CHINA CROSSROADS

Sunday, August 15th, 2021, 15:30 – 17:30

Diversity and Inclusion at Work: A Conversation on Why It Matters and How Organizations Fall Short

Onny Jalink

Deputy Consul General of the Netherlands

Charlene Liu

Co-Founder of Ladies Who Tech

Co-Founder of Diversity & Inclusion Consulting

Co-Founder of ShanghaiPRIDE



Supported by: **Dutch Consulate in Shanghai Diversity & Inclusion Consulting**

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Diversity and inclusion (D&I) in the workplace has been shown to have benefits not only for a healthy, tolerant, productive organizational culture, but also for the play of ideas that breed innovation and creativity — and ultimately benefits the corporate bottom-line. Deputy Dutch Consul General Onny Jalink will speak about Dutch D&I policy and her personal experiences and challenges as a woman in a traditionally male-dominated workplace. While on paper Dutch D&I policy is great, in practice there is still a long way to go to address its shortcomings. Co-Founder of Ladies Who Tech Charlene Liu will also address this topic, speaking in particular about her insights working many years to improve gender diversity and close the gender gap within the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) industries of Shanghai and Greater China. Ladies Who Tech aims to inspire young women to pursue their passions and develop careers in STEM. This event will be a dialogue and open conversation that will encourage the speakers and audience to create understandings and make progress.

Onny Jalink is Deputy Consul General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Shanghai. During the initial COVID-19 crisis in Europe, she was also Acting Consul General and responsible for crisis management of the mission, PPE procurement, maintaining the air bridge between Shanghai and the Netherlands and the health and well-being of staff and families in Shanghai and consular services to Dutch citizens. In the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she was previously based in Serbia as Head of the Regional Rule of Law Unit for the Western Balkans, supporting the EU-accession process of (potential) candidate countries Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia. She has served in the Dutch Foreign Ministry as Senior Policy Advisor in the Europe Department and Deputy Director for Policy Coherence in Europe in the EU Affairs and Coordination Division. She holds an LLM in International Law from the University of Amsterdam and has served in Shanghai since late 2016.

Charlene Liu was born in Malaysia and has lived in the U.S., Singapore, and now Shanghai. She is an engineer, a social change maker, and a community leader. She graduated from The University of Texas at Austin with a BSc in Electrical Engineering and has twenty years of working experience in different areas of the Semiconductor and Electronics industry, ranging from design, engineering, manufacturing, project management to sales and marketing. She also has experience with events, corporate innovation, and management consulting at PwC. Charlene has 16 years of community leadership, commercial event management, and Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) advocacy experience. In 2009, she co-founded ShanghaiPRIDE, an annual festival run entirely by volunteers that promotes diversity, in 2014 Q-Events, an event management company, in 2016 Ladies Who Tech, a social impact community for women in STEM, and in 2019, D&I Consulting, a consultancy which helps corporates cultivate a more inclusive culture. Charlene is now embarking on a full-time journey managing these platforms. In 2014, she and team ShanghaiPRIDE were awarded Shanghai Hero by Time Out Shanghai, and in 2018, Best Event Organizer in East China by Huodongxing.

<u>China Crossroads</u> hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at <u>editor@shanghai-review.org</u>.