

**MEDICAL WOMEN'S
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION**



REPORT ON THE CENTENNIAL CONGRESS

NEW YORK, USA

July 25-28, 2019

**Edited by
Dr. Shelley Ross**

Number 43

MWIA Secretariat 2016-2019

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Bettina Pfeleiderer, Germany
MWIA President 2016-2019

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT



Dear members of the Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) and medical women and students from all over the world,

As MWIA's president it is a great honour to invite you all to attend MWIA's centennial congress in New York (USA) from the 25 – 28th of July 2019.

It all started on October 19, 1919 during the first congress of women physicians in New York when 140 participants from 16 nations stressed their wish to form an International Association. About 200 women from 15 Nations joined MWIA immediately after it was founded. Since then MWIA is growing in numbers and in cloud.

The theme of the centennial congress is ***“The Centennial Congress of the Medical Women's International Association: Medical Women: Ambassadors of Change in a Challenging Global World, bridging the past with the present and moving into the future!*”**

The congress theme reflects the theme of my triennium 2016-2019 as MWIA president “Medical women- ambassador of change”. The specific challenges to women's health are manifold: e.g. deprivation of Women's Rights in many societies, lack of access to health care, socio – economic, cultural and political factors and lack of health care policies to promote women's health. Sustainable change is only possible when women will be empowered. Medical women and national medical women's associations play here an important role by raising awareness for these problems, serve as advocates by informing the public and politicians by social media, use of their networks & teaching materials and last but not least by initiating new preventive health and education programs. This congress will celebrate our achievements as medical women in MWIA since 100 years!

MWIA is greatly indebted to the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) for hosting this centennial congress. We are planning currently an exciting scientific programme and social activities for our members. Together we will make this a memorable event for all of us!

I am looking so much forward to seeing you all in New York in 2019!!

Shelley Ross, Canada
MWIA Secretary General 2007-2019

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING SECRETARY-GENERAL



On the occasion of the Centennial Congress of the Medical Women's International Association, it is a great pleasure as well as a privilege to extend words of welcome from the Secretariat.

Having the congress in New York City has great significance as it was in 1919 that Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy and her colleagues met at the Waldorf Astoria to inaugurate MWIA. We have come full circle to meet again in New York City to celebrate 100 years since that momentous occasion.

I would like to thank the American Medical Women's Association for hosting this congress. I acknowledge the tremendous amount of work it has been to hold a conference in New York City, having the need to balance creating an exceptional experience yet keeping within budget.

This is going to be my last congress as Secretary General. It seems like only yesterday that my predecessor, Dr. Waltraud Diekhaus, twisted my arm to have me take on the role of CEO of MWIA. I am very grateful that I succumbed to her persuasive ways, as I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as the Secretary General. Waltraud always said that the President was the spokesperson, but the Secretariat was the heart and soul of the organization. I have enjoyed working with several executives and extend best wishes to the upcoming 2019-2022 executive.

When Dr. Lovejoy started MWIA, it was due to the need to allow more women into medical school and to allow them to practice medicine upon graduation. Particularly in the developed countries, we have long ago won that battle, with many medical schools seeing over 50% female enrolment. Our challenge now is to make sure that women physicians step up and take on the leadership roles that will shape the profession into the future. MWIA needs to train them and support them in those roles.

MWIA has also been seen as an advocate for women's health and must stand up and speak particularly for those women who have no voice. MWIA has long been known for its work on Gender and Health and now is becoming known for working in the field of Violence against Women. We need to keep a keen eye on emerging issues in women's health and empowerment and make sure our voice is heard.

At the Centennial Congress, I look forward to seeing many members of MWIA that I have come to know over the years and to meet many more who are new to MWIA. See you in July 2019!

Clarissa Fabre, UK
MWIA President 2019-2022

INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY MWIA PRESIDENT FOR THE 2019-2022 TERM



Good morning to you all.

I am honoured and delighted to be standing here today as your new president.

Young Women Young Doctors: Our Inspiration Our Future

This is my theme for the coming triennium.

We must celebrate the outstanding achievements we have made over the last 100 years.

But, looking to the future, we must remain constantly vigilant to protect the progress we have made, and to identify new challenges. We owe this to our young doctors and medical students and to the many young women around the world who still face major barriers and unacceptable prejudice.

In this talk I plan to tell you a little about myself, and how I came to be your president. I will then focus on what we might achieve in the next 3 years, guided by the 2017 MWIA Membership survey, and what I have learned from many of you at regional meetings in the last 3 years.

I graduated from the University of Sydney in Australia and became interested in a career in Paediatrics. I was also interested in travelling, and after a year of residency set off to work in Canada. One of the most interesting parts of my Paediatric job at Queens University was a month spent in Moose Factory in northern Ontario, looking after Indian and Eskimo children.

Just as with the aboriginals in Australia, alcohol was an enormous problem, as well as unemployment, living on welfare, and no real goals to strive for. We flew to remote settlements to run out-patient clinics. After a year in Canada, I came to London where I obtained further postgraduate qualifications while based in various London teaching hospitals.

I met my future husband, a medical academic, also Australian, in London. We moved to Oxford and I became a research registrar in Paediatrics at the John Radcliffe Hospital for 3 years. We then had 3 children and moved to Sussex. This is a picture of my 2 daughters. Both are qualified doctors. Claire on the right is now a Paediatric consultant in the Children's Hospital in Edinburgh, and Margarete is an academic trainee in Haematology, doing a PhD in Cambridge.



Unlike most women doctors nowadays, I had a career gap of 7 years. When my son was 3, I returned to work. There were many hurdles to overcome to return to Paediatrics. I therefore re-trained in family medicine and have remained there ever since. I became a full-time partner, and under my leadership, the practice expanded over the years from 2000 to 11,000 patients. We became a training practice for medical students and young doctors. When my children were older, I became active in medical politics. My involvement with the U.K. Medical Women's Federation (MWF) began in Oxford, just before the birth of my first child. From that moment, having a family impinged on my career. When my children were older, Dr Dorothy Ward, whom some of you will remember as a past president of MWIA, asked if I would consider becoming Honorary Secretary of MWF. This was a very exciting role which I enjoyed very much, and I progressed to Vice President and then MWF President in 2010.



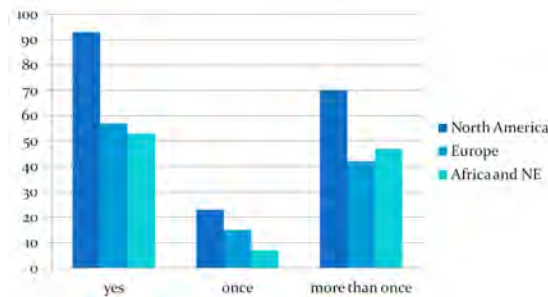
Dorothy Ward is shown here second from the left, with MWF colleagues at an MWIA regional meeting in Iceland, just after a night swim in the Blue Lagoon. Dorothy also encouraged me to stand for the British Medical Association's General Practitioners' Committee. This highlights for me one of the very important roles of MWF and MWIA - to encourage young women to put themselves forward for positions of influence they might never have considered. If Dorothy had not encouraged me, I would probably not be standing

here today. When my MWF presidency finished in 2012, I asked MWIA Secretary-General, Dr Shelley Ross if there were any roles in MWIA that I could fill. She suggested representative to WHO. And that has been my way into the hierarchy of MWIA. It was a life-changing appointment.

