WASHINGTON, DC – (September 16, 2010) Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), Democratic Co-Chair of the bipartisan Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues in the 111th Congress, issued the following statement in response to Michelle Bachelet's appointment to head UN Women, the new United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

"I wholeheartedly congratulate former Chilean President Michelle Bachelet on her appointment to head UN Women, the newly formed United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. President Bachelet's exceptional leadership and global stature—as well as her deep personal commitment to bettering the lives of women and girls—make her an excellent choice to launch UN Women.

"I have had the immense honor of meeting President Bachelet on several occasions. Each time, she impressed and inspired me through her courage, strength, and a trailblazing perseverance that propelled her to become Chile's first woman president. I have great confidence in the good work that UN Women will accomplish under Bachelet's capable and galvanizing leadership, and I'm thrilled for the women, girls and communities the world over who will benefit from her position at the helm of this new UN endeavor."