



## Leadership Excellence for Women Awards and Symposium (LEWAS)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

### Influential leaders to speak at the Leadership Excellence for Women Awards and Symposium (LEWAS)

*Advocates for Gender Diversity come together as panelists for LEWAS on 23rd and 25th October 2018 in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain*

**Dubai, U.A.E., 26 June 2018:** Under the patronage of His Excellency Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Oil, Kingdom of Bahrain and supported by National Oil and Gas Authority (NOGA), pioneers in the energy industry have launched the fourth edition of Leadership Excellence for Women Awards and Symposium (LEWAS).

Under the Chairpersonship of **Reem Al Ghanim**, HR Leader, **Saudi Aramco**, LEWAS began in 2013 with the objective to **Empower, Engage and Elevate** women. Since its inception, it has recognized and honored men and women who are not only making a mark in the energy industry but are also being an advocate for gender diversity in the GCC.

**About the Symposium:** The highly anticipated LEWAS Symposium will be held on **25th October 2018** at the **Bahrain International Exhibition & Convention Centre as a co-located event of GDA International Downstream Conference and Exhibition**. The objective of the symposium is to celebrate professional achievements, learn from well-respected experts, have an opportunity to network and improve upon knowledge.

In addition to the opening remarks delivered by His Excellency Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Oil, Kingdom of Bahrain and Suleman A. Al-Bargan, Vice President Domestic Refining & NGL Fractionation, **Saudi Aramco**, the symposium, themed at **Gender Diversity Advancement**, covers key topics that aim at different aspects of gender diversity. LEWAS presents a high caliber of panelists who are experts and can offer deep insights into gender diversity in the energy industry.

**Presentation- Best practices in advancing women in downstream:** This presentation, themed at **Gender Diversity Advancement**, aims at sharing successful stories about advancing women in downstream. This presentation is led by Abdulaziz M. Al- Judaimi, Senior Vice President Downstream, **Saudi Aramco**.

**Winning women panel:** The winning women panel, themed at **Gender Diversity Accomplishments**, aims at highlighting the opportunities found by women in the downstream industry. This panel, moderated by Najla Baeshen, **Saudi Aramco**, is led by Fatema Moosa, Supervisor, **GPIC**.

**Talk show- Examples of innovative solutions in the GDA founding companies and partners:** This session, themed at **Gender Diversity Accountability** is moderated by Eithne Treanor, Managing Director, **E Treanor Media** and is led by Mae S. Al Mozaini, Manager, Research & Advisory Corporate Affairs, **Saudi Aramco**, Dawood Nassif, General Manager, **nogaholding** and Muna Al Suwaidi, Vice President Human Capital Division, **ADNOC Refining**.

**Debate- To quota or not to quota:** This debate, themed at **Gender Diversity Approaches** is aimed at quotas, targets, sticky floor, leaky pipeline, and glass ceiling. It focuses on the best approaches to use in these scenarios. This debate is moderated by Eithne Treanor, Managing Director, **E Treanor Media** and Shamael Al-Sharikh, Team Leader Corporate Communications, **Q8 - Kuwait Petroleum International Ltd.** and is led by Ebrahim Talib, Deputy Chief Executive (Refining and Marketing), **BAPCO** and Naila Haider E. Baqer, Team Leader Market Research, **Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC)**.

**Presentation- The state of gender diversity globally in oil and gas, and in downstream specifically.**

**Numbers tell the story:** This presentation, themed at **Gender Diversity Analytics** is led by Dr. Iván Martén, Senior Partner and Managing Director, Vice Chairman Energy Practice, **The Boston Consulting Group (BCG)**.

**About the Awards:** The Leadership Excellence for Women Awards will be held on **23<sup>rd</sup> October 2018** at **Four Seasons Hotel, Bahrain Bay**. The awards is dedicated to recognizing excellence and celebrating professionals who demonstrate talent and innovation in the energy industry.

LEWAS is a co-located event of the **GDA International Downstream Conference and Exhibition**. It is the leading Middle East strategic platform for downstream professionals to address business challenges, share best practices and unlock potential opportunities through collaboration and partnerships. Striving towards excellence, this forum aims at engaging regional and international stakeholders across the business, academia and technology providers to capitalize on investment, innovation and growth.

Registration for the symposium is currently open. To get involved, log on to [www.lewa-symposium.org](http://www.lewa-symposium.org).

For any enquiries or suggestions, kindly contact Gitanjali Venugopal at [gitanjali@mee-events.com](mailto:gitanjali@mee-events.com) or +971 442 70 739.