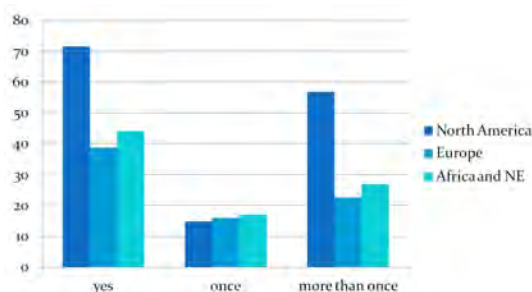
I shall just say a few words about my mother, an Economics graduate who became an ardent feminist when I was 15 years old. She became President of the Family Planning Association in Australia. She spent much of her life campaigning for Abortion Law Reform, Homosexual Law Reform, the Women’s Electoral Lobby, and finally Euthanasia. She received a medal from the Queen for her activities. This picture shows her, in the purple sweater at the age of 95 marching for Euthanasia in Australia.



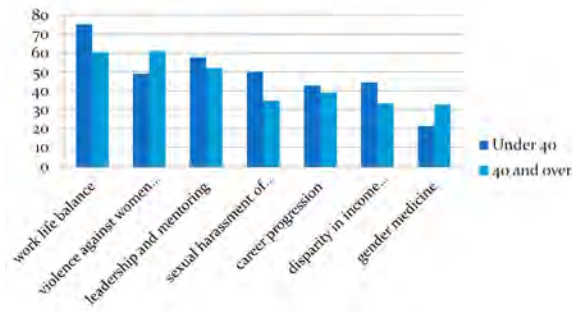
I shall move on now to what I would like to achieve over the next few years. The MWIA Membership survey was an online survey conducted in 2017. 1150 women doctors and medical students responded. The numbers in the survey are too small to make definitive comments. However, they do show trends to guide us in our future priorities. Members were asked if they felt they had ever been discriminated against in their careers because they were women. It is interesting that the level of discrimination was high throughout the world, with a trend for discrimination to be higher in North America in comparison with Europe or Africa and the Near East.



Members were asked ‘Have you ever suffered from sexual harassment or bullying related to your work? Levels of sexual harassment and bullying were high everywhere, with the North Americans reporting a greater problem than the Europeans and Africans.



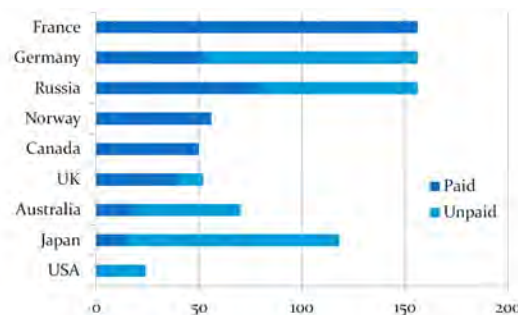
What are the most important issues MWIA needs to address? Members were given 15 options and could tick more than one. Work life balance, VAWG, leadership and mentoring and sexual harassment came out on top. And there was no great difference between older and younger doctors.



Guided by findings from the survey, what are some of our plans for the future? What do we want to achieve? There are 5 broad areas.

One of my priorities will be a focus on young women doctors, looking at career development and return to work after having children. We must encourage leadership and mentoring worldwide. We must put in place structures which facilitate both career development and good motherhood. It is possible to do both.

Looking at maternity and parental leave in different countries. Paid maternity or parental leave is dark blue, unpaid is a lighter blue. Over the period of maternity leave, the woman doctor's job is protected. It is interesting that the United States is one of only 3 countries in the world where there is no legal right to paid maternity leave. The other countries are Papua New Guinea and Suriname. Moreover, in the US, the period of leave permitted is relatively small. Small employers in the US with fewer than 50 employees are exempt from providing even this basic level of parental leave. Some women go back to work in less than a week, which for many is a highly stressful experience best avoided.



Looking briefly at work life balance in Japan

In 2018 we heard that officials at Tokyo Medical University had been systematically lowering test scores of women applicants, so that far fewer women gained entry to medical school. There were profuse apologies from those responsible for this outrageous behaviour and it was widely reported in the international press. It is interesting that only 21% of doctors in Japan were women in 2016, the lowest of the OECD countries. Here are some observations and proposals made by the Japanese women doctors in a publication in the BMJ. There was a low level of confidence, resulting in low career aspirations. Full-time practice is one of the

requirements for specialist status in Japan. There is a need to cut down the long hours culture in medicine in Japan. Temporary posts should be introduced to cover maternity leave to reduce burden on colleagues. To end this section, here is a quote from an article by my husband published in Clinical Medicine a few years ago. “The major burden of childcare still falls on the mother, but the key issue (for parents and administrators) is that the period of intensive childcare is limited and, once complete, both careers can proceed at full pace: I think we need to accept that there are times in childcare when women are indispensable!

Moving now to Violence against women and girls, and the related issues of sexual harassment, and child and elder abuse. MWIA have developed an online training module on violence which has been used very successfully in workshops at our meetings. I would highly recommend its use at your meetings. I plan to focus on what we as doctors can do, and on the critical issue of prevention. We must ensure that doctors and medical students are trained in detection of violence, and on appropriate referral pathways. And with regard to prevention, we need to begin with boys and girls in schools, to change cultural attitudes.

Partnerships can greatly strengthen the influence and impact of MWIA. We have strong links to the WHO and to the UN through our representatives and collaborative work plans. There are 3 areas I plan to concentrate on in the coming triennium, where partnerships are valuable. These are HPV vaccination, Contraception and Teenage Pregnancy, and Post-partum Haemorrhage.

One of the UN and the WHO’s top priorities is **HPV vaccination and the Elimination of Cervical Cancer**. It has become clear that HPV vaccination of girls at age 11 or 12 is proving a very effective way of preventing cervical cancer. Ideally, young boys should be vaccinated as well. In Canada and the US, the national Medical Women’s Associations have introduced a very effective HPV Awareness Week. **What can MWIA do?** We must encourage our national organizations to engage with government and advocate for HPV vaccination. We can advise our national organizations on how to organize HPV Awareness campaigns and we can supply appropriate materials (posters, leaflets, videos, webinars, films etc). We can educate and support health workers in low and middle income countries, and provide technical assistance where necessary. We can encourage and facilitate cervical screening, including HPV testing. I am confident that MWIA, working with partners such as the UN, WHO and others, can make a real difference in this area, to eliminate cervical cancer.

