Garanti Bank is once again the only company from Turkey to be included in the "Bloomberg Gender Equality Index"

Garanti Bank is recognized internationally with its practices in gender equality and once again included in the Bloomberg Gender Equality Index. Through its numerous practices and initiatives for ensuring gender equality within its human resources as well as its activities directed to customers and the community, Garanti is the only company to be included in the index from Turkey. In 2016, the index was initiated by Bloomberg and for 2 years only companies in the finance sector were evaluated, whereas this year, for the first time, 104 companies from 10 sectors were included in the index. BBVA, the mother company of Garanti, has been included into the index this year for its efforts in gender equality.

Delivering gender equality and unconscious bias trainings, providing training and mentoring programs for women candidates for management positions, achieving gender equality at all levels including the senior management and developing policies and practices for equal opportunities are among the criteria evaluated under HR practices. Additionally, product development for women, supporting women entrepreneurs and suppliers, supporting financial literacy of women that are outside labor market and joining international initiatives for international gender equality stand out as other significant factors that ensured Garanti's inclusion in the index.

Briefing on the subject, **Garanti Bank CEO Fuat Erbil** spoke as follows: "Garanti Bank is proud to see the recognition of its gender equality efforts in the international arena. With such practices as our Gender Equality Committee that has been active for the past three years, the Equal Opportunities Model certificate, the United Nations Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs), , our fair compensation policy and Women Executives Initiative that we have established to increase the women ratio in the senior management and the Domestic Violence Platform, we have taken many steps in providing gender equality at Garanti Bank. And we will continue these efforts. Our practices in gender equality are not limited only to our employees. For years, we have been carrying out activities to reach out to our customers, suppliers and all stakeholders. The Women Entrepreneurs Program that expanded the scope of our influence to a broader audience and the financial literacy trainings for women also enable us to further support gender equality. Similar to what we have done so far, we will carry on with our activities that draw the attention to gender equality also in the upcoming years. We will be sustaining our pioneering position in this respect and make a difference in many more people's lives".