

KAZAKHSTAN STOCK EXCHANGE JSC

PRESS RELEASE

Almaty

March 7, 2018

KASE held a securities trading opening ceremony dedicated to the gender equality

Kazakhstan Stock Exchange JSC (hereinafter, KASE) held a securities trading opening ceremony on KASE markets dubbed "Ring the Bell for Gender Equality" on March 7, 2018 within the framework of the Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative (hereinafter, the UN SSE initiative) of the United Nations (hereinafter, the UN) and UN Women.

This event is timed to the International Women's Day and is conducted in order to promote sustainable development ideas including achievement of gender equality that were declared by the United Nations. Ring the Bell for Gender Equality event is intended to highlight the importance of gender equality in order to enhance women's role in the society.

The ceremony was attended by representatives of the National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan, United Registrar of Securities JSC, Central Securities Depository JSC, Damu Entrepreneurship Development Fund JSC, Atameken National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Baiterek National Management Holding JSC, ALE Association of Financiers of Kazakhstan (association of legal entities), PA Association of Businesswomen of Kazakhstan (public association), IFC Kazakhstan and major financial institutions that are members of KASE.

The empowerment and equality of women as entrepreneurs, innovators and leaders is an important focus of the modern society.

Kazakhstan, as a part of the global world, also strives to achieve gender equality. Nowadays, women provide 40 per cent of the gross domestic product of Kazakhstan and account for 52 per cent of the total number of persons employed in small and medium businesses of the country. According to the Global Gender Gap Report-2017 prepared by the World Economic Forum, Kazakhstan ranked the 52nd in the Global Gender Gap index and the 25th by the 'Working Women' indicator in the Global Competitiveness Index of the World Economic Forum.

KASE joined the UN SSE initiative on September 24, 2015.

For reference

The United Nations Sustainable Stock Exchanges initiative is a platform for enhancing cooperation between stock exchanges, investors and regulators in order to ensure long-term sustainable investment, improving disclosure and compliance with international ESG standards. The initiative was proposed by Ban Ki-moon, former UN Secretary-General, in 2009.

Kazakhstan Stock Exchange JSC (KASE) is a leading stock exchange in the Central Asian region and the only exchange in Kazakhstan carrying out its activities in the financial market. It is a universal trading platform for repo market instruments, foreign currencies, government and corporate securities, bonds of international financial institutions as well as derivatives.

KASE is a member of the World Federation of Exchanges (WFE), the Federation of Euro-Asian Stock Exchanges (FEAS) and other international and local professional associations.

In 2015, KASE joined the UN Sustainable Stock Exchanges initiative. KASE ranks second among the CIS exchanges on the volume of trading in securities, and it also ranks sixth on equity market capitalization among FEAS stock exchanges.

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