



Member Profile

An Interview With: Gabriela Terminielli

By: Tapkannia Koeun



Gabriela is the director of BYMA Bolsas y Mercados Argentinos S.A., Cadec Compañía Argentina de Comercio S.A., and Co-chair of WCD Argentina.

Q1: You are the first woman to join the Argentine Stock Exchange Board. How did this make you feel, personally and professionally, to represent a gender diverse board?

It means a very interesting challenge in my professional career, and a great responsibility. I am starting my third year on this Board where I am the only titular woman (there are two substitutes) and I am pleased to bring to the table issues related to gender diversity which have been received excellently.

Q2: As the WCD Argentina chapter co-chair, how do you best manage membership and what do you discuss during your chapter events?

As Co-chair of the Argentine Chapter, I feel very pleased to see our sustained growth through the last year. Since our launch three years ago, we have added a very significant number of members (50) and we have developed events received with great enthusiasm and attendance.

The topics have been of great interest, with the speakers and the press. In fact, most of the widespread media have covered the issues. In this way, both the organization and its members have achieved a notable position in a very short time.

We take care of the quality of networking and the topics we put on the agenda. For example, the role of the independent director, new market trends, innovation and technology, etc.

Also, we choose very carefully the speakers who are very prestigious people of the business community.

Q3: The stock market can be repetitive. How do you keep your ideas fresh in the boardroom?

Within the board, I lead the Corporate Governance Committee which allows me to bring to the table issues of sustainability, diversity and innovation that no company or market today can take into account. Environmental, social and corporate governance factors have a strong impact on productive and financial investments.

Q4: As a member of the National Technical Council for U.N. Women, what do your duties entail and

what plans do you have to achieve them?

During the last year, BYMA (Argentine Stock Exchange) has signed the WEP's commitment of the "Win-Win" program for U.N. Women. We are the first Argentine stock exchange to be in the program.

Last year, we made the diagnosis and the action plan that will be carried out during 2020.

The program is aimed at generating equal opportunities, leading to the greater participation of women in leadership positions, among other issues.

Q5: Your chapter recently hosted an awards event to recognize leading women in business and in the boardroom. What is the goal for the event?

The recognition we give to the outstanding woman in the business field has already been three editions. It has been received by the business community in a very satisfactory way.

The largest energy company in our country has been our hostess and its president part of a prestigious jury. The award has been recognized by the most important media in the country and its impact has exceeded our expectations year after year.

All women who have been recognized by WCD Argentina in their different categories.

In addition to the main recognition, we deliver one to the executive who stood out for her work on gender issues they value a lot and realize the impact it has generated for her visibility.

A similar recognition did not exist before WCD and KPMG implemented it, and has already become an established award ceremony by the top community of Argentine female executives.

Q6: What advice do you have for women who have board aspirations?

The main advice I give is to actively participate in different entities outside their company. It is in these situations where you learn from other organizational cultures, other actors in the business community and gaining visibility, proves fundamental to be considered as a candidate for boards.

Q7: As a successful businesswoman, what is the most challenging obstacle you've faced? How did you overcome it?

Rather than an obstacle, I see it like a challenge and undoubtedly it is to occupy a place at a table where I am the only woman. What motivates me most day-to-day, is to confirm the contribution of my

diverse point of view about different topics and in the advancement of concrete actions from my proposals such as the U.N. Women Program.

Q8: In your opinion, what is the most pressing issue impacting corporate governance today?

I believe that today the issues of integrity, diversity, clear rules of the game and sustainability are increasingly impacting the agenda of the boards. Companies that do not consider them in the short-term will feel the impact of the consequences that this entails.

Q9: In your spare time, what are your favorite things to do?

In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family as much as possible. I like to travel, read and I enjoy cinema and the theater.

Q10: What does the next 5-10 years look like for you, professionally? What are your goals?

In my next years of professional life, I would like to continue contributing my experience on boards where gender and profile diversity is valued. In addition, I will continue to collaborate from my position in WCD and other organizations to which I belong, to grow and develop a new generation of executive women.