



# International Inner Wheel

## **MINUTES of the Governing Body Meeting**

held at  
Novotel Juhu Beach Mumbai India  
October 3rd -5th 2010

**Headquarters Office:**

Stafford Court  
Washway Road  
SALE  
Cheshire M33 7PE  
United Kingdom







**MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BODY MEETING Held at:  
Novotel Juhu Beach Mumbai India, October 3rd -5th 2010**

**Commit with conviction, compassion, consistency.**

**PRESENT**

President	Pallavi Shah
Vice President	Catherine Refabert
Immediate Past President	Anne Fryer
Treasurer	Charlotte de Vos
Constitution Chairman	Norma Friar
Administrator	Elaine Hathaway

**BOARD DIRECTORS**

Oluyemisi Alatise	Annette Bangma
Margaret Batt	Ruth Beausire
Joan Beech-Jones	Maria Beatrice Guerrini Granto
Maria Koutita	Ulrike Kylberg
Rathy Mahendran	Jean Matthews
Marion Patchett	Christiane Requin
Andree Schots	Doreen Shand
Pat Traill	Mercedes Velten

**OPENING REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT**

**Welcome By the President**

President Pallavi welcomed the Governing Body both to the meeting and to India. She requested that the meeting begin with the Inner Wheel prayer used at the start of all Indian Inner Wheel Meetings

Instill in us O Lord, the true meaning of Friendship,  
Never let us forget that we are all thy children,  
Notwithstanding the differences in our culture & creed,  
Endow us with a desire to serve our fellowmen,  
Remembering that we too need help,

Whenever or wherever the need arises,  
Help us to be ready to serve,  
Endeavouring to make our Badge of Inner Wheel worthwhile,  
Ensuring that we have not  
Lived in vain.

President Pallavi Welcomed all with the following words,  
“Welcome to the Governing Body Meeting of 2010-11. Welcome to India, welcome to Mumbai city. India or Hindustan as it was called earlier, is one of the most ancient civilizations in the world, rich in its traditions & culture. Let me welcome you by giving you a glimpse of India, outside these walls of Novotel”.



With the use of some beautiful pictures she provided a short explanation of Indian culture, history, natural beauty, temples, palaces, spices, dances, festivals stating that there was much unity in diversity in India.

She reminded that as Board Directors, they were not representing their country but had to switch their thinking processes to the point of view of entire IW world, the perspective must be international. President Pallavi reminded the Board Directors that matters would remain confidential until they appeared in the Minutes.

She explained that the District team of 314 were very excited at hosting the Governing Body meeting in their city. They had wanted to make things comfortable and to provide a flavour of India that would linger in the memories and be both educational and entertaining. She briefly outlined the social functions and activities for the forthcoming evenings explaining that for Indians guests were considered to be divine so they were always happy to receive guests.

She said, "Many sages have said the same thing that James Allen says in his book, 'As a man thinketh'; he says & I quote "A man's mind is like garden, if we plant good seeds we will have a great garden, if we plant poisonous plants, that is what we will reap & if we do not plant anything & it lies idle, the weeds will take over". IW can not afford to remain static or let the weeds grow. It has to move on, towards progressive growth. We either move forward or move backward; either creating or disintegrating. In these 3 days we will have lot of discussions for positive growth of our Organisation.

To sum it up, I am sure you will commit yourself to the discussions totally with a conviction that you will go back richer in friendship & with lot of ideas for rendering service & progressively improving the functioning of our Organisation, which is so dear to our hearts. Compassion & consistency will follow, as you go back to put our thoughts into ACTION.

### **Apologies:**

None.

President Pallavi explained that it was very important that all were present and that would become apparent as important matters were discussed.

- President Pallavi announced with great sorrow the demise, after long ill health of Kjeld, the husband of IIW Past President Suzanne Nielsen. It was hoped that PP Suzanne would be supported wholeheartedly by the Inner Wheel community in the face of her loss. Throughout her time on the IIW Executive she had shown great fortitude and courage whilst he selflessly encouraged her to put IIW first despite his illness.
- asked the Governing Body to remember those members who had been lost in the past year.
- and those affected by the calamities and natural disasters that so frequently afflicted the world. She highlighted the cases of the flooding in Pakistan and the earthquake in New Zealand.

All stood to observe a minute's silence.

### **Confirmation of Minutes:**

Minutes of Governing Body Meeting held at Mere Court Hotel; and Conference Centre, Mere,

Cheshire United Kingdom 6-8 October 2009 were approved and signed as a correct report of the proceedings.

Proposed: Doreen Shand  
Seconded: Mercedes Velten

### **Matters Arising:**

To be taken where appropriate

### **Correspondence:**

There was a general discussion following on from Andree Schots letter to the President regarding Extension. It was felt that Board Directors themselves are part of IIW, so the choice of Board Directors to perform this difficult task was appropriate. Also it was agreed that the results of the Board Directors endeavours were slowly improving and that adding other individuals into the communication mix might, in some cases, create difficulties. It was agreed that Board Directors can play a positive & vital role in extension.

### **Reports:**

#### **President**

President Pallavi presented the following report:

“Right from the word ‘go’ it has been a busy time. The Presidential visits, the 2nd. Executive Meeting & GBM in Mumbai, India; the property matter, formation of Company, Convention, the difficulties arising out of nominations, Newsletter, along with other routine work did not allow any idle moment.

I have special news for all of you. If granted, IIW can make Michelle Obama our Honorary member. If she accepts, it will enthuse IW in America & all of us in IW. In IIW Executive, we have formed a proposal, whereby, not only Clubs, IIW & National Bodies also can appoint distinguished personalities of repute as Honorary members of IW which will help the image of IW.

#### **Resolution to invite distinguished personalities as Honorary members**

At this stage may I ask you to pass a resolution  
Pg.4  
C. Honorary membership

Insert after line 2 .

“International Inner Wheel & NGB may also invite a distinguished person whom they wish to honour to become an Honorary member”.

May I request you to pass this simple resolution.

Proposed Andree Scott

Seconded Marion Patchett  
Carried

The load of congratulatory letters, requests for messages, Newsletters, Souvenirs, Directories, invitation cards, informative circulars made me feel proud of the monumental work done by Inner Wheel throughout the world. I thank all those who have remained in communication.

On 10th. April, I was invited by Rotary District 314 for a talk at their District Assembly. RIPN Kalyan Bannerjee & myself were felicitated on the occasion.

On 24th. June, I was invited to be the Chief Guest at the Installation Function of the Association President & Office Bearers.

29th. June to 2nd. July was the 4th. IIW Executive Meeting of 2009-10 & the first IIW Executive Meeting of 2010-11.

On 1st. July wrote a letter to District 87 & to all the Clubs in Germany regarding restoring the status of District 87. Received letters of thanks & good will for the same.

On 17th. July I was invited for celebration of Silver Jubilee of IWC of Bombay DownTown on completion of 25 years.

On 10/8 visited District 323 in Chennai. The District performed skits & dances with 'International' as theme, various countries with presence of IW were represented.

On 21/8, it was time to visit District 308 in Ambala, a place with countryside flavour & bountiful love like their harvest. They depicted love in its pure form, the love of Radha & Krishna. It was a great cultural experience.

On 28/8, it was time to visit the neighbouring District 313. It was an important event as the District was completing 25 years after being born out of my own Home District. Performances by the Handicapped were a treat to watch & the on the spot fund raising made it a very special event.

### **Nordic Rally**

When I landed on 1st. September at Helsinki for the Nordic Rally, little did I realise, the pleasant experience I was headed for. Visit to the Projects began even before I reached the place of stay. Education on ethical living, dangers in use of drugs was taught to these children with scientific gadgets by trained teachers. Visit to the local Hospital, confirmed the research of Newsweek, that Finland is the best country in the world, taking into account health, environment, political consciousness, safety etc. The Nordic Rally at Tampere on 3rd. & 4th. September was a pleasant experience. Presence of the Mayor of Tampere at the Opening Ceremony, inviting all to the State Guest House & the discussions at the Workshops held to discuss future of IW were the highlights of the rally. I got an opportunity to deliver the address at the State Guest House. The loving care & the involvement of the members were impressive.

