PRESS RELEASE

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SPX
SOUTH PACIFIC STOCK EXCHANGE

SPX Joins Global Exchanges to Ring the Bell for Gender Equality

L to R: IFC Country Officer Mr Phongsavanh Phomkon, KGF Director Ms Carolyn Ah Koy, CFL Director Ms Arieta Cama, FMF Chairperson Ms Jenny Seeto, SPX Director Ms Lorraine Seeto, WEBC Chair Ms Jyoti Maharaj, Reserve Bank of Fiji Governor Mr Ariff Ali, SPX CEO Mr Sheraj Obeyesekere, PDM Director Ms Matelita Katamotu and FHL Director Ms Marica Wati Rokovada-Hallacy

Suva, Fiji – The South Pacific Stock Exchange (SPX) today joined over 100 stock exchanges and clearing houses worldwide in marking the global Ring the Bell for Gender Equality initiative in recognition of International Women's Day 2026.

The event, held at the Reserve Bank of Fiji, brought together regulators, listed companies, board members and capital market stakeholders to highlight the role the private sector can play in advancing gender equality and strengthening leadership diversity.

The 2026 Ring the Bell for Gender Equality initiative, under the theme "Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL women and girls," calls on companies, investors and capital market institutions to translate commitments on gender equality into measurable progress.

Making opening remarks at the event, SPX Director Ms Lorraine Seeto said events such as Ring the Bell for Gender Equality bring together decision makers who influence leadership across the corporate sector. "We encourage companies to actively consider diversity as a value addition and to create clear pathways for more women to progress into senior leadership and board positions," she added.

Speaking at the event, Governor of the Reserve Bank of Fiji, Mr Ariff Ali stated, “An inclusive financial system is a stronger financial system. When women have equal opportunity to participate in enterprise, leadership and capital markets, the result is stronger governance, greater innovation and more resilient economic growth.”

Ms Jyoti Maharaj, Chairperson of the Women Entrepreneurs Business Council speaking at the event stated that empowering women in business requires both opportunity and support. She noted that women are increasingly stepping into entrepreneurship and leadership across the economy, and that strengthening networks, mentorship and access to opportunities will help more women continue to grow, lead and contribute to Fiji’s economic development. She added that greater visibility of women in leadership roles helps inspire the next generation to pursue leadership in business and finance, strengthening both institutions and the wider economy.

Ring the Bell for Gender Equality is globally organised by the Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative in partnership with UN Women, the International Finance Corporation, the UN Global Compact and the World Federation of Exchanges.

The initiative also underscores that businesses and financial markets play a critical role in shaping how equality is realised in practice. Through their leadership decisions, governance standards and workplace policies, companies help determine whether opportunities for women expand and whether progress toward equality accelerates.

About SPX:

The South Pacific Stock Exchange (SPX) is Fiji's only securities exchange, licensed by the Reserve Bank of Fiji under the Companies Act 2015. It facilitates capital raising in the primary market and offers a fair, transparent platform for secondary market trading. The SPX has two wholly owned subsidiary companies; Central Share Registry Pte Limited (CSRL) and the SPX Trustees Limited (SPXT). FHL Stockbrokers Pte Limited (FHLS), Kontiki Stockbroking Pte Limited (KSB) and Fiji Stockbrokers Pte Limited (FSB) are the licensed stockbroker firms operating in the stock market in Fiji.

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More Photos

Governor of the Reserve Bank of Fiji Mr Ariff Ali

SPX Director Ms Lorraine Seeto

Ms Jyoti Maharaj