Moving on to Contraception and the prevention of Unplanned Teenage Pregnancies. In November last year, I attended the MWIA Africa and Near East Regional meeting in Nairobi. Dr Bev Johnson of the Canadian Medical Women and I met with several young doctors and medical students who were working in this area. **Just a few facts:** One in five 15-19 year old girls in Kenya has a child or is pregnant; 80% of these girls drop out of school; they are often forced into marriage or face great stigma; 95% of pregnant girls did not use any form of contraception; Healthcare staff are often unsympathetic to teenagers’ requests for contraceptive advice; There is a negative attitude from many parents and Church leaders.



This shows a health clinic owner and my guide, a speaker at the conference, on the left, standing outside a healthcare facility in one of the Nairobi slums.



A male health worker is demonstrating various forms of contraception to women waiting to be seen in the clinic. Bev and I made many contacts at the conference and have been in touch with many of these groups. We are very keen to progress this project in the coming triennium.



This is a group of medical students I met in Nairobi from an organization called RESPEKT. RESPEKT is funded by the Danish Youth Council. It uses volunteer Kenyan medical students to go into schools to talk to adolescents about Sexual and Reproductive Health. Currently there are volunteers from 10 medical schools, and the organization is growing. They have developed a curriculum for schools, as well as training and action plans. They have approached the government, and have partnered with gender-based violence centres

Another interesting new development is the use of Apps and social media, for example the LucyBot. This is a Facebook Messenger Chatbot. It was show-cased at the recent Women Deliver conference in Vancouver at a plenary session chaired by Melinda Gates. It uses Artificial Intelligence and is a reliable source of online information on contraception and

sexual and reproductive health. It answers questions and points to resources. Users can talk to a doctor directly.



Here we see Dr Bev Johnson at the recent Women Deliver conference, with the developers of the LucyBot. We have already begun bringing our Kenyan partners together to expand the use of the LucyBot. We plan to expand the Contraception and Teenage pregnancy project to Ghana and Nigeria in the first instance, but we know there is a similar need in countries like Thailand and elsewhere.

The third partnership, in this case with the WHO, is the Prevention and treatment of Post Partum haemorrhage. This is one area where MWIA could make a significant impact in reducing maternal mortality. Several drugs have been found to be very effective, but are not often available in remote settings. For prevention, Oxytocin and heat-stable Carbetocin in areas where there is no refrigeration have been shown to be helpful. And for treatment, Tranexamic acid given intravenously within 3 hours of birth. Working with partners, MWIA could facilitate the supply of these drugs to those areas where it is needed.

In conclusion

MWIA is a powerful force in advancing the cause of women's health and welfare throughout the world, as well as improving the lives of women doctors.

There are dangers to women's progress and we need to remain vigilant. Given the nature of men and women, we need a women's organization to look after women's rights. Nothing ever stands still.

MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Founded 1919 Constitution revised 1987, amended 1998, 2001, 2004, 2019

GOVERNMENT

Executive Officers:

President
Immediate Past President
President-Elect
Secretary-General (Executive Secretary)
Treasurer
Vice-Presidents (regional)

Affiliation:

National Associations:

National President
National Coordinator

and

Individual Members

Regions:

Northern Europe
Central Europe
Southern Europe
North America
Latin America
Near East and Africa
Central Asia
Western Pacific

Committees:

Finance
Scientific and Research
Ethics and Resolutions
Strategy and Membership
Communications and Social Media
Special Interest Group for Young Doctors and Medical

Students

Finance:

General Fund
Lovejoy/ Jubilee Fellowship Fund
Dr. Leone Hellstedt Fund
Harumi Ono Fund
Dr. Märtha Holmström Fund
Scholarship Fund
Alma Dea Morani Fund

Meetings:

Executive : annual
General Assembly : once in three years
Congress : as determined by the Assembly

Voting Right:

General Assembly

Executive
Delegates of National Associations
Delegates of Individual Members

Delegates: Each affiliated association has delegates in accordance with their membership to a maximum of 20 delegates. This applies to Individual Members as well.

Eligibility for Membership: Qualified Medical Women according to the rules applicable to the medical profession in their countries.

Relations with other International Organizations:

UN ECOSOC (United Nations)	consultative status
WHO (World Health Organization)	official relations
CIOMS (Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences)	member of the board
EWL (European Women's Lobby)	member of the board
WMA (World Medical Association)	observer
UNICEF (United Nations)	observer
CSW (Commission on the Status of Women)	observer
CONGO (Conference of Non- Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council)	member

2019 STATUTES FOR THE MEDICALWOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1

NAME

Under the name of "Medical Women's International Association," is founded an Association according to the present regulations and to Section 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code. The emblem of the Association is the figure of Hygeia with the motto "Matris Animo Curant" (They heal with the spirit of a mother).

ARTICLE 2

HEAD OFFICE

The legal Head Office of the Association is in Geneva, Switzerland where the Association was first incorporated in 1952. The General Assembly shall at all times be able to change the locality of its Head Office, similarly for the Secretariat of the Association.

ARTICLE 3

OBJECTS

The objects are:

- a) To promote the cooperation and general interests of Medical Women worldwide and to develop friendship and understanding among all Medical Women without regard to race, religion or political views.
- b) To offer Medical Women the opportunity to meet so as to confer upon questions concerning the health and well-being of humanity.
- c) To work actively towards equity and equality between female and male doctors in all aspects of their medical career.
- d) To encourage worldwide a gender awareness of differences in health, health care and health research between women and men.
- e) To promote the empowerment of medical women and patients to work towards gender equity and equality

ARTICLE 4

NATURE

The activity of the Association is only engaged in the interest of medicine. The Association is politically neutral and non-sectarian. It has no profit-seeking aims. It is a Non-Governmental Organization (N.G.O.).

ARTICLE 5

MEMBERS

The following are eligible to be members of the Association:

a) The affiliated National Associations

There can be only one affiliated National Association for each country unless there are exceptional circumstances considered by the Executive Committee and admission recommended to the General Assembly. In that case, each Association would be allowed their own voting rights.

The Executive Committee will approve a new membership application after the National Association has passed two stages:

1. Its constitution being accepted by the Executive Committee,
2. It receives no opposition from any existing member,

The membership status will be activated after the Association has paid the dues. Approved Associations will be introduced to the membership at the next General Assembly

b) Individual Members

Any Medical Woman belonging to a country which does not have an affiliated National Association and who has filed an application directly with the Association, whose application has been approved by the MWIA Executive Committee as an Individual Member and has paid her dues after approval.

c) Honorary Members

Any member of a National Association or Individual Member who has rendered to the Association or the medical profession any outstanding services deserving acknowledgement, can be awarded the title of Honorary Member of the Association on proposal of the Executive Committee and approval by the General Assembly.

d) Members of Honour

Any person not being a member of the Association, who has rendered to the Association or the medical profession any outstanding services deserving acknowledgement, can be awarded the title of Member of Honour on proposal of the Executive Committee and approval by the General Assembly. The Members of Honour do not have any voting rights. They may attend the General Assembly as observers.

