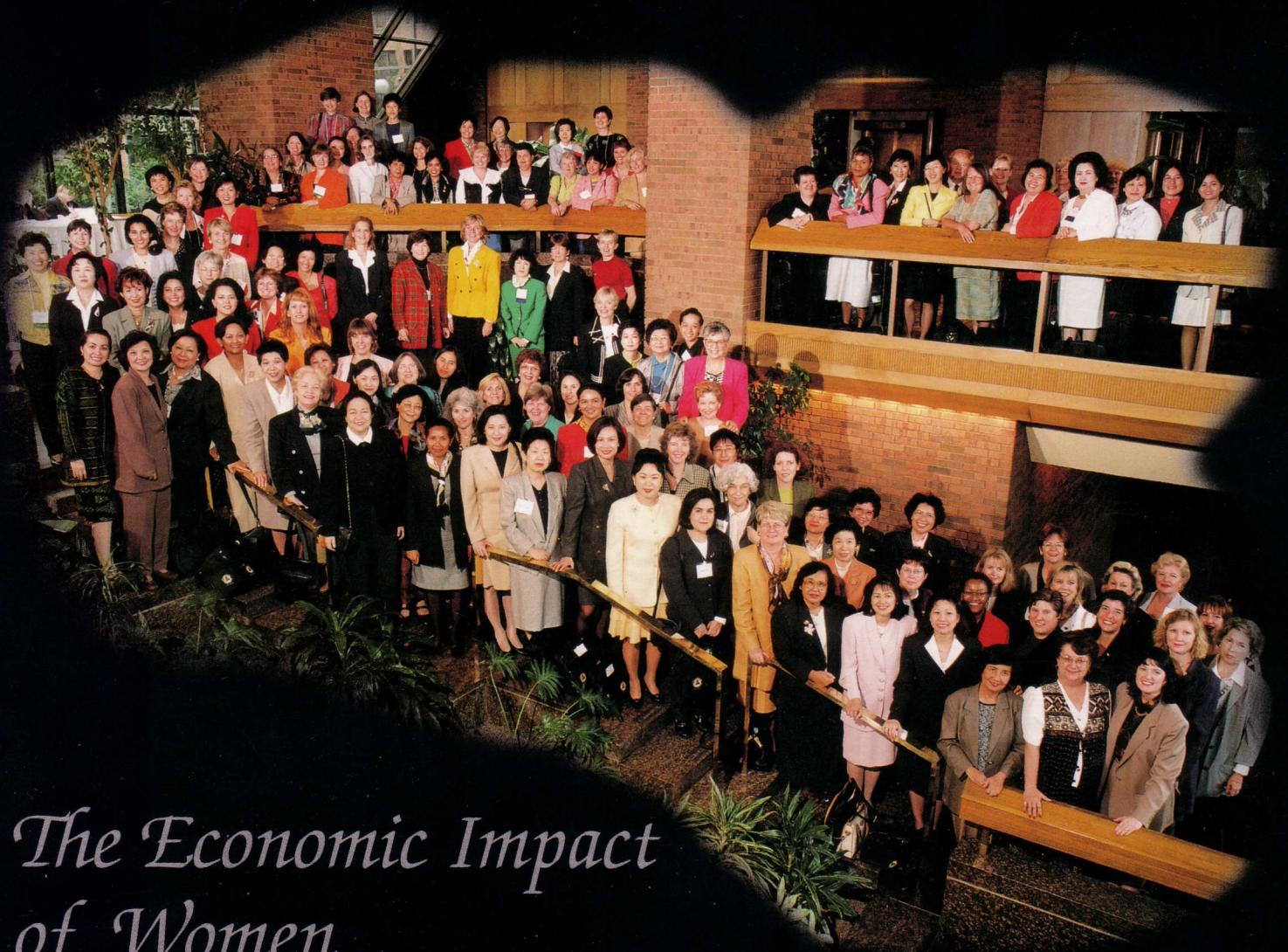


Women Leaders' Network

From APEC Economies



*The Economic Impact
of Women
in the APEC Region*

Ottawa-Hull

September 1997

The Women Leaders' Network From APEC Economies

Who We Are...

The Women Leaders' Network is a dynamic and flexible regional network composed of women ready to contribute to APEC's vision of equitable and sustainable growth. It consists of women leaders from the 18 APEC economies (21 as of November 1998) who have made significant contributions to their economies and societies in one or more fields.



The Network generates, consolidates, disseminates, promotes and applies gender-relevant information and knowledge. It shares best practices and lessons learned and promotes sound policies that address the special concerns of women. It serves as a catalyst to raise awareness and build strategic alliances to ensure the relevance of APEC's agenda to women. It offers a source of expertise, mentoring, role modelling and partnership.

The unique nature of this Network is its diversity in that it encompasses women in business, government and civil society including academe in all the APEC economies. Organizations can include any group which is non-profit and non-governmental in nature. While drawn from different facets of each APEC economy, our participation in the Network is as individuals as opposed to serving as the formal representatives of the organizations or institutions for which we work or provide leadership.

What We Do...

We work together as an international network to promote the integration of gender perspectives into APEC. We believe investment in women is not only sound economics, but plays a vital role in recognizing women's contribution to their own economies.

APEC's recognition of this essential component is crucial in achieving the APEC goal of equitable and sustainable development.



Andrina Lever, President and founder of the Women Entrepreneurs of Canada Foundation, and Heather Gibb of the North-South Institute toil into the night preparing policy

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"Investing in women is an investment which pays double in returns. Women are an important engine of economic growth. But even more, women bring a more balanced set of economic perspectives including family, work and community as intertwined parts of life."

Andrina Lever

**Co-Chair 1997 Women Leaders' Network Meeting
and member of Canada's APEC Business Advisory
Council (ABAC)**