### **Charlamagne Rally**

What an opportunity to meet 600 members from 9 countries at one time & discuss Inner Wheel with them amidst the pristine glory of the Alps, on the shore of Lake Geneva. It is a pleasure to witness increasing communication between countries for the welfare of IW. On 2nd. September, the European Meeting was held where leaders of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Netherlands, Turkey exchanged ideas. Austria & Central part of Africa was also represented at the Rally.

I had an informal chat with the 12 delegates from Germany, wherein they enumerated their difficulties but assured me that they would like to work within constitutional framework, while I enumerated the advantages of restoring the National Council. VP Catherine was also present & endorsed the same. All were happy to establish a dialogue & work in the interest of IW.

**Property purchase and emergency resolutions:**

There is an important matter we need to discuss before we take up other items on the Agenda.

It is very happy & good news for IIW that we are on the verge of buying our own premises, belonging to IIW. We have already written to you earlier so that you understand the matter thoroughly before you come for the Governing Body Meeting. We have discussed this matter thoroughly at the Executive Meetings. The discussions were as follows & already conveyed to you in the e-mail:

Till now, IIW Headquarters has been a rented office space. Over a period of time we realised that

1. We are paying high rent on it.
2. The HQ building being old requires higher maintenance and service charges.
3. We can make do with a smaller place, especially as the Conference Room was hardly used – only a maximum 5-6 times a year. We have only 2 full time & 1 part time employees to make use of the premises.

Financially speaking:

- We paid £40,000 sterling pounds as rent per year
- We also realised that we have the resources to buy our own property. Till now, we got good return of interest from the Bank, on our money. However, with the interest rate going down drastically, we felt that if we invest in having our own premises, we might have our own premises, save on the rent, plus earn towards appreciation of the place.

This prompted us to see various properties in and around Manchester. A property at Suite 2, My Buro, 20 Market Street, Altrincham Cheshire WA14 1PF was identified. The IIW Executive of 2009-10 & 2010-11, visited the place on 28th. June 2010. All unanimously approved of the place. It was decided to appoint a negotiator & begin negotiations. To our delight, the negotiations settled at £230,000 sterling pounds plus £15,000 sterling pounds for parking space (excluding VAT). This is accepted by both parties.

The lawyer advised that IIW should form a Company to purchase a property, as the indemnities will be very high if the property is bought in the name of Trustees. Formation of Company would also allow IIW to make investments. It was decided to form a Company & on recommendation of our lawyer Samantha, her property partner, Will Henson was appointed to deal with the legal aspects of purchase of property.

Will in his letter of 24th. Aug. 2010 suggested the following:

1. We initially progress the sale in the names of the Trustees, so as to achieve exchange of contracts within the 28 day period, envisaged by the reservation form.
2. We negotiate a bespoke clause in the contract, allowing the trustees to assign the benefit of the contract to a new limited company, between exchange and completion. The

assignment would occur after you have obtained the necessary resolutions, to form the company at the GBM in late September.

3. Slater Heelis arrange the formation of the new company after the GBM.

Now, we need to pass a resolution to form a Company. I have already sent a detailed letter with explanation to all Board Directors so that they are aware & prepared with this subject. A letter regarding the need to form Company was also sent to the Trustees, Brenda Taylor & Carol Buchanan. Carol responded that we need to confirm the taxation & suggested we pass a resolution, so that no one in Office at any given time misuse the funds or involve investments with undue high risks.

**Resolution for formation of Company**

I put forward the Resolution to be passed in this GB Meeting.

Date: 3rd. October 2010

Amendment submitted by IIW Governing Body:

Page 12

Insert :-

“The Governing Body has the power to incorporate a company limited by guarantee on behalf of the International Inner Wheel to solely hold property and any other relevant investments or assets including without limitation government bonds and mutual securities as determined by the Governing Body from time to time. Investments of a speculative nature are not permitted.”

**Motivation:**

The Governing Body are looking to purchase a commercial property which is far more cost effective than the current headquarter offices. As the International Inner Wheel is an unincorporated Association, it cannot hold property itself and a company will need to be incorporated to hold such property. The Governing Body agree that it is in the best interests of the Association and for its members to incorporate a Company and for the Company to hold any such purchased property and other relevant investments.

At present, we also cannot make any investments. If we form a Company, the additional advantage to the purchase of property is that it will allow us to make investments. At present, as interest rates on savings are so low, if we can invest our reserves in alternative forms we will grow the reserves rather than watch them diminish in value.

Just for your information, we also realise that we need to take precautions so that nobody can make unsafe investments & jeopardize the funds of IIW. For that we have contacted Accountant & Lawyer, they will do the needful.

Proposed by: Patricia Traill

Seconded by: Jean Matthews

Unanimously carried

**Resolution for purchase of Property**

Now that we have voted in favour of forming a Company, let us pass a resolution for purchase

of property

“This meeting of the full Governing body of International Inner Wheel agrees to the purchase of Suite 2.3, 20, Market Street, Altrincham by International Inner Wheel for £245,000.00 plus VAT in the name of the Company 'International Inner Wheel'.

Proceedings for the purchase of the above property to commence forthwith.”

President Pallavi explained that the preliminary procedures for the purchase of a property had been put in motion and that this would take place using the Trustees. They would then assign the benefit of the property to the new company once that had been put in place.

She explained that the Governing Body would need to pass a resolution to purchase the property.

Proposed by: President Pallavi Shah

Seconded by Vice-President Catherine Refabert.

Carried

With this we will send the complete amount to the vendors for the purchase of property”.

I congratulate all of you for the positive step taken.

President Pallavi concluded her Report.

Proposed by: Pallavi Shah

Seconded by: Joan Beech Jones

At this point Administrator Elaine showed Power point of new offices and area and questions answered. All were happy to see the new premises of IIW HQs.

### **Presentation of Joint Project in the Rural Areas**

With the aid of photographs President Pallavi explained the work of Inner Wheel in India and the many joint projects providing sanitation, water harvesting, schooling, medical aid and many other worthwhile projects.

### **Treasurer – (a) Presentation of the 2009/10 Accounts**

Charlotte de Vos presented the financial statement of the IW Year ending on 30th of June 2010, which was the third year of Doris Johnson as IIW Treasurer. Charlotte explained that Doris sent all her best regards and good wishes for this meeting. Charlotte also gave thanks to the Auditor John Moss for his help and advice. The auditor had checked the entries against the receipts.

She then took the Governing Body through the Accounts and the Financial Statement.

She explained that they could see the figures of 2010 and compare them with the figures of 2009.

Page 1 gave the summary income and expenditure account.

**The Income:**

She explained that the income has decreased even if our capitation fee is rather the same. The decrease is specially due to the decrease of gross deposit interest.

She explained that expenditure was less than 2008-2009, which was a Convention year.

After the taxation on deposit interest there was a surplus for the year of £68,642

After taking the costs already made for the Convention 2012, she pointed out a total recognised gain for the year of £67,767.

**Publication Costs.**

She compared the total Publications Costs with the figures of 2009 this showed a decrease of £ 23,369. The first reason was that 2009 was a Convention year, and therefore implicates more printing costs. The printing of the new constitution handbooks was in 2010. Less costs for the newsletter and the directories was due to the decrease of the numbers.

**Accommodation.** She explained that these were the same as the previous year.

**Administration.** Administration showed many headings. Some had increased, some only slightly, others show lower figures than the previous year.

She highlighted just a few:

Salaries had increased, because of the yearly revision of the salaries.

Executive visits to the office and Committee Meetings.

These expenses changed each year, depending on where the members live.

Governing Body Meeting accommodation and fares. Expenses for this meeting changed each year too. As mentioned before it depended on where the members lived and where the meeting was held. In 2009 the Board Meeting was held in Manchester, and the year before in Copenhagen.