ARTICLE 6

The members of the Association must undertake to abide by the Statutes and Bylaws.

ARTICLE 7

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly is the highest authority of the Association.

ARTICLE 8

The General Assembly elects the Executive Committee and settles all business which is not within the mandate of the other Statutory Bodies.

The General Assembly is made up of the delegates of the National Associations, the delegates of the Individual Members and members of the Executive Committee. Only these three categories hold voting rights.

Members of Honour, other members of National Associations and other Individual Members who are not delegates can be present at the General Assembly as observers.

National associations* will have the following voting rights:

10-20 members equals 1 vote

21-40 members equals 2 votes

41-60 members equals 3 votes

61-80 members equals 4 votes

81-100 members equals 5 votes

101-500 members equals 7 votes

501-1000 members equals 10 votes

1001-1500 members equals 15 votes

1501-2000 members equals 20 votes which is the maximum number per association

* A National Association needs to pay for a minimum of 10 members as this is considered the lowest number of members to form an Association

** The maximum number of members an association has to pay for is 2000.

The maximum number of voting rights is 20.

ARTICLE 9

The General Assembly is held at least once in three years, upon summons by the Executive Committee.

The General Assembly chooses the country in which its meeting shall be held and approves the dates.

In default the Executive shall make these decisions.

At the request of ten National Associations from at least two Regions the Executive must summon an Extraordinary General Assembly as soon as possible.

ARTICLE 10

QUORUM

Any ordinary meeting of the General Assembly shall only be able to deliberate validly if at least one hundred delegates are present representing at least 10 National Associations from 2 Regions.

An Extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly shall only be able to deliberate validly if at least 50 delegates are present representing 10 National Associations from at least 2 Regions.

The Executive Committee shall only be able to deliberate validly if a majority of its members is present.

ARTICLE 11

VOTING

Decisions are taken by the majority vote of the members present except in cases where the Bylaws provide for a qualified majority.

ARTICLE 12

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The General Assembly elects the members of the Executive Committee which is usually known as THE EXECUTIVE. The Bylaws set their number. As such, this Committee shall comprise:

- a) The President
- b) The President-Elect
- c) The Secretary-General
- d) The Treasurer
- e) The Vice-Presidents
- f) The Immediate Past President

The conditions of their eligibility, of their re-eligibility, those concerning the presentation of their candidature at the General Assembly, the general obligation of the members of the Executive and the duration of their office are set in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE 13

In case of resignation, or incapacity to fill her office, or death of one of the Executive members, the Executive shall nominate a substitute for the remaining current period, should this felt to be necessary for the functioning of the Executive. In the case of the President this substitute shall be the President-Elect.

ARTICLE 14

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year.

ARTICLE 15

EXTERNAL AUDIT

The General Assembly shall employ an external auditing firm of international standing to control the presentation of the accounts. The duties are stated in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE 16

ASSETS

The General Assembly sets the annual subscription of the affiliated National Associations and of the Individual Members.

Non-payment of the annual subscription within 12 months of the due date will result in suspension of membership unless a justifiable delay had been agreed on by the Executive Committee. Only members in good standing are eligible to hold executive positions, run for office or serve on committees.

Non-payment of the subscription for 3 years, except in the case of a justified delay, entails loss of statutory rights.

Membership shall be reinstated on payment of subscriptions owed or such amount as agreed by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee is entitled to accept gifts or legacies and manage them on behalf of MWIA.

ARTICLE 17

COMMITTEES

The General Assembly and the Executive shall be able to create standing and ad hoc committees according to need.

The Executive Committee shall be assisted by a Standing Finance Committee.

The Chair and members of the Standing Finance Committee and all other Committees are appointed by the Executive.

ARTICLE 18

ALTERATION OF STATUTES

The General Assembly only has the authority to alter the Statutes.

Motions involving alteration of the Statutes must be sent to the Secretary-General at least one year before the date set for the next General Assembly. These motions are then sent by the Secretary-General not later than 6 months before the next General Assembly to the National Associations and to the Individual Members.

Decisions related to an alteration of the Statutes require a majority of two thirds of the members voting.

ARTICLE 19

DISSOLUTION

The decision to dissolve the Association requires two thirds of the votes of the members at the General Assembly specially summoned for this purpose. If two thirds of the members are not represented at this General Assembly, the decision shall be submitted to all National Associations and Individual Members by referendum.

In case of dissolution of the Association, the remaining assets are handed over, through the Executive Committee to organizations whose aims are close to those of the Association after settlement of all liabilities of the Association.

2019 BYLAWS FOR THE MEDICALWOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1 HEAD OFFICE

The Association maintains a virtual office for its Secretariat.

ARTICLE 2 GENERAL ASSEMBLY (ARTICLES 2-6)

Each National Association and the Individual Members shall inform the Executive Secretary in writing of the names of their delegates and substitutes in good time before the meeting of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 3

In the absence of a delegate, her voting right is exercised by her official substitute. As far as possible, the MWIA National Coordinator of each National Association shall be a delegate.

ARTICLE 4

Meetings of a scientific and professional nature must not be in contradiction to the stance of MWIA.

ARTICLE 5

The official language of the Association is English but the country in which the meeting is held may use its own language provided that simultaneous translation is available and the expenses due to this are borne by the National Association concerned.

ARTICLE 6

The Minutes of the meeting of the General Assembly are published by MWIA and distributed to the National Associations and Individual Members within 12 months of the last meeting.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (ARTICLES 7-18)

ARTICLE 7

The Executive Committee (known as The Executive) is the decision-making body of the association between the General Assemblies. It

1. Reviews and evaluates the activities of the Association and recommends to the General Assembly practices and projects suitable to further the activities of the Association.
2. Assures the management functions for which it is responsible.
3. Appoints the Chairs and Members of Committees.
4. Receives and evaluates the reports of all the Committees.
5. Appoints representatives to other international organizations to whom MWIA is affiliated.
6. Adopts the budget on the basis of the budget proposed by the Treasurer and the Finance Committee.
7. Reports to the General Assembly on the financial aspects and other activities of the Association.
8. Undertakes all other obligations provided for by the Statutes and Bylaws.
9. In an emergency situation the Executive will assure the arrangements of the Congress. The Executive recommends to the General Assembly the appropriate venue after investigation considering economic and geographic factors.

