



PRESS RELEASE

Thursday, March 8, 2012

## Ambassador Marciel Celebrates the Success of Indonesian Women Entrepreneurs

In preparation for the 101<sup>st</sup> International Women's Day, March 8, Ambassador Scot Marciel met with nine Indonesian women who participated in the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women initiative and studied at the internationally renowned Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona. The women received training in business and management to help them identify the most effective means to grow their entrepreneurial businesses.

Women are a cornerstone of America's foreign policy because the simple fact is that no country can hope to move ahead if it is leaving half of its people behind. Women and girls drive our economies. They build peace and prosperity. Investing in them means investing in global economic progress, political stability, and greater prosperity for everyone. As we honor women today, let us renew our resolve to work for the cause of equality each and every day of the year.



Ambassador Marciel (far right) outlines U.S. Embassy support for the Goldman Sachs "10,000 Women" initiative with Goldman Sachs South East Asia Chairman Brooks Entwistle, and program participants Laila Asri, and Kartika Dwi Yarmanti (right to left)

One year ago, on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of International Women’s Day, the Goldman Sachs Foundation and the United States Department of State announced a partnership through the Goldman Sachs “10,000 Women” initiative. The public-private partnership, launched by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Goldman Sachs Chairman and CEO Lloyd Blankfein is training entrepreneurs from around the world with scholarships for business and management training at Thunderbird School of Global Management. The nine Indonesian participants in this program joined a group of 28 women entrepreneurs from 10 countries that spent two weeks in intensive business skills training, taking part in entrepreneurship courses at Thunderbird, visiting businesses, and meeting with U.S. female business leaders.



“10,000 Women” entrepreneurship program participants Siau Ling Ling, Anita Suryawati, Elsa Rosyidah and Katharina Sumantri (left to right) share pictures of their experience in the United States with Ambassador Marciel

Ambassador Marciel highlighted the importance of building public-private partnerships in supporting continued economic growth in Indonesia. Through the U.S.-Indonesia Comprehensive Partnership the U.S. Embassy is working to support business and trade expansion with Indonesia. These women are leaders in their industries and have all committed to working with other Indonesian entrepreneurs to share the lessons and experience they have gained.

Secretary Clinton has noted that "What we are learning around the world is that if women are healthy and educated, their families will flourish. If women are free from violence, their families will flourish. If women have a chance to work and earn as full and equal partners in society, their families will flourish. And when families flourish, communities and nations will flourish." These words have particular relevance as we celebrate International Women's Day around the world and as we continue to make strides for women's progress.

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## Comprehensive Partnership

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