The costs for Extension were lower than the previous year.

The Presidents expenses show an increase depending on the higher travel expenses. She explained that in the Budget Report she would explain the President's Budget.

The costs for Telephone and fax, Postage, Printing and Stationery, Ballot and nomination papers were similar to that of the previous year, with exception of the costs for the second ballot.

These costs have been listed separately, and she noted the detail of £8657.

The costs for Leasing and Maintenance of Office Equipment, Computer expenses, Depreciation office furniture and Equipment were approximately the same as the previous year.



Audit and accountancy could be divided into 3 categories:

- the audit and accountancy work
- the work of counting the ballots (president-vice-president-editor)
- bookkeeping and other advice: in this is included the appointment of Alison, our bookkeeper, who comes once a week to administrate the weekly accounts

The Legal & Professional fees had increased (£ 4849) because of the problems in Germany.

Interest was allocated to our Social Project Account "Girls Education, because donations were transferred initially to the current account.

Page 3 showed the Balance Sheet at the 30th June 2010.

This also enumerated the Fixed and Current Assets, Creditors and Reserves

Total Assets less Current Liabilities showed an increase £67,767 (= result of gains and losses)

The Reserves on June 30th 2010 were £ 1,092,979. and split into 3 categories:

- the office equipment replacement fund
- the Convention business meeting fund
- the General Reserve

She explained that Pages 5 and 6 and 7 showed the Notes to the Financial Statement for the year ended 30th June 2009 and Item 2 showed the Tangible fixed Assets of Leasehold Improvements Costs and Office Furniture and Equipment, whilst Item 3 included Debtors and below that Prepayments. Item 4 included the Bank Balances and Cash held by HSBC Bank, (Current Account, Deposit Account), National Westminster (Current Account, the Liquid Manager Account and the Social Projects Account). Item 5 The Creditors lists, Item 6 showed the Office Equipment Replacement Fund. Item 7 showed the Convention Business Meeting Fund.

Item 8 The General Reserve showed a figure of £975,775:

This was obtained by taking the balance of the year ending June 2009, with the surplus of the year, minus the transfer of £25,000 to the Convention Business meeting fund.

The Treasurer concluded her report of the accountants for the year ending June 2010.

Charlotte de Vos proposed the adoption of the Accounts

Seconded by Rathy Mahendran  
Carried

### **Budget for 2011/12 presented by IIW Treasurer Charlotte de Vos**

Regarding the Budget for the year 2011-2012, which will be a Convention year, The Treasurer proposed a budget.

She explained that with the decision to purchase a new office some of the costs would be totally different from the situation when renting.



She explained that she had provided the real amounts for the accounts ending on 30th June 2010 to enable a comparison to take place between estimation and reality.

**Convention:** As 2011-2012 will be a Convention year, she had taken the same figures as in 2009.

**Newsletters:**

In 2009/2010 IIW spent £32,682 for the Newsletters. The next edition of the Newsletter had been printed in India, and that reduced the costs considerably. The printing cost was + 9000£ instead of 20000£. At this time she did not have a view on the costs of postage yet, but she suggested that this could well be less and accordingly had reduced budgeting for this item to 40000£.

**Directories and Constitution handbooks.** The Treasurer preferred to put into the budget the cost of printing these items, and on the other hand, to estimated income derived from it, later on.

**Amortisation of lease** ended at 2009-2010 as the lease was coming to an end.

**Salaries:** The Executive of 2009-2010 decided to increase the salaries for 2010-2011. As this cost 67000£ in 2009-2010 to cover salaries, National Insurance and government levies, the budget for the year 2010-2011 was not enough. The Treasurer had therefore budgeted the salaries on 72000£ which should cover the shortfall.

The IIW role at the **United Nations** was very important. Each Inner Wheel year the Vice President visited the UN-Representatives in one country.

By setting aside £600.00 for **regalia** it would enable IIW to purchase the Past Board Directors badges and the Margarett Golding Awards.

The expenses for the **Executive Members** depended on where the Executive members lived. She explained that they were all aware that the costs of transport worldwide continued to increase, e.g. fuel prices, but she felt £22,000 should be sufficient.

**Governing Body meetings:** As it was a Convention year IIW President 2011-2012 Catherine Refabert from France had decided to hold the Governing Body meeting in Manchester, which from initial research appeared to be quite a bit less expensive than in Paris.

**Extension:** budgeted to be similar to the previous year

**President's reimbursement:** The President's reimbursement for her travel expenses for her visits to Countries/Districts/Clubs, had been brought up to 12500 £ last year, and would remain the same.

**Phone/fax, Postage, stationery, ballot papers:** a similar budget to the previous year. Leasing & Maintenance of Office Equipment Fund/Computer Expenses costs were necessary to renew and update the office equipment and upgrade the Internet, the Antivirus and the Website..

**Audit and Accountancy,** Counting of Ballots, Bookkeeping, Legal & Professional Fees and

the Bank Charge. She explained that these costs increased and all were necessary to the running of the organisation.

**Indemnity insurance:** She stated that this was necessary to protect those in positions of responsibility

**Miscellaneous** expenses covered the small expenses direct from the office.

She had budgeted the same amount as 2010/2011 of £ 25,000.00. She explained that IIW have to pay an amount to an Agency for handling the Convention 2012 and to transfer seeding funds money to the Local Committee in Turkey.

She had then estimated the income of the organisation.

She had based on it 98,500 members at £3.50 per members providing £345,000.00. Interest (net of Corporation Tax) was much reduced because of the decrease of the interest paid by all banks to savers. She suggested that as money on a bank account had not that much interest, IIW must consider placing money in a secure way, at least to cover inflation.

She explained that sale of constitution handbooks would start the year after the Convention. The sale of the directories must cover the costs, but had in the past been sold at a loss.

If all the figures she had quoted come near to being correct she felt that IIW would have a loss, by staying in our HQ Stafford Court.

By buying a new office, IIW would benefit in that by being an owner of the HQ, would save the rent. That means that our investment would give a report of + 30000£.

She concluded the presentation of the Budget 2011-2012 and proposed its adoption.

Proposed by: Charlotte de Vos

Seconded by: Doreen Shand

#### **(b) Appointment of Auditors 2011/2012**

The Treasurer explained that it was customary after the Treasurer's report for IIW to seek the Governing Body's approval of the company used to Audit the Accounts.

Therefore she requested that for 2011-2012 JW Hirst & Co. of Stockport be appointed for that task.

Proposed by: Joan Beech-Jones

Seconded by: Ruth Beausire

#### **Extension –**

Report read by the Immediate Past President.

The Immediate Past President/Extension Co-ordinator Anne Fryer, reported.

For any organisation to survive, to grow, to increase its influence and effectiveness it had continually to find new blood. She explained that the organization had to find new willing hands to replace those it lost. She felt that if it did not do that, it would begin to decline; and none of

the membership wanted that to happen to Inner Wheel. She concluded that addressing the problems of extension was probably one of the most important roles they would all play in future years. At the same time it was perhaps the most difficult of all the disciplines to undertake.

She went on to say that the people at the Governing Body meeting had the experience and hopefully the will and the enthusiasm to extend membership throughout the world. Having said that, it was the responsibility of all Inner Wheel members, not only at international level but more importantly at the grass roots of National and Club level, to ensure the growth of the organisation. To achieve growth she felt that everyone must work towards a solution for the demise of some clubs and consequent loss of members by giving support, encouragement and instilling enthusiasm.

Because the work of extension had to be done on the ground, it was sometimes difficult to see what we, as members of the Governing Body could do to help. Enthusiasm was paramount and she wished that all should try to pass on that enthusiasm to those with whom they came into contact. Sustained growth must be uppermost in every mind not only when serving at the Governing Body meeting but continued in our own part of the world long after leaving the Governing Body.

