It is with great surprise, immense gratitude and honour that I accept this Evolutionary Business Council Global Impact Award, and I do so, on behalf of the many women & girls, Soroptimists, partners, and associates, who have joined me in dedicating energy, and commitment, in implementing sustainable grassroots projects and Women, Water and Leadership programmes. In doing so, collectively, we have created transformational change for many marginalised women, girls and their communities worldwide.

I am Mariet Verhoef-Cohen and I am the President of Soroptimist International and of Women for Water Partnership, both organisations focus on Sustainable Development goals, SDG 4, Education – SDG 5 Gender Equality and SDG 6 Water for all for all purposes and safe sanitation - to ensure that no one is left behind. We are represented in seven United Nations centers all over the world. And in 122 countries we represent women and girls and continue to fight until all SDGs have been implemented.

This award will inspire my work going forward as our work for women and girls is not yet done and I thank you for this wonderful opportunity and kind gesture.