Beat: Business

CONVERSATION WITH CHRISTINE LAGARDE AT WOMENS FORUM

Q&A between audience/Christine Lagarde

Paris, Deauville, 05.11.2014, 18:44 Time

USPA NEWS - This year the 10th Women´s Forum Global, celebrates by bringing together a casting of outstanding speakers : Salma Hayek Pinault launched the opening and Christine Lagarde has finalized. Women, came from all over the world, as leaders, activists, journalists, experts in order to debate and exchange

These leaders (1700 participants), came from over the world discussed, debated, thoughtful, questions, smiled, laughed, in fact participated in the 3-day "Women's forum" in Deauville (France). Participants had to enjoy from the hors d'oeuvre as appetizer with Salma Hayek Pinault debating about her foundation's (CHIME FOR CHANGE) fighting "Against violence against women" (See article http://www.newsrama.uspa24.com/bericht-2849/salma-hayek-pinault-is-flamboyant-at-womens-forum.html).
----------Then, Christine Lagarde served as for dessert, closing the session, on the topic of "Inequality Matters". Christine Lagarde concludes the forum, of course with panache and under a long standing ovation worthy of a movie star. The main dish has meanwhile conducted the middle of the meal, "the French way", where hosts and guests take the most of it. All are surrounded by seated guests and share as the human flow goes and come, the exchange and intellectual is as important as the finest food in the dishes.
Alexandre François Bertrand, Director of the Business Forum says it's his third participating for this year, confessing : "This year there emerges a very strong emotion felt and that was very communicative."

AN INTIMATE CONVERSATION WITH CHRISTINE LAGARDE----------
The discussion is between Olivier Fleurot, CEO, MSL (Publicis Group) and Christine Lagarde, Managing Director, IMF (International Monetary Fund).
The purpose of the discussion entitled "Inequality Matters" is one of the pillars of the forum this year. We make the retransmitting a summary of this debate, and the questions posed by the audience and the answers given by Christine Lagarde, Managing Director of IMF.
The arrival of Christine Lagarde is announced to applause, plunging the room full, in emotionally charged atmosphere immediately. She is dressed all in black and subtly embellished with gold and silver. Wearing a short leather jacket, trousers adjusted to her slim silhouette, a black sweater and shiny necklace women that enriched the whole. She moves a decided step toward the arena for a talk, although she is perched on boots with high heels. She sends all the messages of an elegant understated look rather "Biker Chic" with few keys of femininity, just enough to avoid getting lost in the details of her dressing up. Christine Lagarde, is smiling except in moments of gravity mentioned, by spinning in her chair to better a panoramic view of the circular room respectfully to the audience. She answers questions that emanate from the audience stunned by the guest's introduction made by Olivier Fleurot. Here are the questions and answers given by Christine Lagarde.

Question Of Olivier Fleurot: You are perceived as great an inspiring model by many women and does it more responsibility, pressure on you? As you are watched by in what your are saying, wearing?----------
Answer Christine Lagarde : It´s not the fact that I´m watched. It is a pressure, and I know that I´m watched if I fail, if I make a mess of this. This will be held not just against me but against more women in general. It is pressure but positive pressure. It´s enormous energy channelling is extremely nice. Many other are here, there have had key responsibilities, and there are leaders, CEOs and I am sure they can feel the same. So, I cannot let that happen, for the other women. "You can´ t let your sisters down". That´s the way I see it.----------Question of Olivier Fleurot : Many situation are difficult in the whole world, for women and also full of children suffering. What can we do for that situation and what is your message ?----------
Answer Christine Lagarde : At the moment, in the whole Middle East Arc, there are 11 million of people are moving and the burden is causing in people are in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria Iraq. I visited many refuges camps it is impossible to talk about it in this context. You are humbled by the hardship and the little they have, then. It is just terrible. Of course, these women who have been leaving the country would say: “We will rebuild the country but we have to stop war“. But the first and foremost to maintain is to keep peace.
There is hope.

I´ve spend lot of time with women from Rwanda, they managed to overcome the horrible civil war in a country that thorn apart, and they managed to reconcile themselves with the other side. It´s incredible I was discussing with Michael Duerr (Director Central Bank South Africa) who said:“ It is always the man who make the war and the women who repair the damage of the war“ !