Because of the timing of the Governing Body meeting, she wanted the Board Directors to bear in mind that this was very much an interim report. The Inner Wheel year was only three months old and she said that they had a long way to go, hopefully with much to achieve.

One of the biggest difficulties we have as an organisation was keeping in touch with our Non-Districted clubs and keeping them involved. That was why the Board Directors' work with those clubs was so important. There had been some good progress made during the short time since they had received their allocated Clubs. Only three months had passed since the beginning of the year and they had nine more months to consolidate and extend their contacts. She was very grateful to those Directors who had been able to make contact. To those having difficulties, she asked that they do not give up but used other means of contact - ask a neighbouring club or even a neighbouring country for information. Any ideas they had would be most welcome. The more information we have can only help ensure that contact was maintained and that the future growth of International Inner Wheel was guaranteed. The vital information sent to Headquarters would eventually make for better communication. So very often some clubs do not update their details and contact sometimes could be lost, especially in the Non Districted clubs. It was therefore imperative that they continued to break down the barriers and gather the information, no matter how trivial it may seem, to ensure a sound, up to date and useful database. She explained that Elaine and Pat update constantly but problems still arose from out of date information.

She was sure some will have good results; some will be disappointed but asked them not be disheartened. That was a negative stance and nothing was gained from negativity.

At the end of 2009/10 Past President Suzanne reported that 85 new clubs chartered last year; 46 in India, 7 The Philippines, 6 Australia, 3 Nepal, 3 Nigeria, 3 Germany, 3 Bulgaria, 2 Croatia, 2 Egypt & Jordan and one each in France, Sri Lanka, Belgium & Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Italy, Pakistan, Turkey, Mexico and Bosnia/Herzegovina. But at the same time 53



Clubs were lost; 26 in G.B.& I., which was very concerning; 10 from India, 6 Australia, 3 Sweden, 2 USA and one each from Canada, New Zealand, The Netherlands, Malaysia & Singapore, Iceland and Germany.

Up to date figures show that during the first few months of this year 13 new Clubs had been formed: 8 in India, of which one was a New Generation Club, 2 in Germany and one each in Italy and Malaysia, and the first Inner Wheel Club in the United Arab Emirates, IWC of Dubai Downtown and only within the last two days she had heard that a new club, the IWC of Bitola, was to be chartered on 29 October in Macedonia.

She was delighted to report that after some years of little contact she had been able to make contact with D.910 Ghana and they had three clubs, Accra North, Secondi Takoradi and Tema.

District Club Darwin Combined was now attached to D.A80 (Australia).

These figures showed an overall increase which was a positive position and one she felt that must continue.

During her travels last year enthusiasm for Inner Wheel was always positive but she knew that there were concerns. Some of the older members and even some younger ones complained about the amount of paperwork and what was regarded as a push for everyone to become computer literate. As with her predecessors she endeavoured to speak about the importance of extension bearing in mind the newer and wider membership rules especially in those areas of the world she was privileged to visit. New Generation Clubs seemed to be popular in various countries and it was hoped that this was another avenue of extension.

Retention and Extension were both of paramount importance. Based on reports from Great Britain and Ireland and the President's visits to the Nordic and Charlemagne Rallies, concerns had been expressed regarding the loss and fall in membership. She had some comments, questions and suggestions, in which she played the role of 'Devil's Advocate' that together with their own ideas and opinions might prove helpful for a way forward or at least a basis for discussion.

1. Membership needed to be considered, discussed and encouraged at all levels.
2. Clubs, Districts, National Governing Bodies and their Extension Committees should be encouraged and she advocated that perhaps a young member be included in this process. Enthusiasm for the subject was imperative.
3. Consider weekend and evening meetings enabling younger and working women to attend.
4. Are meetings full of vitality, interesting, stimulating and FUN?
5. A suggestion had been received that a short presentation be made on a disk of 7/8minutes duration showing young and established members working together, having fun, discussing their experiences and explaining why they were committed to Inner Wheel. This incentive from France had had positive reaction there.



6. Voting procedure was especially important at District and Club levels and should always be by secret ballot.
7. She posed the questions - Do we need a closer relationship with Rotary?
8. Do we need Rotary at all?

She explained that IIW have for many years had an Inner Wheel information booth at the Rotary International Convention. It was unfortunately not possible to have a booth in Montreal this past June as there would not have been sufficient assistance to man the booth as RI require booth holders to be on site from 9am to 6pm daily. She explained that IIW was looking at the possibility of having a booth at the RI Convention in New Orleans in June 2011.

She looked forward to hearing how the Board Directors had fared with their designated Clubs. She appreciated that sometimes the contact details they received were out of date or incomplete and this did make some contacts difficult. Unfortunately it was the best that we could do at present, unless they can bring things more up to date; that was why their work was so important. She reminded them that there were many months of this year to run and if they had been disappointed with the results so far, continue to contact their designated Clubs with the information she had given earlier, i.e. to contact local clubs or even bordering countries so that by the end of the year they would have a sound and good relationship with the members of those Clubs and information that could assist Headquarters. She also reminded them to send her copies of the information received.

She was very grateful for all the work and the results they had achieved so far and wished them all success as they continued to be enthusiastic and positive in the hope that a guaranteed success for our future was achieved.

Proposed by: Anne Fryer  
Seconded by: Mercedes Velten

### **Report presented by the Vice-President Catherine Refabert.**

(a) **UNICEF –**

#### **INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL PROJECT**

Improving Girl's Education for Gender Equality in Vangaindrano, was our International social project for 2006-2009 and is now implemented in south east of Madagascar.

The Unicef project Bolivia which is our social project for 2009-2012 will begin after 2012, when money will be handed over the same.

Atsimo-Atsinana in Vangaindrano district was chosen because of its large gender gap and low educational performance ; at the time of the proposal development ,only 1/3 of public junior secondary pupils in this district were girls and 46% of public primary school students.

Madagascar has a population of 19,1 million of which 9,6 are children Under 18 and 3 million are children Under the age of five. It is one of the least developed countries in the world, ranking 145 of 182 countries listed in the 2009 United Nations Human Development Report. The aim was to raise USD 321.000 in the target school district. The project was planned to start in July 2008. However considering funds were received almost one year after this date,

in May 2009, the time frame of the contribution as a whole : -1st May 2009 to 30 June 2012 - will be used instead.

From May 2009 to June 2010 the following activities were achieved :

#### **GENDER SENSITIVITY IN EDUCATION : -PROMOTING GIRL TO GIRL STRATEGY**

It is a child to child mentorship activity in which 1st grade girls called "little sisters" are paired up with 4th or 5th grade girls called "big sisters". Girls go to school together, play together during recreation hours, revise homework and spend time together in the village. The elder girls make sure that the younger girls acquire good hygiene practices and protect them from dangers and harassment on the way to and from school.

Since May 2009, 87 teachers and school principals from 20 primary schools have been trained and the strategy has been monitored in 13 schools.

#### **COMMUNITY MOBILISATION FOR EDUCATION**

The contract for « school success » has been implemented to enable the pupils, parents, teachers, principals and community authorities to discuss together how to improve the situation of education in line with EFA (EDUCATION FOR ALL) project targets.

271 schools principals were trained in the « Contracts For School Success » 250 school action plans have been developed, 82 Good Plans will be selected to receive UNICEF support to complement the actions of the community. 10 schools are being rehabilitated to ensure a child friendly Learning Environment. They are also being equipped with latrines and water facilities.

#### **CAPACITY STRENGTHENING FOR IMPROVED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Staff in 30 schools were trained in literacy strengthening methods and received 100 reading books in Malagasy language. Learning support kits such as compasses, rulers, maps and science posters, were provided to these schools, 37,300 note books were provided to 34 schools, 120 teachers of 30 schools were provided with basic stationery ( scissors, coloured paper, markers, paints) to support the most vulnerable children heaving difficulties to buy stationery.

#### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR GIRL'S ACCESS**

11 schools have put into place committees to choose beneficiary girls. 500 have been identified to receive scholarships, 63 have been identified to stay in dormitories, 3 schools started the construction process of low-cost dormitories.

#### **IMPROVEMENT OF THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT**

20 schools have developed school actions plans with a special focus on closing the gender gap in enrolment. 3 schools have developed school gardens, which are prepared and managed by students. 22 schools received seeds for lettuce, tomatoes, eggplants, leeks, etc... .the harvest is used to add to school canteens during the lean season. 16 schools received recreational and sports kits, 18 schools received 150 books of which 120 were dictionaries and 30 were geographical books. 28 schools received 48 books in French on Science and Maths. In addition some of them received stationery and basic Tools to repair the school buildings.

#### **IMPROVEMENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

152 teachers from 18 junior secondary schools have been trained during 3 weeks. Focus was also put on hygiene, a healthy and safe school environment gender equality and politeness. A teacher network focusing on language training was also put into place.

During the coming year, from June 2010 to June 2011, effort will be made to strengthen the links between primary and junior secondary schools, so that more children will benefit from activities for example primary children near junior secondary schools can benefit from same sport facilities, and also to improve transition rates from primary to junior secondary school.

Proposed by: catherine Refabert

Seconded Ulrike Kylberg

**UN Report** presented by the Vice-President Catherine Refabert.

UN representatives Christiane Nicole and Roswitha Ginglas Poulet from Geneva, Ceja Gregor and Ulrike Nemling from Vienna send their reports last days of September, Erle Andersen from NY just came back from Norway and will attend important sessions on Human Rights in October

I personally attend just before the Swiss Rally Charlemagne, in Montreux, a UN sessions on children's rights ;it was the first report of Sierra Leone in Central Africa, who just joined this Committee ;it was interesting to see how this emerging country is facing children rights and is willing to implement new laws to reach our European standards but it will take a lot of time , specially because they a facing thousands of child soldiers after a civil war which lasted almost 11 years and they must now find a way to rehabilitate them. But there is a long way to go from medical treatment for multiple diseases and all sorts of wounds, to huge trauma and stress ; these children are generally totally illiterate, generally don't remember a name, a village, or from where their family came from or if they have one ? Sierra Leone government is trying to improve, and will report again in few months what was done in the interim.

Then I want to inform you that the United Nations General Assembly voted unanimously on July 2nd the creation of a new entity to accelerate progress in meeting the needs of women and girls worldwide ;The establishment of the new « UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women » to be known as the « UN WOMEN » is a result of years of negotiations between UN member states and advocacy by the global women's movement

UN WOMEN will become operational by January 2011, and will have two key roles : it will support all Commissions on The Status of Women in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms and will help Member States to implement these standards, standing ready to provide suitable technical and Financial supports to those countries that request it, as well as forging effective partnerships with civil society.

The new Under Secretary General appointed to head the new body is the former President of Chili : MICHELE BACHELET. 500 million US dollars has been recognised by Member States as the minimum investment needed for this entity.

On July 9th in Johannesburg, the participants of the Kids Rights Millennium Development Goals Conference(MDG) met to discuss the progress which must be achieved in 2015, in relation to children worldwide in the areas of poverty, health and education ; they made the following urgent « CALL TO ACTION » to the International community including UN agencies, NGO's and all the national Governments that « no child should live in poverty »The situation has been worsened by the financial and economic crisis, it is estimated that the global recessions have pushed over 50 million people into poverty worldwide and may have contributed to over 200.000 additional child mortalities ; they stated that

- 1- no child shall go to bed hungry
- 2- no child shall die needlessly
- 3- no child should be left out of school

The progress in reducing hunger and malnutrition has been slow, 127 million children under five are underweight ;in the whole world almost 1 billion people live in slums with little or no access to sanitation and clear water ; 9 million children are still dying every year from

preventable causes as for example malaria which kills more than 1 million people annually most of them children.

Taking the above into account, the Johannesburg Conference called world leaders who are meeting in New York in October, at the very important MDG Summit, to invest in children and address their needs in fast and effective ways; I asked our UN representatives to carefully follow this summit and report.

Christiane Nicole, our UN Representative in Geneva reported about « children disabilities » a session of Children Rights Committee, held in September 2010 :

It is estimated that there are 500-650 million persons with disabilities in the world, approximately 10% of the world population, 150 million of whom are children. More than 80 % live in developing countries with little or no access to services. The majority of these children remain out of school and are completely illiterate.

When adopted in November 1989 the Convention on the Rights of the Child was the first human rights treaty that contained a specific reference to disability, to non-discrimination and a separate article exclusively dedicated to the rights and needs of children with disabilities. The Committee, in reviewing State party reports, has accumulated a wealth of information on the status of children with disabilities worldwide.

The problems identified and addressed have varied from exclusion to severe discrimination and actual killing of children with disabilities.

It is crucial to recommend the Committee, to provide international standards and recognize all forms of children disabilities and start implementing and monitoring these standards.

CEJA GREGOR in Vienna, reported on Women Ageing and the future Convention on the Rights of Older People which will take place before the end of the year.

We are all born equal and this does not change as we grow older. Older people, men and women, have the same rights as everyone else. Unfortunately older people's rights are often invisible under international law. Despite the existence of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, older people are not recognized explicitly under the international human rights laws that legally oblige governments to realize the rights of all people. A UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons is necessary to ensure that older women and men can realize their rights. With such a convention governments can have an explicit legal framework, guidance and support that would enable them to ensure that older people's rights are realized in our increasingly ageing societies.

The purpose of this new UN Convention will be to combat ageism and age discrimination, change older people's lives, clarify responsibilities, guide policy making and improve accountability. On behalf of IIW, Ceja Gregor endorsed a letter of support as all involved NGO's, this letter is a recommendation to require States Parties to provide information on the status of older women in their countries and the protection of their human rights.

The second report was sent by Ceja Gregor on GRANDPARENTING IN EUROPE which is another aspect of Ageing. Grandparents play an important role in family life, providing help and support to children and grandchildren and also becoming primary caregivers when parents are unable to fulfill this role, for example because of drug/alcohol abuse, illness or disability, imprisonment or death. Legislation and social policies often disregard grandparents' contribution as major caregivers. However there are a number of European countries where governments accept the importance of this issue and for example allow parental leave or allowances to be transferred to a grandparent. As the population's age it is likely that future debate about the policy issues surrounding the grandparent role will become more prominent across Europe.

A pan- European study shows that 58% of grandmothers and 50% of grandfathers provided regular or occasional childcare for their grandchildren aged 15 or younger. However there are differences across Europe in the level and intensity of childcare provided by grandparents. In Italy, Spain and Greece 40% of grandparents provide regular childcare for their grandchildren, compared with 20% in Sweden, Denmark and France. (In the US 43% of grandmothers say they provide regular childcare).

The role grandparents play in family life is likely to become increasingly significant in the years ahead. The need to develop a much better understanding of this changing reality is of utter importance, and this will be also considered during the October CEDAW meeting

A last report was received from Vienna from the NGO Committee on the FAMILY

It concerns the goals of eradicating poverty in the world through decisive national actions and international cooperation focused on families and on promoting awareness of the contribution made by the families the world over. A family dimension, should therefore, also be implicit, in all policies and documents related to poverty.

From Geneva we received a report from ROSWITHA GINGLAS-POULET who attended the 15TH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (HRC) which will go on until end of October.

The first week dealt with children and armed conflicts , the report of the working group on mercenaries and the special report on contemporary forms of slavery. The main issue was the domestic servitude and the “ private” sphere. The recommendation “requires employers to undergo a mandatory awareness raising and training before employing live-in workers... ..and oblige them to register live-in workers and ensure that they present themselves to periodic private interviews with labour inspectors”.

