and Mid Cap Index.

The executives who "rang the bell" were: Mrs. Vasiliki Anagnostou, General Director of EPSILON NET (software development sector), Mrs. Anna Apostolidou, CEO of BRIQ PROPERTIES AEEAP (real estate sector), Mrs. Marianna Stegou, Appointed Advisor of TECHNIKI OLYMPIAKI (constructions), Mrs. Georgia Stefanakou, General Manager of Major projects of EYDAP (water supply and sewerage), Mrs. Nelly Tzakou, Vice President of IDEAL HOLDINGS (IT services and consulting).

The executives underlined the accomplishments and the empowerment of women worldwide and how the diversion and inclusion strategies and policies lead to an improved business culture and ecosystem. It was common ground that businesses must ensure the active participation of women in decision making and social life, including work, payment, education, and accessibility, as the development of equality values will enhance the key pillars of prosperity for all.

At his welcome speech, Mr. Yianos Kontopoulos, Chief Executive Officer of Athens Exchange Group, expressed his commitment to support similar initiatives in the future which aim to strengthen gender equality and promote the equal participation of women in all areas of professional life, and stated: "This year we decided to honor women who are leading the ATHEX-listed companies of the FTSE/ATHEX Large Cap and the FTSE/ ATHEX Mid Cap. These women are a powerful example for all of us and I believe that their contribution and achievements in leadership positions is a recognition of the importance of inclusion and equal participation in business."

For more information, contact: events@athexgroup.gr