

## PRESS RELEASE, 8th March 2016

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF WOB LEADING WOMEN DOCUMENTARY FINAL SELECTION

Women on Boards (WOB) NGO is pleased to announce the official selection of "WOB LEADING WOMEN DOCUMENTARY 2016", a documentary that will highlight leading women in the business and financial sector of the Maldives and celebrates the advancement of women and those who are breaking stereotypes to change their own lives by inspiring other women and girls around them. The documentary shall also reflect our NGO's main mission i.e. to become a leading advocate in improving the efficiency of the "Maldivian Market" by building an economic growth potential with the skills of highly qualified Maldivian Women.

The WOB Leading Women in Business & Finance Documentary was initially intended to be released for our 50<sup>th</sup> Independence Day Celebrations and was officially announced during early June of 2015. However, due to unforeseen technical difficulties, and several limitations within the past year, we had to delay the documentary release date to 2016. Amidst the nomination process we extended the nomination deadline more than three times for fair consideration and true representation of the selected. Moreover, we received and compiled nearly 90 "expression of interest" from phenomenal women across our small archipelago when it comes to Business & Finance. Furthermore, applications that were rejected were solely on the basis of withdrawal, lack of information & cooperation to conclude outcome and applications that duly did not meet the "Nominating Committee Procedures and Criteria" set forth by WOB Executive Board and Leading Women Selection Committee.

While we are excited to capture some of our most phenomenal, outstanding and most exceptional women in the Maldives from diverse backgrounds representing our business and financial sector, we also would like to take this opportunity to both thank and congratulate all the women of the Maldives on the occasion of Women's Day 2016. Women's innumerable contributions define the landscape of every contemporary sector and industry of our country. Women are the glue that holds our society together!

## The WOB LEADING WOMEN DOCUMENTARY honorees are listed below:

- 1. Dr. Azeema Adam, Governor of Maldives Monetary Authority
- 2. Fareeha Shareef, Chairperson of Bank of Maldives Plc.
- 3. Mariyam Shakeela, Chief Executive Officer of SIMDI Group Pvt. Ltd
- 4. Sheeza Imad, Chief Executive Officer of Cyza Saloon
- 5. Shaira Saleem, Managing Director of Sheri Pvt. Ltd
- 6. Suiza Ibrahim, Managing Director of Sui's Saloon
- 7. Sana Mansoor, Managing Partner of FJS Associates
- 8. Shaahina Ali, Managing Director of Sez Explorers Pvt. Ltd.
- 9. Aiminath Nasheedha, Founder of Nashee Cakes
- 10. Gameera Adam, Entrepreneur, Baa. Anhenunfushi.
- 11. Juwayriya Wajdy, Entrepreneur and Owner of Juway's Café and Restaurants
- 12. Fathimath Manike, Islamic Banking Director of Bank of Maldives Plc.
- 13. Asima Ali, Director of Co Load Maldives Pvt. Ltd.
- 14. Nadiya Hussain, Chief Financial Officer of Shuaz Investments Pvt. Ltd.
- 15. Raheema Adam, Entrepreneur & Advocate for Women's entrepreneurship
- 16. Raheema Saleem, Operations Director of Housing Development Finance Corporation Plc.

President of Women on Boards and the Chair of the Leading Women Selection Committee, Dr. Aamaal Ali together with the Executive Board of WOB and the Leading Women Committee sends sincere congratulations to the selected 'Leading Women' and women of the Maldives who are spearheading every dimension of our nation demonstrating the importance of gender diversity and success stories of inclusive prosperity. We also would like to thank all the wonderful Maldivians who applied, and their colleagues, families and close allied who nominated inspiring women of our nation. Thank you all for helping to celebrate the stories of great women around the Maldives.

For further information on Leading Women Committee and other details please visit our website or email to <a href="mailto:sg@womenonboards.org.mv">sg@womenonboards.org.mv</a> or call 960 7916621.



Fathimath Shafeega, Founder & President

Dated: 08 March 2016