The agenda for the second week comprises a round table about women’s EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW and the annual discussion on the INTEGRATION OF A GENDER PERSPECTIVE as well as a special report on indigenous peoples. The panel on elimination of discrimination against women calls “*UPON STATES TO FULFILL THEIR INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS AND COMMITMENTS TO REVOKE ANY REMAINING LAWS THAT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF GENDER*” (resolution 12/17)

Between October 4 and 22 the social Forum of the Human Rights Council will meet to discuss the adverse effects of climate change on the full enjoyment of Human Rights.

At last February executive meeting, President Pallavi reported on FGM “feminine genital mutilation”

A new NGO entity was just created in Geneva, the “GLOBAL ALLIANCE AGAINST FGM”.

Just to remind you that UN consider that there are 3 million girls which are mutilated every year and 150 million mutilated women worldwide. The Global Alliance does not want to impose “western standards” to what is still considered in some countries a traditional cultural practice but to support and promote, what is implemented worldwide , and specially in African countries such as Somalia, to fight against FGM, raise funds to create hospitals where these women are restored, train and send doctors in the local hospitals and organize a world Convention end of 2012 in Geneva with all involved NGO’s, African institutions, UN Committees; they asked us if we agree to send them a letter of support , they don’t ask money they really ask support and they just received the support of Under Secretary Michele Bachelet, so my opinion is that we can and we have to do it.

That is the end of my report; I want now to notice that I wish that all BD can provide reports before the next Executive meeting in February on what is undertaken about the projects and charitable work in the countries they are in charge of, on these main subjects as ageing, older



people's rights, family, grandparenting, and live-in workers policies, fights against FGM, women's equality before the law and gender integration perspectives, and children rights regarding health and education. I will then forward this information to our UN Representatives to establish interactive communication with them.

When I came back after our first board meeting in Mumbai, I found on my computer the following message which I found interesting to forward you

Department of Public Information • News and Media Division • New York Secretary-General, in Message to Mark International Day of Older Persons, Urges Services That Give Them Chance for Life beyond Mere Survival.

Following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's message for the International Day of Older Persons, to be observed on 1 October:

This Day marks the twentieth anniversary of the International Day of Older Persons. Older persons play an invaluable role in all societies — as leaders, caregivers and volunteers — yet are also vulnerable to discrimination, abuse, neglect and violence.

The United Nations has long fought for the rights and well-being of older persons, and to make their voices heard. On this year's observance, we celebrate hard-won achievements, especially those related to the Millennium Development Goals. In many countries, older persons have benefited from reduced rates of poverty and hunger, improved access to medicines and health services, and greater education and work opportunities.

Yet, progress has been uneven, as it has been for the Millennium Development Goals overall in all countries and regions. For example, in those countries hardest hit by the AIDS pandemic, it is often grandparents who are left to care for AIDS orphans. In sub-Saharan Africa, 20 per cent of rural women aged 60 and older are the sole supporters of their grandchildren. These caregivers, who take on added and often unexpected responsibilities, typically with little or none of the necessary resources, desperately need social services, especially social pensions, so that they and their families have a chance for life beyond mere survival.

The number and proportion of older persons is growing rapidly. In the past three decades their numbers have doubled. By 2050, the global population of older persons will total 2 billion — a significant shift in the world's demographic profile with implications for us all.

On this International Day, I call on Governments to do more to address the needs of older persons. The key interventions are well-known: granting universal access to social services; increasing the number and worth of pension plans; and creating laws and policies that prevent age and gender discrimination in the workplace.

With five years left before the 2015 Millennium Development Goals deadline, it is time for Governments everywhere to institute the financial, legal and social protections that will lift millions of older persons out of poverty and ensure their rights to dignified, productive and healthy lives.

Proposed by: Catherine Refabert  
Seconded by: Annette Bangma

### **(b) Appointment of UN Representatives**

The Vice President asked the Governing Body to elect for the coming year our UN



representatives, and she was happy to inform them that Chistine Nicole and Roswitha Ginglas-Poulet from Geneva, Ceja Gregor and Ulrike Nemling from Vienna and Erle Andersen in New York were willing to continue their work as IIW UN Representatives.

Proposed by: Andree Schots  
Seconded by: Christiane Requin

#### **Editor –**

Report by the Editor. Presented in person after the Joint Rural Projects presentation by the IIW President.

Gomathi Viswanathan began giving greetings and a warm welcome to all the IIW Executive, Board Directors and Administrator Elaine to India.

Gomathi Viswanathan explained that it was with great pleasure that she was able to report in person to the Governing Body as she was attending the Rally in Mumbai.

She explained that the Inner Wheel year July 2010 started with great enthusiasm for her as Editor. The front page for the News on the Web to be published in the month of August was designed and ready. However until September 20th 2010, only eight reports from India, three from Dist. 340 Pakistan, one from Philippines, one from Nepal were received to be published. Two photos from Turkey, one photo from a club in Australia without a write up were received. Information about not having enough news to publish on the web was given to IIW Headquarters. Hence an e-mail was sent to all the National Representatives to inform Districts and Clubs in their Association to send in timely reports giving the e-mail id. One or two National Representatives had sent back replies by mail that the same would be forwarded to their clubs and districts.

She hoped to have more news from other countries so that a balanced report of Inner Wheel activities would be published on the web before the end of the month.

A general discussion followed regarding the generation of News and other ideas for creating interesting articles by the Editor.

Proposed by: Margaret Batt  
Seconded by: Maria Koutita

#### **Constitution:**

Report by the Constitution Chairman Norma Friar.

The Constitution Chairman had received and answered many queries on a variety of matters, mainly concerning the submission of Proposals and Honorary Members. It should be noted that capitation fees must be paid for Honorary Members, and that it is the responsibility of the Club to pay those fees.

She had received a request from a Non Districted Club in Nepal for information on the formation of new Clubs. They wanted to sponsor a new Inner Wheel Club in Kathmandu and needed help. Hopefully the new Club would soon be registered.

She had prepared a leaflet providing some guidelines for Districts without a National Governing Body and also a leaflet providing some guidelines for Non Districted Clubs. The aim had been

to impart information to small Districts & Clubs set far apart & to systematize the procedure. The advice is brief and simple. She hoped that some Board Directors would be able to translate them into their language, so that they would be more user friendly.

She explained that as Board Directors one of their duties was to write to some Non Districted Clubs to offer help and support so that they did not feel too isolated. She knew it could be frustrating if they did not get replies but it could also be very rewarding as she had found. She was still in contact with Harare West Club in Zimbabwe. However, she requested that if Board Directors were asked questions of a Constitutional nature, she would appreciate it if they would contact her, to make sure that they pass on the correct information. It could lead to all kind of problems if the wrong information or confusing information was given.

One country disbanded their National Council in 2009/10 so they were no longer a National Governing Body; they also decided not to have a National Representative. Dealing with the problems which had subsequently arisen, had revealed many contradictions and anomalies in the Constitution. In order to clarify, correct and simplify all the irregularities, a Review Committee had been set up to oversee this work. Shirley Hope, from New Zealand, the Immediate past IIW Constitution Chairman, Lovise Richardson, from Australia, a Past IIW President and Constitution Chairman and Kamala Ramakrishnan, from India, a Past IIW President, had been working on this review. All three ladies were extremely well qualified to do this work and they brought to the committee a great deal of experience.

She had been in regular contact with Shirley who had worked very hard on this project. Recently they met together, and she reported that she was now in possession of the results of their deliberations and the proposals they had suggested for the 2012 Convention, to be submitted by the IIW Governing Body. She explained that they would be discussing these later.

There were however some matters which needed more urgent attention

She had received queries from Sri Lanka and Mexico asking why they hadn't received the Nomination forms for the office of Vice-President, as in the past.

Earlier this year, the Executive Committee had reason to consider the nomination and election process for the positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Board Director for Districts with no National Governing Body. As the IIW Executive had overall management of the day to day affairs of the IIW on behalf of the Governing Body, it fell on them to clarify the procedure for these elections. In making a decision and with advice from the IIW lawyer, the constitution was reviewed as a whole and the spirit and purpose of its intent. It was with this in mind that the decision was taken this year, in order to save confusion, not to send nomination forms to those District Committees they believed were not eligible to nominate members for the posts of President, Vice-President and Treasurer.

