Mariet Verhoef-Cohen, President-Elect of Soroptimist International (SI) and President, Women for Water Partnership (WfWP), is to be honoured at the Women Economic Forum – EU (WEF-EU), taking place at The Hague 27 to 28 January 2017. Mariet will be presented the Women Economic Forum 2017 award of ‘Women of the Decade Creating a Better World for All’ at the event which is expected to see more than 400 women and men from across Europe join delegates from around the world.

The theme for WEF-EU 2017 is EU: Reinventing Itself: Women Empowerment & Inclusion. The two-day event will deliver sessions covering one hundred topics, introducing a host of influential speakers drawn from various sectors including business, entrepreneurship, corporate leadership, arts and culture, film and television, media, academics, social sector, and government.

Mariet says: “I feel honoured and humbled to be presented with the Women Economic Forum 2017 award of ‘Women of the Decade Creating a Better World for All’. As President-Elect of Soroptimist International and President of Women for Water Partnership, this theme is very close to my heart. Both organisations focus on SDG 5 (Gender Equality) in liaison with SDG 4 (Education) and SDG 6 (Water), so that women will be positioned as active leaders, experts, partners and agents of change. Both women organisations aim to create a Better World for All, and in particular, women”.

Speaking for the Women Economic Forum, Dr. Harbeen Arora, Founder & Global Chairperson said that WEF is a global conference which fosters empowering conversations and connections among women of extraordinary commitment, in order to foster constructive change in all walks of life. Congratulating the awardees, Dr Harbeen said that we need to uphold role models in a variety of sectors and make visible the inspiring work being done by so many women across the world.

WEF events take place throughout the year and across the globe. The events empower women to expand their business opportunities, increase global influence through peer exchange and expand networking across borders, and inspire by introducing some of the world’s most successful entrepreneurs, authors, speakers, leaders, and celebrities. Regional events are held throughout the year in different parts of the world. Following the event in Hague later this month, will be an event in London, with the Annual event taking place in New Delhi, India. There are more coming up this year in US, Canada, Maldives, South Africa, Iceland, New Zealand and Morocco.

**Editor’s Notes**

Soroptimist International is made up of four Federations; Soroptimist International of the Americas, Soroptimist International of Great Britain & Ireland, Soroptimist International of Europe and Soroptimist International of South West Pacific. A global volunteer movement, Soroptimist International works to transform the lives of women and girls through a network of over 75,000 club members in 133 countries and territories worldwide. [www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org)

ALL and WEF

ALL Ladies League (ALL) is the world’s largest all-inclusive international women’s chamber, and a movement for the Welfare, Wealth, and Wellbeing of ALL. The acronym ALL stands for its positive spirit and culture of helpfulness toward empowering one and ALL. Offering completely free membership to women, ALL has 500+ chapters and over 40,000 members across 150 countries. [www.wef.org.in](http://www.wef.org.in) ; [www.aall.in](http://www.aall.in)

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