THE PRESIDENT

ARTICLE 8

The **MWIA President** is a member of the MWIA executive, the decision-making body of the association. Her role is

1. To be the strategic and policy lead. In this role the President is supported by the Secretary General and the Executive with whom she keeps in close communication.
2. The President is an ex officio member without voting rights of all Committees except if there is a tie, the President can cast the last vote.
3. The term of her presidency is three years; the President is not eligible for re-election for a second term.
4. In consultation with the Secretary General, she directs the administration of the Association and is responsible for carrying out the policy of the Association.
5. Along with the Secretary General, she signs all legal documents authorized by the Executive and within the limits of the Association's concerns.
6. In consultation with the Executive, proceeds with nominations and appointments required by the activities of the Association which are not stated in the Statutes and Bylaws.
7. Is responsible for all the activities dependent on her office.
8. Presides over meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive.
9. If for any reason the removal from office is irreversible, the President-elect will assume the presidency.

MWIA PRESIDENT- ELECT

ARTICLE 9

The **MWIA President-elect** is a member of the MWIA Executive, the decision-making body of the Association. In this role, she works closely with the President, the Immediate Past President, the Secretary General and the Executive with whom she keeps in close communication. Her role is essentially that of shadowing the President and learning what will be required of her when she becomes President.

Every President-elect needs to choose a theme and plan activities around this theme to be presented to the membership during her presidential speech after her inauguration at the end of the triennial MWIA meeting at which she was elected.

The President-Elect:

1. Assumes the Presidency in case of death or inability of the President to carry out her duties during the President's term of office.
2. The President-elect is an ex officio member without voting rights of all Committees. Her term of office is three years. She assumes the office of President at the end of the last session of the next General Assembly
3. Should the President-elect not be able to carry out her duties due to death or inability, the position will not be replaced for the remainder of that term.

SECRETARY GENERAL

ARTICLE 10

The **Secretary General** is a member of the MWIA Executive, the decision-making body of the Association. She directs the administration of the Association in consultation with the President and Executive and in this role, she ensures the smooth running of the virtual office. She may employ an Executive Secretary on the recommendation of the Executive. She keeps in close communication with the President who is the main spokesperson and leads the organization. She supports the President and the Executive in their decision-making roles. The Secretary General is an ex officio member without voting rights of all committees. **Her term of office is three years with the opportunity to be re-elected for a second term.**

The Secretary General, together with the President, President-elect and Treasurer plays a key role in sustaining MWIA as a well-run and financially secure organization on the world stage. She facilitates, monitors, collects data and prepares information for the Executive. Details of her roles can be found on the job description as posted on the MWIA website. If for any reason the removal from office is irreversible, the Executive shall appoint a substitute for the remainder of that term.

MWIA TREASURER

ARTICLE 11

The MWIA Treasurer is a member of the MWIA Executive, the decision-making body of the association. The main duties of the Treasurer are to oversee the MWIA's financial administration, review procedures and financial reporting, advise the Executive on financial strategy and advise on fundraising. It is essential that she seeks financial advice as necessary. The Treasurer is an ex-officio member without voting rights of any Committee concerned with financial business.

Her term of office is for 3 years and can be renewed for a second term.

If for any reason the removal from office is irreversible, the Executive shall appoint a substitute for the remainder of that term.

The Treasurer:

1. Is responsible for precise keeping of accounts of all assets, funds, investments, bank accounts and other properties of the Association.
2. Prepares a timeline for annual payments such as dues to International Associations (e.g. WHO, European Women's Lobby).
3. Ensures that timely dues notices are sent to National Associations and Individual members and payment is acknowledged with receipts (by email).
4. Sends out reminders when dues have not been paid.
5. Notifies the Executive when membership of Associations needs to be suspended or statutory status is lost.
6. Makes all payments that are requested and have been agreed by the Executive Committee.
7. Along with the President and Secretary General, is a signatory for payment with 2 of these 3 signatures being a requirement on all transactions.
8. Presents the Executive with the annual budget in consultation with the Finance Committee and ensures the Executive Committee understands its financial obligations including compliance with tax regulations.
9. Presents the audited accounts to the Executive annually. An external auditor appointed by the Executive needs to follow international accounting principles in the review of all financial records.

THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

ARTICLE 12

The Vice-Presidents

Each Vice President is a member of the Executive, the decision-making body of the organization. Each Vice-President represents a geographic region.

The term of office is three years. There is an option to be re-elected for a second term.

Some regions, however, have a pre-determined rota of countries that will nominate the Vice President that precludes a second term. To be eligible for election, the candidate's National Association or the Individual Member must be current with their dues for the last triennium and be members in good standing. Individual Members are also eligible to represent the region to which they belong.

Each Vice-President within the limits of her region:

1. Shall encourage interest in the Association.
2. Studies and reports on professional problems and organizes exchanges for information on matters that concern medical women.
3. Organizes, as far as possible, regional meetings to discuss the business of the Association, scientific and professional matters which take into account the aims of the Association.
4. Includes the Individual Members of her region in her activities.
5. Encourages the establishment of new National Associations.
6. Works closely with the National Coordinators of their region.

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT

ARTICLE 13

The Immediate Past President is a member of the MWIA Executive, the decision-making body of the Association. In this role, she works closely with the President, the president-elect, the Secretary General and the Executive with whom she keeps in close communication. Her role is advising and supporting the President and the MWIA Executive in their decision-making processes.

The Immediate Past President is an ex officio member without voting rights of all Committees. Her term of office is three years.

If for any reason the removal from office is irreversible, the position will not be replaced for the remainder of that term.

ARTICLE 14

A term of office for members of the Executive means the time interval between one General Assembly and that following.

ARTICLE 15

The nomination of candidates for the Executive by the National Associations and Individual Members must be accompanied by a curriculum vitae and personal statement and by their acceptance of the nomination in writing. Only candidates from Affiliated Associations in good standing who paid their dues can run for any executive position.

NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE

ARTICLE 16

The nomination of candidates to the Executive is made as follows:

Through the Secretariat, the Executive invites the National Associations and the Individual Members to submit the names of their candidates for the offices of President-Elect, Secretary-General, Treasurer and Vice-Presidents, eighteen months before the next General Assembly.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is exactly 12 months before the General Assembly.

The Vice-President for each region is nominated only by the members of that region, but nominations for the other positions can come from any region and the names proposed do not need to be limited to members from their own regions.

ARTICLE 17

Members of the Executive must receive 2/3 (two thirds) of the votes of those voting in order to be elected. If this majority is not obtained after the first ballot a second ballot is taken and the candidate obtaining the highest number of votes is elected.

If there are two or more nominations for the same office in the Executive, the election is conducted by secret ballot.

For the position of Vice President for the region, it is advantageous to the region if it can decide itself at a regional business meeting who the candidate will be and put forth a single candidate on the nomination form. If there is more than one candidate, the election will take place at the General Assembly and all National Associations and Individual Members will be allowed to cast their votes, not just members of that region.

MWIA NATIONAL COORDINATOR ARTICLE 18

Each National Association has an MWIA National Coordinator who is responsible for liaison with the Association.

She presents an annual report on the activities of the members of her National Association and provides the MWIA Secretariat with required information. She performs other duties as necessary.

