**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**LEAD Network announces its Gender Diversity Scorecard 2023**

*Consumer Goods and Retail companies across Europe are invited*

*to take part between April 17th and June 30th, 2023*

## ***Amsterdam, 17 April 2023*** *—*LEAD Network is happy to announce the launch of the Gender Diversity Scorecard 2023. Created **in partnership with EY (\*)** and taking place biannually since 2017, the Gender Diversity Scorecard tracks the proportion of women holding executive positions in the Consumer Goods and Retail industry across Europe. This is heading in a positive direction: in 2021, women held **35% of senior executive positions**, compared with 25% in 2017.The importance of advancing gender equality within the sector was underlined when in June 2022, the European Union announced its first-ever quota for women on corporate boards.

The aim of the scorecard is to **accelerate the journey towards gender parity** by helping companies benchmark their performance against their peers. Companies in the Consumer Goods and Retail industry are invited to take part: participation is free of charge, and the questions are easy to complete, focusing on inclusion and gender diversity. All answers remain confidential, and results will be reported in aggregate format only, announced at the **LEAD Network Conference in October 2023**. The scorecard is designed to provide a comprehensive picture of gender balance across the European Consumer Goods and Retail industry and bring about real change.

Unilever is one company taking part in the Gender Diversity Scorecard. **Hanneke Faber**, President Global Nutrition, and member of the Executive team at **Unilever**, says “At Unilever, diversity and inclusion is something we want to be famous for, and therefore we measure our progress, because you should measure what you treasure.”

Companies that wish to participate should contact education@lead-eu.net.

**ABOUT LEAD Network**

LEAD Network is a non-profit and volunteer-led organisation whose mission is to attract, retain and advance women in the consumer goods and retail sector in Europe through education, leadership, and business development. It has a fast-growing membership of +18,000 – both women and men – drawn from 81 countries. Members have the opportunity to build their leadership skills, widen their circle of contacts, and be inspired by female role models and male champions in the industry. To date, 58 companies are sponsoring LEAD Network, 41 of which have signed the CEO Gender Parity Pledge.

(\*) *Information in this publication is intended to provide only a general outline of the subjects covered. It should not be regarded as comprehensive nor sufficient for making decisions, nor should it be used in place of professional advice. Ernst & Young accepts no responsibility for loss arising from any action taken or not taken by anyone using this publication.*