**Boursa Kuwait Rings the Bell for Women Empowerment on International Women’s Day**

*Kuwait is the first in the GCC to join this initiative*

**Kuwait, March 7th, 2018:** The launch of the ‘Ring the Bell’ initiative was held at Boursa Kuwait today, March 8, 2018, in cooperation with United Nations Women Empowerment and Gender Equality Unit (UN Women), UN Global Compact, and Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative (SSE) in order to raise awareness on empower women in economy.’ Coinciding with International Women’s Day, the initiative is a call for action for businesses everywhere to take concrete steps to advance women’s economic empowerment.

Kuwait will join the global efforts and become the first in GCC to participate in this initiative, which comes in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the Supreme Council of Planning
and Development, UN Women, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and Women’s Research and Studies Center at Kuwait University.

Under this initiative, Boursa Kuwait will convene champion business leaders, investors, government, civil society and other key partners at the country-level to raise awareness on the importance of private sector to advance Women Empowerment and to highlight the growing business and economic case for women’s economic empowerment. It will also showcase the concrete steps private sector is taking to empower women in the workplace, marketplace and community, and demonstrates the link between Women Empowerment, sustainable development and business.

To advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and promote uptake of the Women’s Empowerment Principles, “Ring the Bell” encourages business to take action and showcase how stock exchanges can help advance the SDGs by promoting Women Empowerment.

In 2017, 43 stock exchanges took part in this initiative in an effort to spearhead a global effort to advance women’s economic empowerment. Boursa Kuwait’s participation in this initiative is part of its commitment to advance Women Empowerment within the organization and support women’s leadership, in line with the State of Kuwait's sustainable development ambitions as set out by the Kuwait Vision 2035 and the National Development Plan “New Kuwait”.

Ends -