ASSETS ARTICLE 19

The annual subscription is due on the first of July each year. The amount of the dues will be determined at each General Assembly.

COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 20

The Executive according to need, creates standing or ad hoc Committees. The General Assembly may also recommend committees.

The Executive sets the terms of reference for these Committees.

The Executive appoints the Chair and members of the Committees. Members can be suggested by the associated MWIA members in good standing or by invitation of the executive. Only members from Associations in good standing can serve on Committees. Appointments shall be reviewed at the beginning of each term.

EXTERNAL AUDITORS

ARTICLE 21

The External Auditors shall audit the accounts annually or more often as required by the Executive or at least 5 National Associations in two regions.

LIABILITY OF THE OFFICERS

ARTICLE 22

No officer shall be personally liable for any action undertaken on behalf of the Association while executing her fiduciary duty and her duty of care.

MEDICAL STUDENTS

ARTICLE 23

Affiliated National Associations may choose to have medical students as Associates according to the rules applicable to the medical profession in their countries

REVISION OF THE BYLAWS

ARTICLE 24

Revision of the Bylaws or any part of them shall be approved by the General Assembly.

SUSPENSION OF MWIA

ARTICLE 25

In the event of war or other disaster MWIA may go into temporary suspension.

THE MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Aims and Purposes

Throughout the 94 years of its existence, the Medical Women's International Association has provided an international forum for the interchange of information about a variety of vital medical problems with worldwide implications. The discussions at the Association's Congresses and Assemblies have been of inestimable value to the participants, women in medicine who perceive that they bring to the healing arts a special quality.

The Association has held steadfast to its aims as developed through the years in which the group has grown to its present proportions, over 20,000 members from 81 countries. The aims are:

1. To offer medical women the opportunity to meet so as to confer upon questions concerning the health and well-being of humanity.
2. To promote the general interest of medical women by developing cooperation, friendship and understanding without regard to race, religion or political views.
3. To overcome gender-related differences in health and healthcare between women and men, girls and boys throughout the world.
4. To overcome gender related inequalities in the medical profession.
5. To promote HEALTH FOR ALL throughout the world with particular interest in WOMEN; HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

MWIA CONGRESSES

1924	1st Congress	London, U.K.: Maternal Morbidity
1929	2nd Congress	Paris, France: Sex Instruction for Children and Adolescents - Analgesia in Midwifery.
1934	3rd Congress	Stockholm, Sweden: Physical Education - Birth Control
1937	4th Congress	Edinburgh, U.K.: Cancer in Women and its Prevention - Maternal Mortality and Abortion
1947	5th Congress	Amsterdam, Netherlands: The Responsibilities of Medical Women in the reconstruction of the post-war world
1950	6th Congress	Philadelphia, U.S.A.: Anaemia in Women - Pathology and Hygiene of Housework
1954	7th Congress	Gardone, Italy: The Menopause
1958	8th Congress	London, U.K.: The Adolescent
1963	9th Congress	Manila, Philippines: Parent Education and the Medical Practitioner
1966	10th Congress	Rochester, N.Y., U.S.A.: Optimal Utilization of Medical Women Power
1968	11th Congress	Vienna, Austria: The Hungry Millions

1970	12th Congress	Melbourne, Australia: The Health of Women in Industry
1972	13th Congress	Paris, France: Toxoplasmosis
1974	14th Congress	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: Genetic and Environmental Factors affecting Human Health
1976	15th Congress	Tokyo, Japan: Viral Infections and their Sequelae
1978	16th Congress	Berlin, F.R. Germany: Mass Medica and Medicine
1980	17th Congress	Birmingham, U.K.: Medical Priorities in Developing, Progressing and Established Countries
1982	18th Congress	Manila, Philippines: Humane Management in Medicine
1984	19th Congress	Vancouver, Canada: Men and Women: Biological and Behavioural Differences
1987	20th Congress	Sorrento, Italy: Adolescence: Medical and Psycho-Social Aspects
1989	21st Congress	Seoul, Korea: Incidence of Cancer in Women in Different Countries
1992	22nd Congress	Guatemala City, Guatemala: Health for All Children
1995	23rd Congress	The Hague, The Netherlands: Women's Health in a Changing World.
1998	24th Congress	Sao Paulo, Brazil: The Health of Women in the XXI st Century
2001	25th Congress	Sydney, Australia: Women's Health in a Multicultural World
2004	26th Congress	Tokyo, Japan Medicine in a New Life Style
2007	27th Congress	Accra, Ghana Women in the World of Medicine
2010	28 th Congress	Munster, Germany: Globalisation in Medicine: Challenges and Opportunities
2013	29 th Congress	Seoul, Korea Medical Women Advance Global Health
2016	30 th Congress	Vienna, Austria Generation Y: Challenges of the Future for Female Medical Doctors
2019	31 st (Centennial) Congress	New York, USA Medical Women: Ambassadors of Change in a Challenging Global World

**MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OFFICERS 2016 - 2019**



The Medical Women's International Association Executive 2016-2019

Front row left to right: Kyung Ah Park, Clarissa Fabre, Bettina Pfliederer, Shelley Ross
Back row left to right: Piyaneetr Sukhu, Mabel Aboah, Padmini Murthy, Maite Sevillano, Cissy Yu, Khatuna Kaladze, Tuula Saarela, Antonella Vezzani

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Bettina Pfliederer Münster, Germany
Immediate Past President	Kyung Ah Park Seoul, Korea
President-Elect	Clarissa Fabre Uckfield, East Sussex, UK
Secretary-General	Shelley Ross Vancouver, BC, Canada
Treasurer	Gail Beck Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Acting Treasurer	Tuula Saarela Espoo, Finland
Regional Vice-Presidents	
Northern Europe	Tuula Saarela

	Espoo, Finland
Central Europe	Khutuna Kaladze Tbilisi, Georgia
Southern Europe	Antonella Vezzani Parma, Italy
North America	Padmini Murthy Pleasant Valley, NY, USA
Latin America	Marta Maite Sevillano Sao Paulo, Brazil
Near East and Africa	Mabel Aboah Accra, Ghana
Central Asia	Piyanetr Sukhu Bangkok, Thailand
Western Pacific	Cissy Yu Happy Valley, Hong Kong

CHAIRWOMEN OF THE MWIA COMMITTEES

Finance:	Marta Maite Sevillano Sao Paulo, Brazil
Ethics and Resolutions:	Helen Goodyear United Kingdom
Scientific and Research:	Antonella Vezzani Parma, Italy
Centennial Committee	Shelley Ross Vancouver, Canada Bettina Pfleiderer Münster, Germany
Centennial Subcommittees	
Finance	Clarissa Fabre (UK)
Public Relations	Eleanor Nwadinobi (Nigeria)
Publications	Helen Goodyear (UK)
Bazaar	Patariya Jarutat (Thailand)
Ceremony	Shelley Ross (Canada)

