

Sayyidaat Dentons: Women in Business, a Middle East perspective

October 21, 2014

Dubai —Dentons launched Sayyidaat Dentons, a new network for business women in the Middle East, with a unique event on October 20, 2014, at the Dubai International Financial Centre.

"Sayyidaat" means "women" in Arabic. Sayyidaat Dentons is Dentons Middle East professional women's network. It aims to connect the Firm's professional women with other professional women across industry sectors, creating a community to support and build the success of women both within the Firm and across the region. The founding partners are Catherine Beckett, corporate and commercial partner (Dubai), and Sadaf Buchanan, banking and finance partner (Muscat).

The network launch, which was hosted in partnership with Ellevate and Reach, explored themes from Sheryl Sandberg's best-selling book, "Lean In: Women, Work and the Will to Lead". A lively discussion was moderated by Richard Dean, one of Dubai's leading broadcasters and presenter of "The Business Breakfast" on *Dubai Eye*.

Panellists included Farah Foustok, Managing Director and Senior Executive Officer of Lazard Gulf Ltd; Nesreen Srouji, Head of Sovereign Wealth Fund Coverage for the MENA region at Standard Chartered Bank; Amel Murphy, Co-founder of Sustain Leadership, a management and leadership consulting firm; and Paul Jarvis, Dentons' Head of Banking and Finance (Middle East).

Commenting on the successful event, Beckett said: "We are delighted to launch this network and to have hosted such an engaging and insightful event. Diversity and inclusion are at the core of Dentons' values and contribute to the success and strength of our firm."

On behalf of Reach, Foustok commented: "One of Reach's key objectives is to produce a new generation of female leaders from and for the Middle East - confident, driven, knowledgeable, experienced, compassionate and inspiring. We are proud partners of this event and the positive impact it had."

On behalf of Ellevate, Noor Sweid, member of the Board of Directors for Endeavor, commented: "Ellevate members are at all stages of their careers: ground breakers, thought leaders, CEOs, entrepreneurs, board members, and visionaries. Some are at the top of their fields, and others are on their way. We are pleased to partner with Dentons and Reach on this event to support the engagement of women in the Middle East"

About Dentons

Dentons is the world's largest law firm, connecting top-tier talent to the world's challenges and opportunities with 20,000 professionals including 12,000 lawyers, in more than 200 locations, in more than 80 countries. Dentons' polycentric and purpose-driven approach, commitment to inclusion and diversity, and award-winning client service challenge the status quo to advance client interests. www.dentons.com

Your Key Contacts



Catherine Beckett

Senior Legal Consultant,
London

D +44 207 246 7631

M +44 7867 142195

catherine.beckett@dentons.com



Sadaf Buchanan

Partner, Muscat

D +968 2457 3028

sadaf.buchanan@dentons.com

Media contact

Muireann Kelleher

Business Development

Director Europe

muireann.kelleher@dentons.com