The reason why they have been required to provide an interpretation of the Constitution was because, in parts, it is contradictory in reference to nominations for the IIW Governing Body

However page 27 Clause 5 specifically deals with the Rules for Districts with no National Governing Body. It makes no provision for the nomination and election of officers to any position other than National Representative, Deputy National Representative and Board Director Nominee. They therefore believed that this was indicative that the following interpretation is correct:-

Nominations for IIW Editor. Any District may nominate a member who has the necessary qualifications.

Nominations for Board Director. Any District in a country with a National Representative may nominate a member who has the necessary qualifications.

Nominations for IIW President, Vice-President and Treasurer. Only Districts with a National Governing Body may nominate members who have the necessary qualifications.

The reason for this was that these were very demanding roles, and IIW needed candidates with the requisite level of experience at National level to fulfil these roles.

The Constitution did not wish to exclude members from countries without a National Governing Body from taking official positions on the Governing Body in totality, and therefore it allowed nomination to Board Director level.

It was proposed to clarify the nomination process for President, Vice-President and Treasurer with a proposal at the next Convention. However she felt that there was some urgency in clarifying the position and therefore wished to place before the Governing Body today that proposal, which could then be ratified in 2012.

## Page 6

### 2. The Governing Body is to be elected as follows

#### A. Officers

##### a) President

Nominations

Delete the paragraph

Insert :- A District Committee of a National Governing Body may nominate a member suitably qualified for the position of President. Members may accept nominations only from the District Committees of the National Governing Body of which they are members

##### b) Vice-President

Nominations

Delete the paragraph

Insert:- A District Committee of a National Governing Body may nominate a member suitably qualified for the office of Vice-President. Members may accept nomination only from District Committees of the National Governing Body of which they are members.

##### c) Treasurer

Nominations

Delete the paragraph

Insert:- A District Committee of a National Governing Body may nominate a member suitably qualified for the office of Treasurer. Members may accept nomination only from District Committees of the National Governing Body of which they are members.

Proposed by: Norma Friar

Seconded by: Annette Bangma

Carried Unanimously

The Constitution Chairman went on to say that she was very much aware that members hated having so many rules and also how difficult it must be for the many members who did not understand English. She was also aware that members did not like spending all their time at a Convention on the Proposals. She stated that when Clubs were considering submitting proposals they should always stop to think whether the proposed change was really necessary and something that would benefit IIW as a whole and not just their particular Club. Sometimes Clubs had a small problem and felt there needed to be legislation to solve it. Hence IIW received many proposals including several confusing or incomplete ones, which had to be

rejected.

She then presented the Report and Proposals that had been submitted by the Review Committee. These were studied in detail and discussed by the Governing Body. All but one of those presented to the Governing Body were agreed upon unanimously, the other by a majority with one abstention.

She explained that 34 other proposals had been received so far, but was expecting that others would be received up to the deadline date October 18th. That concluded the Constitution Report.

Proposed by: Norma Friar  
Seconded by: Ulrike Kylberg

### **General Motion**

President Pallavi was concerned to point out the enormous pains taken by the Constitution Chairman and the Review/Revision Committee. It was suggested that a General Motion should also be considered regarding the revision process.

As a result of the work done by the Revision/review Committee it was proposed that major changes to the Constitution be taken to the Convention for voting upon by the membership. However it was recommended that minor changes go to the IIW Governing Body for approval and agreement. The motivation for this was that there were many anomalies that the Review Committee would be highlighting and that their work would be on-going. This could mean a very large number of individual proposals being brought to a Convention which though straightforward would be time consuming to discuss individually and vote upon individually.

Proposed by: Norma Friar  
Seconded by Jean Matthews  
Carried Unanimously

### **Nominations for IIW Office 2011-2012**

President Pallavi announced that nominations had been received:-

President 1  
Treasurer 1  
Vice President 5  
Board Director 20  
Editor 2  
Constitution Chairman 2

The IIW Executive decided that a number of the Board Director nominations were to be disqualified because the nomination forms did not include the National Representative's signature and for some others paperwork was still needing final scrutiny by the Executive committee before a final decision was made.

Other points that she felt needed highlighting were:-

- Minutes not translated into English. It had been agreed that the nomination form should explicitly demand the Minutes be translated in future.
- The need to provide the correct information in the correct box. E.g. District position box required title of job not the date.

Once the nominations were accepted President Pallavi stated that the booklets with the pictures and profiles would be posted on the website to give every Club time to choose the most suitable people for the roles being contested.

### **Nominations for Constitution Chairman 2011/2012.**

The nomination papers for the nominees for the position of Constitution Chairman were circulated and voting took place after the Constitution Chairman withdrew.

The votes were counted and Norma Friar was re-elected for 2011-2012 as Constitution Chairman.

President Pallavi requested for ratification of **the re-run of the election of Board Directors for 2010-2011**. This was confirmed by the Governing Body

Proposed by Oluyemisi Alatise

Seconded by: Joan Beech-Jones

President Pallavi explained that re run of elections was held on suggestion by the lawyer last year. However, having gone through re run of elections she realised that lot of difficulties practical & financial have occurred due to the rerun of elections of Board Directors. The cost of Board Directors coming to this GBM has multiplied a great deal due to late purchase of tickets, which is indirect additional expense over & above the (over 12,000 pounds) expense of lawyers, printing, increased postage, accountant's fee for counting, on this issue of re run of elections. This is to put on record for posterity that next time we should remember the massive repercussions of having re run of elections & the financial & practical difficulties involved.

**Appointment of Trustees 2011/2012:** Dr. Brenda Taylor and Carla Buchanan

Vice-President : Catherine Refabert

Seconded Annette Bangma

**Appointment of Lawyer 2011/2012:** Constitution Chairman.

Seconded Doreen Shand

**Convention: 15th Convention, Istanbul 2012.**

Brief overview of progress

**Office Administration/Paperwork.**

Reported by Elaine Hathaway -Administrator

This was the second Governing Body meeting that had been taken outside the UK since the change to the Constitution in 2006. She hoped that the Governing Body had found the

arrangements satisfactory.

Inevitably much of the organisation at the Novotel had fallen to Bushra Kalimi the Novotel events co-ordinator, but mostly to President Pallavi herself. The evenings were taken care of by her fantastic husband Tushar Shah, the lovely ladies of the Clubs within District 314, the Indian Association of Inner Wheel Clubs, and the local sponsors and suppliers. Not having our usual contacts in the UK and invoicing systems and long standing accounts with hotels and taxi firms etc in and around Manchester had made some practical details much more challenging for Charlotte, especially the tendency to use cash far more than is usual in the UK or Europe and hard work for Pallavi setting up all the entertainment and alternative venues to visit but if we never tried new things how were we to learn and adapt and change? She explained that she had never been to India before so she had found it an exceptional experience. She explained she would have to renew her exercise regime and strict calorie control on her return to the UK as Indian hospitality had been tremendous and overwhelming. It was unlikely that HQ could provide such vibrant additional evening entertainment for future IIW Governing Body meetings and it had certainly been a non- stop whirl of colour and excitement for the Board Directors.

Since the last Governing Body the expiry of the lease at Stafford Court had moved closer. It would expire in April 2011. Now the agreement to move the office had been taken the arrangements could be moved another step forward.

