Dear Microcredit Summit Campaign and fellow partners in the global movement to help 100 million families lift themselves out of extreme poverty,

With this letter Kashf Foundation states our commitment to take specific, measureable, and time-bound action to help 100 million families lift themselves out of extreme poverty – and therewith make a major step forward in ending extreme poverty entirely.

We know that this bold goal will require global partnerships that enable organizations to work together in new and innovative ways across a broad range of financial and non-financial sectors to reach goals and benchmarks that could not be obtained working apart. We are eager to join this global movement to demonstrate with others the power of partnerships against poverty and also to inspire new collaborations with those committed to supporting the movement of millions out of extreme poverty.

We know too that a goal means little without a concerted effort to honestly and accurately measure progress made towards the goal and therefore we commit to measuring our progress toward our goals through a consistent and reliable system. We also know that movement out of extreme poverty will require dedicated efforts to support those journeying out of poverty and we commit to developing and implementing products and services that facilitate this type of movement.

Recognizing the growing diversity of client needs within microfinance and Kashf’s own priority on strengthening women entrepreneurship, Kashf commits to launch in 2014 lending products tailored specifically for each of 5 identified sectors in which women entrepreneurs are working including Trading (Grocery Stores & Convenience Stores), Garments and Embellishment (Hand Embroidery, Stitching, Retail Garments), Services (Beauty Parlor, Food processing, roadside restaurants), Dairy & Livestock (Milk Production, Animal Rearing and Husbandry) and Small Manufacturing (Jewelry making, Shoe Making, Flower Making)

As part of the effort of Kashf Foundation to provide a comprehensive array of services for our clients, we will expand our existing health insurance program to cover 100,000 individuals by the end of 2014.

We will also expand access to vital health services for Kashf Foundation clients by increasing the number of active health camps to 16 and 18 OPD sessions in 2014.

Kashf Foundation Commits to expand its efforts to provide financial education and capacity building for its clients. Kashf has provided this training for over 600,000 clients to date. By the end of the first quarter of 2015 Kashf will provide access to financial education and capacity building trainings for an additional 200,000 clients.

Kashf Foundation is dedicated to making data-driven decisions in managing the products and services we provide to our clients. To this end, we will complete in partnership with Centre for Research in Economics and Business during 2014 a randomized control trial evaluation with 990 clients for the Kashf Ibtida-e-Karobar Karza to better understand the outcomes for our clients.

We look forward to presenting the progress we have made to reach these benchmarks at the next Microcredit Summit and to then renewing our commitment with new benchmarks for specific, measureable, and time-bound actions to help 100 million families lift themselves out of extreme poverty.

Sincerely,

Roshaneh Zafar
Founder & Managing Director, Kashf Foundation