Question Rahma Sophia Rachdi : At your level of position, once you are facing to take decisions quickly, how do you manage to balance between your right brain (Cognitive, rational) and the left side (Emotional) this part of your brain that appeals to your sensibility ?----------

Answer Christine Lagarde : You´d usually over-estimate me. I did studied law, fiscal, tax law, labor law, merger and acquisitions, but I did not studied psychology, so Am not sure I can identify the cognitive and relative to the emotional side of my brain. I usually try to get married to each other and when I feel overwhelmed I do two things. One is: I take a deep breathing and try to “¦sort of“¦ reassess within myself where the situation is and where I should try to be rational than more emotional, and then I take advice with numbers of my team and don´t work as a solo operator assuming that I know everything.

Question from Audience (Think Tank Asia-Europe) : How do you see the advancement of the inclusion of emergent countries and East and the South, The Americas and the BRICS ? ----------

Answer Christine Lagarde : It is like tectonic plaques moving at the moment, you Just need to look at the growth numbers. The emerging market economies, have delivered 80 % (In the last 5 years) of the worldwide economy. When you look at the capital flows they have heads clearly towards the emergent economies, and stayed with those, who have sound nice macroeconomics policies and perspectives.

On a daily basis, I know that they will continue to play a big and even bigger role.

On the other hand, when you look at the advanced economies, you see that growth is stolen they all have been strictly re-structured and reforms to be add. So we will see that the growth is rebalancing, at the moment, not enough of it, but in terms of surplus countries/ versus deficit of countries, but in terms of emergent countries versus advanced countries, we se it clearly, and that´s the reason why, an institution like the IMF has to better represent the emergent economies, and I´m desperately wait for the USA to ratify the governance and Quota reform of the IMF. For those who are not familiar with IMF but it is absolutely needed.

In other words, the 2010 reform would double the IMF´s quota to $720bn (Shift six percentage points of total quota to developing countries) “ and move two of the 24 IMF directorships from European to developing countries.

As approaching the midterm elections in the US (4th November 2014), there is a doubt to pass the IMF package until 2015. (Source Financial Times).

Question from Audience, Emma Bonino : I´m very touched personally when you said that "If you fail you represent other women, as I feel the same in other issues ", but also the risk high is rising by the expectations too high. I think that we should accept our own fragility and should not pretend to be perfect mother, perfect wife, perfect, lover, perfect CEO, etc“¦ My question is : What do you do when you meet and incompetent woman who pretend to be competent ?

Made all the audience including Christine Lagarde, laughing, and Olivier Fleurot as moderating very humbly said “Only a woman can ask this to another woman, I could not do that myself “. ----------

Answer Christine Lagarde : Emma, you are not perfect, I´m not perfect and I failed many times, in many corners of my life so let´s be realistic ! (Laughs). About this incompetent woman, I shall tell her, but privately, I would never tell her in front of anybody else. That´s all “.

Emma Bonino is an Italian politician, who most recently served as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy. Previously she was a member of the European Parliament and a member of the Italian Senate. She served in the government of Italy as minister of international trade from 2006 to 2008.

Eventually, Christine Lagarde has not failed in her legendary reputation. She is blessed with a shapely head in a slender body, in a simple and sexy outfit, in the image of its proactive and feminine personality.

Her speech is measured and honours her sincerity that drives it derives its commitment by natural sound. One may wonder, during this "Intimate conversation" closing session, what is perceived in Christine Lagarde, in the collective unconscious of these women came to listen and learn from her advice, gestures, attitudes, liveliness in her responses to the measure that she has honed over time, while sketching her international career?
She is a woman above all, and reveals a part of her inner character, when she is sitting before her" sisters" as she says herself "Never leave aside our sisters." She has a natural attitude that is disarming, and foolproof!

The issues and problem to solve, with the obligations tied to the Managing Director's position of the IMF have certainly set Christine Lagarde very high perched and make her also closer to the bottom of the pyramid during her many trips to poor countries and / or emerging. This is, part of her job and a paradox that must contribute to forge the mind and might also enhance one's empathy towards women most affected by the scourge of war and other miseries. This is may be the price of success, rewarded by the expression on the audience to Womens Forum (She supports this forum from the beginning, ten years ago) covering her with warm applause and acclaim.----------
----------For more information see and watch the video : www.womens-forum.com
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HphjEssmmgs&feature=em-share_video_user
http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/8d4755ee-7d43-11e3-81dd00144feabdc0.html#axzz3I6sZQ8Wf

Article online:
https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-2885/conversation-with-christine-lagarde-at-womens-forum.html

Editorial office and responsibility:
V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Rahma Sophia RACHDI

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483 Green Lanes
UK, London N13NV 4BS
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Official Federal Reg. No. 7442619