All office moves were an upheaval and create chaos for a time as things get sorted out. It had to be decided what items to move and what to archive or dispose of as well as organising the technology and phone systems and new phone numbers. She explained that although HQ would advertise the new address and contact details in all the forthcoming mail HQ did foresee some complaints from the membership who were so used to the Stafford Court address, telephone number and fax number that they might well be confused by what they saw as a sudden and unexpected change. Even though IIW had been talking about this likely change for some time now, any actual move would come as a shock to those who felt they had not been well enough informed. Indeed it took some of the Clubs 3-4 years to realise that Miss Palmer had retired in 2005 and some were quite annoyed with HQ that she had gone and they did not know! She explained that HQ normally ask for all information sheets and Directory orders to be sent in by 31 March . As this would coincide with the move it had been decided that HQ will investigate the possibility of asking Club Secretaries to fill in the information form on-line, if at all possible. This on-line feature had been postponed, but many of the National Governing bodies were using on-line submission already for their own systems so it was felt it would not be a step too far for those who hated computerisation and wanted to keep paper systems come what may, if they used it locally already. This should hopefully reduce errors of submission and if there were errors they would be because the Club had typed in the wrong information, not the data entry team at the Printers misreading poor handwritten forms. She requested that the Board Directors helped explain to the membership what was happening and explain that HQ would not be deliberately making things complicated just to be annoying!

The full format Directory was back and seemed the most popular design. The additional changes requested by the last Governing Body had been added, but she apologised that the website address which was supposed to go on the front page had not been included by the printer – her error for not spotting that it had been missed out. She would redouble efforts to get it included next time.

The website had been simplified as it was getting a little cluttered. HQ had also been advised to include website policies. These covered issues of omissions and errors and out of date information and systems for remedy and on how the website worked. Although the website was a simple one, we had included clauses on the use of cookies. Some more complicated websites to work well download small files on to the receiving computer and although the webmaster had made assurances that we do not do this if we decided to have a more complicated website in the future we might need the policy in place.

The recent Newsletter reflected the changes that the previous Editor Wendy Tindall-Shepherd and the Governing Body from last year discussed and requested – bigger size, better pictures – and it was thought that had been achieved. It would be good to refine the delivery systems used to get the items from India and improve the quality of the cover paper. The Administrator pleaded on behalf of the IIW Editor for lots of news stories, articles and pictures to keep Gomathi busy for the coming year and make News On the Web all the more interesting. She requested the Governing Body's stories – the IIW Editor would appreciate their contributions. All the matters they were working on for the coming year that might be suitable would be added to the website or so they could be e-mailed to the Clubs which had queries or requests.

Jean Matthews queried the use of song for the Convention and the Administrator found the words on file on the IIW laptop. Olyemisi Alatise was familiar with it, sang it to the Governing Body who joined in heartily and reiterated their desire that it be used at the Convention.

#### WHEN THE (INNER WHEEL) SAINTS GO MARCHING IN.

Oh when the saints go marching in,  
 Oh when the saints go marching in,  
 Yes, I want to be in that number,  
 When the saints go marching in.

And when the sun begins to shine  
 And when the sun begins to shine  
 Yes, I want to be in that number,  
 When the sun begins to shine.

Oh when we meet in Inner Wheel  
 Oh when we meet in Inner Wheel  
 Yes, I want to be in that number,  
 When we meet in Inner Wheel

For now we meet in Istanbul  
 For now we meet in Istanbul  
 Yes, I want to be in that number,  
 As we meet in Istanbul.

Administrator Elaine explained she had also received a query about an Inner Wheel anthem from an Italian Club as the members had heard the following sung and would like the complete words and music.

“You and I will stay about in this world that keeps on spinning and our time has come for winning It's we...) Board Director Beatrice Guerrini said she recognized it and would provide the full wording.

The Administrator explained that it was the ideas and contributions of the membership that kept the organisation thriving so she requested that through the Governing Body they let HQ know if there were administrative matters that could be easily and economically modernised or simplified to benefit the whole organisation.

The Administrator requested someone to propose and second my report?

Proposed by: Joan Beech -Jones

Seconded by: Marion Patchett

### **Presidential Visits.**

13th. Nov.	IWC of Battipaglia
21st. November 2010	306
28th. Nov.	317
11-12th. Dec.	318
7th Jan 2011	326
5 Feb	Sri Lanka Conference
9th., 10th. 11th. Feb	Executive Meeting
1st -5th April	Possible trip to Madagascar before visit to La Reunion
6th,7th,8th April	La Reunion
11-12-13 April 2011	GB & I Meeting
23rd., 24th. April	South Asia Rally
6th May	Italy
13,14,15 May	France
16-19. May 2011	Mexico
29th. June –2nd. July	Executive Meetings

Both Turkey and Croatia had sent invitations and President Pallavi would see if it was possible to accommodate them within her already busy schedule. She was also hopeful that she would attend the RI Convention with IPP Anne Fryer to work on the IIW Booth in mid June 2011.

When explaining how to fit things in to a busy schedule she explained that Helen Keller had once said that in the past everything had to be made from scratch. Now it can be done much more quickly – but where were we using all that spare time that had been created? She asked that the membership break the imaginary shackles that suggest that there is no time for anything extra.

### **Open Forum:**

There were no further questions as many issues were discussed & questions asked during the course of the Meeting.

### **Any Other Business.**

The Governing Body formed groups and worked upon and presented their ideas for the seminar topics for the Convention.

Committee 1 – Margaret Batt, Joan Beech- Jones, Beatrice Guerrini, Pat Traill -

Committee 2 –Annette Bangma, Mercedes Velten, Yemise Alatisé, Doreen Shand

Committee 3 – Rathy Mahendran, Ruth Beausire, Christiane Requin, Maria Koutita

Committee 4 – Marion Patchett (The Way Forward), Jean Matthews (Extension & Retention),

Andree Schots (Micro Finance and other initiatives), Ulrike Kylberg (Promoting Inner Wheel).

They reported back their group ideas and were requested to précis these and send them to the Committee 4 group in charge of amalgamating ideas for the seminars. These group discussions were particularly worthwhile and provided a great deal of suggestions, experiences and ideas.

The Committees would continue to work on their particular areas after the Governing Body meeting.

Committee 1- modernise, simplify Guidance sheets and translate.

Committee 2 –UN quarterly reports to Vice President. Annette Bangma Australasia, Mercedes Velten S America, Yemise Alatisé West and North Africa, Doreen Shand Central and South Africa.

Committee 3 – UN quarterly reports Rathy Mahendran Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines and Asia, Christiane Requin France Italy Spain, N America, Ruth Beausire N Europe and Scandinavia, Maria Koutita S Europe.

Committee 4 – continue compiling and expanding the database of notes for the seminar topics allocated to them.

### **National Representatives Reports.**

The National Representative reports were briefly commented upon. Again some comments were made on those not following the standard format and suggested a template be provided in an attempt to encourage the National Representatives to correctly follow the guidelines they were given.

### **President's closing remarks.**

With this, President Pallavi concluded the GBM of the year 2010-11 on a note of satisfaction that positive & meaningful discussions had occurred. The emphasis this year was to bring progressive modernization of the Organisation, streamlining & systematizing the procedures. She hoped that the Board Directors would continue with enthusiasm the work on the plans outlined at this Meeting. She reminded all that the year for the BD begins on 1st. July, gets into high gears at the GBM & then goes full speed till 30th June.

She hoped that they had enjoyed their stay & the hospitality during their stay in Mumbai, India and enjoyed the deliberations. She thanked VP Catherine, IPP Anne, Treasurer Charlotte, CCCC Norma, for their positive suggestions, To the Board Directors she said that they were an excellent lot & all enjoyed the deliberations. She thanked all who had a role to play which they did with perfection with lot of hard work involved.

Elaine, had been an excellent administrator, rendering help at every stage. All Executives change every year but she is like a common thread binding us all together.



She thanked all those who sponsored meetings & evening programmes & DC & all in District 314 who made this GBM enjoyable.

She heartily applauded all the Executives, Elaine & of course all the Board Directors, for being a lovely team.

Catherine Refabert gave the Vote of Thanks. On behalf of all the members she thanked President Pallavi for the democratic way in which she conducted the Meeting, she thanked all the Executive officers and the participants for their interactive ways and Elaine for her support and preparation. She wished President Pallavi safe travels around the Inner Wheel world throughout the year.

Signed.....

Date.....





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