Hello everyone. I am delighted to have this opportunity to share my thoughts on gender parity … and why it matters.

As all of us know that inclusion and diversity are essential to the way we do business. When companies bring together people of different genders, races, cultures and perspectives, we are smarter, more creative, more innovative and more relevant.

Men and women are equal … end of story. That means companies should have equal numbers of men and women. And it means pay and access to leadership opportunities should be equal.

There are companies that talk about gender parity … and there are companies that do something about it. And I am incredibly proud that Accenture is committed to making a difference.

And this is more than a CEO priority… it is personal. I am surrounded by exceptional women—including the women on Accenture’s Board of Directors … my leadership team … and my wife and daughter—all of whom challenge me to bring more visibility to gender equality.

My pledge is to continue driving this agenda at Accenture … and to consistently evaluate and accelerate opportunities to bring more women into top leadership roles.

I am pleased that we now have more than 150,000 women at Accenture—nearly 40 percent of our global workforce. And we are working hard to achieve our new goal to grow our percentage of women to 50 percent by 2025.

At the same time, we will increase the diversity of our leadership by growing our percentage of women managing directors to at least 25 percent by the end of 2020.

Of course, we know we can and must do more to advance gender equality.

You can count on me—and you can count on the people of Accenture—to be champions of this important, global issue.

Without a doubt, equality makes us greater than! Thank you and all the best.