Strategy & membership committee	Clarissa Fabre Uckfield, East Sussex, UK
Communication & Social media	Padmini Murthy Pleasant Valley, NY, USA
Special Interest Group for Young Doctors and Medical Students	Geneviève Koolhaas The Netherlands

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

United Nations in New York:	Satty Gill Keswani and Padmini Murthy (USA)
Department of Public Information in New York:	Satty Gill Keswani and Padmini Murthy (USA)
World Health Organization In Geneva:	Clarissa Fabre (United Kingdom)
United Nations in Vienna:	Iris Habitzel (Austria)
CIOMS	Christine Wieland (Switzerland)
World Medical Association	Kyung Ah Park (Korea)

National Officers 2016-2019
(as of end of Centennial Congress, July, 2019)
(E-mails deleted to avoid breach of privacy)

NORTHERN EUROPE

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Johanne Bjerre Lindboe (president)
Dr. Margit Niebuhr (NC)
Dr. Birte Sorenson (Treasurer)
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<http://www.quindoc.dk>

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Dr. Eeva Leppavuori (PastPresident)
Dr. Tuula Saarela (NC)
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Iceland

Sigríður Haraldsdóttur
Olof Sigurardóttir

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Dr. Liliana Havezova

Czech Republic

Dr. Nada Kocnarova

Estonia

Dr. Ene Tomberg
Dr. Kadri Hunt
Dr. Aare Raudsepp

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Marina Tsertsvadze (NC)
Dr. Khatuna Kaladze (VP)

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Larisa Skuratkovskaya

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Dr. Krstina Dokleštic

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Dr. Elena Zigova

Slovenia (individual member)

Dr. Elizabeta A. Baretic-Kolar

Switzerland

Adelheid Schneider-Gilg (President/NC)

Office

[http:// www.medicalwomen.ch](http://www.medicalwomen.ch)

Turkey (individual member)

Prof. Akdal-Halmagyi

SOUTHERN EUROPE

Belgium

Prof. Dr Lieve Dams (President)

Agnes Vermeulen (NC)
Dr. Christine Pouliart (NC)
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France

Dr. Isabelle Gautier (President)
Dr. Brigitte Lecot (SG)

Greece

Dr. Myrto Sotiropoulou (NC)
Dr. Alexandra Kalogeraki

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Dr. Hava Tabenkin

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Dr Maria Moitinho de Almeida

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Dr. Connie Newman (outgoing President)
Dr. Roberta Gebhard (incoming President)
Dr. Theresa M. Rohr- Kirchgraber (NC)
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Dra. Anni Bravo (President)
Dra. Elsa Sandoval de Bravo (NC)

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Dra. Gysella Padilla de Moreno

Peru

Dra. Marlene Leon (President)
Dra. Maria Jesus Rojas (NC)
Dra. Luisa Uribe (Treasurer)
Dra. Rebeca Kuniyoshi
(International Affairs)

NEAR EAST AND AFRICA

Algeria

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Dr. Quadi Rabia

Botswana

Dr. Doree Masire

Cameroon

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Dr Florence Tumasang (NC)

Congo

Dr. Norine Nkelani

Democratic Republic of Congo

Dr. Elisabeth Mishika

Egypt

Dr. Omayma Shady (President)

Dr. Mervat Elrafie (NC)

Dr. Shafika Nasser (Past VP)

Ethiopia

Dr. Nebiyat Semeredin

Ghana

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Dr. Naa Adzorkor Sodzi-Tettey (Past President)

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Jane Frances Namatovu (NC)

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Dr. Sharon Kapambwe (President)

Dr. Lisa Kafula Nkole (SGeneral)

Zimbabwe

Dr. Maitazvenyu Mvere-Chatora

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Dr. Ahrafunnesa

Dr. Laila Arjumand Banu

Dr. Afroza Khanam,

India

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Dr. Kamala Sengupta (NC)

Dr. Nalini Kurvey (NC)

Dr. Radhika Joshi (NC)

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Pakistan (individual member)

Dr. Sarah Khalid Khan

Thailand

Dr. Khun Nanta Maranetra (President)

Dr. Patariya Juratat (NC)

Dr. Piyanetr Sukhu (VP)

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Dr. Soonwon Hong (NC)

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Dr. Nergui (NC)

Dr. Amartuvshin (Treasurer/Secretary)

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Dr. Robyn Hewland

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Taiwan

Dr. Happy Kuy-lok Tan

Dr. Li-Jung Fang (NC)

Dr. Winnie Yang (Manager)

HONORARY MEMBERS OF MWIA

	<u>since</u>
Madame Marie CURIE*, France	(1929)
Berta VAN HOOSSEN*, U.S.A	(1947)
Edna GUEST*, Canada	(1950)
Martha M. ELIOT*, U.S.A	(1950)
Catharina MAC FARLANE*, U.S.A	(1950)
Esther POHL LOVEJOY*, U.S.A	(1950)
Louisa MARTINDALE*, U.K.	(1950)
Honorina ACOSTA-SISON*, Philippines	(1954)
M.Pas MENDOZA GUAZON*, Philippines	(1954)
Ethlyn TRAPP*, Canada	(1954)
Paulette GAUTHIER-VILLAR*, France	(1956)
Luisa GIANFERRARI*, Italy	(1956)
A. Charlotte RUYS*, Netherlands	(1958)
Leone BAUMGARTNER, U.S.A	(1962)
Fe del MUNDO*, Philippines	(1968)
Ada CHREE REID*, U.S.A	(1970)
Jolanda TOSONI DALAI*, Italy	(1970)
Janet AITKEN*, U.K.	(1970)
Lore ANTOINE*, Austria	(1970)
Lorna LLOYD-GREEN*, Australia	(1972)
Cicely D. WILLIAMS*, U.K.	(1972)
Lena OHNESORGE*, F.R.Germany	(1972)
Mother Anna DENGEL*, Austria/Italy	(1972)
Mary ESSLEMONT*, U.K.	(1974)
Leone McGREGOR HELLSTEDT*, Sweden	(1974)
Lola VILAR, Spain	(1974)
Alma Dea MORANI*, U.S.A.	(1976)
Rosa Lee NEMIR*, U.S.A.	(1976)
Hildegard STOLTZ*, Brazil	(1976)
Minerva S. BUERK, U.S.A.	(1978)
Gabrielle HENRY*, France	(1978)
Isobel ROBERTSON, South Africa	(1978)
Harumi ONO*, Japan	(1980)
Helga THIEME*, Germany	(1980)
Katharine W. WRIGHT*, U.S.A.	(1980)
Beryl D. CORNER*, U.K.	(1982)
Märtha HOLMSTRÖM*, Sweden	(1982)
Martha KYRLE*, Austria	(1982)
Joan REDSHAW*, Australia	(1984)
Frances A. SANO*, Hawaii	(1984)
Trinidad A. GOMEZ*, Philippines	(1987)
Barbara McCLINTOCK	(1987)
Beverley TAMBOLINE, Canada	(1989)
Fernanda DE BENEDETTI-VENTURINI*, Italy	(1992)
Il Ok CHOO, Korea	(1995)
Vibeke JÖRGENSEN, Denmark	(1995)
Catrin WILLIAMS*, U.K.	(1995)

