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WIIS President, Chantal de Jonge Oudraat, Recognized as Gender Champion

Dr. de Jonge Oudraat Pledges to Further Gender Parity as a Gender Champion

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Women In International Security (WIIS) President, Chantal de Jonge Oudraat, was honored as a Gender Champion at *The Future of US Nuclear Policy: National Security & Nuclear Policy Briefings* annual conference on November 14. The event marked the launch of the Gender Champions in Nuclear Policy initiative, where more than twenty-five decision makers were recognized for their commitment towards gender equality. The Champions all signed the Panel Pledge, promising to avoid sitting on single-gender panels. Champions furthermore made three personal pledges to achieve gender parity within their organizations.

The Gender Champions in Nuclear Policy initiative is inspired by the International Gender Champions initiative which comprises a global network of high-level female and male decision makers committed to breaking down gender barriers. Across key UN hubs such as New York, Geneva, and the Hague, Champions make gender equality a reality in their spheres of influence by pledging to make specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound (SMART) commitments.

“The Gender Champions Initiative is a great step towards achieving gender equality in the nuclear security arena,” Dr. de Jonge Oudraat stated. Dr. de Jonge Oudraat made the following three SMART commitments for her work with WIIS:

- Commit to organizing policy roundtables that include panelists of various ethnicities, gender minorities, religious and political ideologies.
- Commit to integrating a gender analysis to the most pressing security issues in any publication, event or speech.
- Commit to expanding membership to include different ethnicities, gender minorities, religious and political ideologies. WIIS will do so by inviting organizations that it does not traditionally partner with for events or programs. To assess the demographics of members, WIIS will include an *optional* race or origin section for each member to fill out when they create their profile in the WIIS database. At the end of each fiscal year, WIIS will assess membership demographics internally.

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