

NOVEMBER • 9 • 2007

# Celebration of WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP



Women's World Banking

# Program

6:30

Cocktails

7:30

Dinner, Entertainment and Program

## Master of Ceremonies

Jennifer Riria

*Managing Director, Kenya Women Finance Trust; Member, WWB Board of Trustees*

## Welcome

Mercedes Canalda

*Founder and Chair, ADOPEM Bank, Dominican Republic; Chair, WWB Board of Trustees*

## Recognizing Women's Leadership

Michaela Walsh

*Founder and President of WWB, 1979 to 1990;  
Honorary Member, WWB Board of Trustees for Life*

Introduced by Ela Bhatt,

*Chair, WWB Board of Trustees, 1988 to 1998; Honorary Member, WWB Board of Trustees for Life*

Nancy Barry

*President of WWB, 1990 to 2006*

Introduced by Maricelo Glen de Tobon,

*Executive Director, Federation of Latin American Banking Associations; Member, WWB Board of Trustees*

Mary Ellen Iskenderian

*President of WWB*

Introduced by Jennifer Riria

*Managing Director, Kenya Women Finance Trust; Member, WWB Board of Trustees*

## Supporting WWB

Floris Bannier, Pauline Kruseman and Rosmarie Michel  
*Members, WWB Advisory Committee*

Honored by Sylvia Chin, Secretary, WWB Board of Trustees

Gail Harrity

*Chair, Friends of WWB/USA Board of Directors*



# Women's World Banking

Women's World Banking was conceived during the first United Nations World Conference on Women, held in Mexico City in 1975. At this meeting, ten visionary women from five continents came together to imagine an organization dedicated to promoting the economic interests of women entrepreneurs. In 1976, Women's World Banking was established under the leadership of founding president Michaela Walsh. In 1979, WWB was registered in the Netherlands as an international non-profit organization, with the mission of developing a global network of microfinance institutions to provide poor women entrepreneurs with the capital and information necessary to build viable businesses. Its founding Board of Directors consisted of eminent women leaders from a diverse range of cultures, women such as Ela Bhatt, founder and president of India's SEWA, the world's first and largest trade union for undocumented women workers.

Today, WWB is a leading microfinance organization working in 30 countries worldwide to expand the economic assets, participation and power of poor women entrepreneurs and their families. Based in New York City, the WWB global team provides support, advice, training and information to a global network of 54 microfinance institutions and banks. WWB network members offer credit and other financial services directly to 9 million poor entrepreneurs, 70% of them women. Another 14 million are indirect beneficiaries of the banks in the WWB network.

Over the past three decades, WWB's partner organizations have helped millions of women to improve their living conditions, keep their families well-fed and healthy, educate their children, and secure a political voice. Under the leadership of President Mary Ellen Iskenderian, Women's World Banking continues to promote socially-responsible partnership between the microfinance industry and mainstream investors and banks, and is a strong advocate for women's leadership and participation in microfinance.

Women's World Banking thanks you for your continued support and collaboration. We look forward to working with all of our partners as we develop new, innovative programs and services for the next generation of microentrepreneurs and women leaders.

## ELA BHATT

El**E**la Bhatt is the founder of the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA), one of the most successful organizations for the economic empowerment of women in India. After serving as legal counsel to the Textile Labour Association in Ahmedabad, Ms. Bhatt founded SEWA in 1972 as a trade union to serve the interests of self-employed women who were not protected by state laws governing the treatment of industrial and other workers. In 1974, to provide banking services to SEWA members, she founded SEWA Bank, one of the pioneering institutions of the nascent microcredit movement. Ms. Bhatt is the author of the book *We Are Poor but So Many: the Story of Self-Employed Women in India*, published by Oxford University Press, which chronicles SEWA and SEWA Bank's successful efforts to increase the bargaining power, economic opportunities, health security and legal representation of self-employed Indian women. One of the founders of Women's World Banking, Ms. Bhatt has been a member of WWB's Board of Trustees since the Board's inception in 1980, and was the Board's Chair from 1988 to 1998. She is also the founder, in 1982, of Friends of Women's World Banking (FWWB), a microfinance organization created to extend and expand informal credit networks within India and to link them to a global movement. In 2007, Ms. Bhatt was named a founding member of "The Elders," the historic group of world leaders and visionary thinkers convened by Nelson Mandela, Graça Machel and Desmond Tutu. Other founding members include Kofi Annan, Jimmy Carter; Li Zhaoxing, Mary Robinson and Muhammad Yunus. We honor Ms. Bhatt for her pioneering role in the microfi-

# HONOREES

## DUANE D. WALL

Duane D. Wall is a partner at the global law firm of White & Case in New York City, where he specializes in advising domestic and foreign banks on the nature and structure of their operations and activities in the United States and abroad. In 2000, Mr. Wall was unanimously elected Managing Partner of White & Case, a position he held through 2007. As Managing Partner, Mr. Wall directed White & Case's operations in the United States and in Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia, leading the firm through a period of vigorous expansion with continued emphasis on international practice. During Mr. Wall's tenure as Managing Partner, White & Case expanded pro bono programs in parts of the world that were previously unfamiliar with the practice, and instituted a Women's Initiative program to ensure that women lawyers continue to have ample opportunities to step into these leadership roles at every stage of their careers. [Something here about role with regard to WWB] We honor Mr. Wall for his support of Women's World Banking and our mission ...

## SYLVIA FUNG CHIN

Sylvia Fung Chin is a partner in the global law firm of White & Case in New York City. Her practice primarily involves corporate and commercial financing and representing financial intermediaries. Ms. Chin is a director of the Asian American Law Fund of New York, New York County Lawyers' Association and the Fordham Law Alumni Association. She has served as President of the Asian-American Bar Association of New York, of the NAPABA Law Foundation and of the American College of Investment Counsel. Ms. Chin has been instrumental in mobilizing substantial pro bono legal support for WWB from White & Case. She has served on the WWB Board of Trustees since 1990, and currently serves as Secretary of the Board.

# SPEAKERS

## MARY ELLEN ISKENDERIAN

Mary Ellen Iskenderian is President and CEO of Women's World Banking. [Check with Niki and Sarita about what else to write; Sarita had mentioned that we should keep Mary Ellen's bio very brief.]

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## Affiliates and Associates

### AFFILIATES AND ASSOCIATES

<b>BANGLADESH</b>	Shakti Foundation for Disadvantaged Women ASA
<b>BÉNIN</b>	Association d'Entraide des Femmes (ASSEF) Association pour la Promotion et l'Appui au Développement des Micro-Entreprises (PADME) The Africa Microfinance Network (AFMIN)
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<b>BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA</b>	MI-BOSPO
<b>BRAZIL</b>	Banco da Família
<b>BURUNDI</b>	Caisse Coopérative d'Epargne et de Crédit Mutuel (CECM)
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<b>DOMINICAN REPUBLIC</b>	Asociación Dominicana para el Desarrollo de la Mujer
<b>THE GAMBIA</b>	Gambia Women's Finance Association (GAWFA)
<b>INDIA</b>	Friends of Women's World Banking/India (FWWB) SHARE Microfin Limited
<b>JORDAN</b>	Microfund for Women
<b>KENYA</b>	Kenya Women Finance Trust (KWFT)
<b>MEXICO</b>	FinComún
<b>MOROCCO</b>	Al Amana
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<b>RUSSIA</b>	Russian Women's Microfinance Network (RWMN)
<b>SRI LANKA</b>	Janashakthi Bank Societies Sarvodaya Economic Enterprises Development Services (SEEDS)
<b>TUNISIA</b>	Enda Inter-Arabe
<b>UGANDA</b>	Uganda Finance Trust (UFT)

# Network Members

## Global Network for Banking Innovation

### GLOBAL NETWORK FOR BANKING INNOVATION

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<b>CHILE</b>	Bandesarrollo Microempresas Santander Banefe
<b>DOMINICAN REPUBLIC</b>	Banco ADEMI
<b>INDIA</b>	ICICI Bank Limited SEWA Bank
<b>INDONESIA</b>	Bank Rakyat Indonesia (BRI)
<b>KENYA</b>	Equity Bank Limited (EBL) Kenya Post Office Savings Bank
<b>MEXICO</b>	Grupo Financiero Banorte
<b>MONGOLIA</b>	Xac Bank
<b>PARAGUAY</b>	Financiera Grupo Interfisa
<b>PERU</b>	Caja Municipal de Ahorro y Credito de Arequipa (CMAC Arequipa) Mibanco
<b>SRI LANKA</b>	National Development Bank (NDB)
<b>SWITZERLAND</b>	BlueOrchard Finance
<b>THAILAND</b>	Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) Government Savings Bank (GSB)
<b>THE NETHERLANDS</b>	Triodos Bank
<b>USA</b>	Citigroup Foundation Deutsche Bank Microcredit Development Fund ShoreBank World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU)

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