Rinko YAMAZAKI*, Japan	(1995)
Carolyn MOTZEL*, Germany and U.S.A.	(1998)
Dorothy WARD*, Scotland, U.K.	(1998)
Florence W. Manguyu, Kenya	(2001)
Shelley Ross, Canada	(2007)
May Cohen, Canada	(2007)
Waltraud Diekhaus, Germany	(2007)
Joan Ford, Canada	(2010)
Gabrielle Casper, Australia	(2010)
Margaret Maxwell, New Zealand	(2013)
Susanne Close, Australia	(2013)
Deborah Colville, Australia	(2013)
Kyung Ah Park, Korea	(2016)
Afua A J Hesse, Ghana	(2016)
Ameyor Adadevor, Nigeria (posthumously)*	(2016)
Cisca Griffioen, The Netherlands	(2019)
Bettina Pfleiderer, Germany	(2019)
Christiane Pouliart, Belgium	(2019)
Satty Gill Keswani, USA	(2019)
Rebeca Kuniyoshi, Peru	(2019)
Usha Saraiya, India	(2019)
Shafika Nasser, Egypt	(2019)
Bong Ok Kim, Korea	(2019)
Robyn Hewland*, New Zealand	(2019)

*deceased

MEMBERS OF HONOUR OF MWIA

Hertha M. DAX*; Austria	(1982)
Ruth BONNER*, Switzerland	(1989)
Rita LEVI-MONTALCINI, Italy	(1989)
Dr. Wariara MBUGU, USA	(2007)
The DAK Foundation (Australia)	(2019)

* deceased

PAST PRESIDENTS

Esther POHL LOVEJOY*, U.S.A.	(1919-1924)
Lady Florence BARRETT*, U.K.	(1924-1929)
L. TUILLIER-LANDRY*, France	(1929-1934)
Alma SUNDQUIST*, Sweden	(1934-1937)
Louisa MARTINDALE*, U.K.	(1937-1947)
A. Charlotte RUYS*, Netherlands	(1947-1950)
Ada CHREE-REID*, U.S.A.	(1950-1954)
Jolanda TOSONI-DALAI*, Italy	(1954-1958)
Janet AITKEN*, U.K.	(1958-1962)
Fe del MUNDO*, Philippines	(1962-1966)
Lore ANTOINE*, Austria	(1966-1968)
Lorna LLOYD-GREEN*, Australia	(1968-1970)
Leone McGREGOR HELLSTEDT*, Sweden	(1970-1972)
Alma Dea MORANI*, U.S.A.	(1972-1974)
Harumi ONO*, Japan	(1974-1976)
Helga THIEME*, Germany	(1976-1978)
Beryl D. CORNER*, UK	(1978-1980)
Joan M. REDSHAW*, Australia	(1980-1982)
Trinidad A. GOMEZ*, Philippines	(1982-1984)
Beverley TAMBOLINE, Canada	(1984-1987)
Fernanda DE BENEDETTI-VENTURINI*, Italy	(1987-1989)
Il Ok CHOO*, Korea	(1989-1992)
Dorothy WARD*, U.K.	(1992-1995)
Florence MANGUYU, Kenya	(1995-1998)
Lila STEIN KROSER, * USA	(1998-2001)
Shelley ROSS, Canada	(2001-2004)
Gabrielle CASPER, Australia	(2004-2007)
Atsuko HESHIKI*, Japan	(2007-2010)
Afua AJ HESSE, Ghana	(2010-2013)
Kyung Ah PARK, Korea	(2013-2016)
Bettina Pfleiderer, Germany	(2016-2019)

*deceased

**MWIA
ORGANIZATION
CHART**

President
Bettina Pfeleiderer

Regional Vice
Presidents

Immediate Past President
Kyung Ah Park

President-Elect
Clarissa Fabre

Treasurer
Dr. Gail Beck

Secretary-General
Dr. Shelley Ross

Northern Europe
Tuula Saarela
National Associations
Denmark

Finland
Iceland
Ireland
Sweden
The Netherlands
United Kingdom

Central Europe
Khatuna Kaladze
National Associations
Austria

Georgia
Germany
Hungary
Poland
Romania
Russia
Switzerland
Individual Members
Bulgaria
Czech Republic

Estonia
Hungary
Montenegro
Poland
Serbia
Slovak Republic
Slovenia
Turkey

Southern Europe
Antonella Vezzani
National Associations
Belgium

France
Greece
Israel
Italy

North America
Padmini Murthy
National Associations
Canada
United States of
America

Individual Members
Portugal
Spain

Yugoslavia

Latin America
Marte Maite Sevillano
National Associations
Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Columbia
Ecuador
Mexico

Panama
Peru
Individual Members

Near East and Africa
Mabel Aboah
National Associations
Cameroon
Egypt
Ghana
Kenya
Nigeria
Sierra Leone
Tanzania
Uganda
Zambia
Individual Members
Algeria
Botswana
Chad
Congo

Democratic Rep of Congo
Ethiopia
Iran
Iraq
Mali
Morocco
Qatar
South Africa
Sudan
Zimbabwe

Central Asia
Piyatenr Sukhu
National Associations
India
Thailand

Individual Members
Bangladesh
Malaysia
Pakistan

Western Pacific
Cissy Yu
National Associations
Australia
Hong Kong
Japan
Korea
Mongolia
Philippines
Taiwan ROC

Individual Members
New Zealand

**CENTENNIAL (XXXIst) CONGRESS
OF THE MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

The XXXIst MWIA Congress was held at the Brooklyn Bridge Marriott in New York, USA, from July 25- 28, 2019. Sincere thanks goes to the American Medical Women's Association under the leadership of Dr. Eliza Chin, Dr. Padmini Murthy, and Dr. Amanda Xi for organizing such an excellent Centennial Congress.

The Theme of the Congress was:

***MEDICAL WOMEN: AMBASSADORS OF CHANGE
IN A CHALLENGING GLOBAL WORLD***

SPECIAL UN EVENT

Dr. Padmini Murthy, MWIA Vice-President for North America, organized a superb event at the United Nations Headquarters to begin the Centennial Congress. Many thanks to the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the UN, the Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the UN, and the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) for sponsoring the event inside UN Headquarters. The event was entitled **“Women’s Health: Building Blocks for Sustainable Development Goals.”**

Dr. Shelley Ross, Secretary General of MWIA, chaired the session which highlighted a number of distinguished speakers, namely H.E. Pennelope A. Beckles, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations; Mr. Satya Rodrigo, Charge’d’affaires a.i. Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations; Dr. Chantal Line Carpentier, head of UNCTAD, Dr. Jillian Farmer, Director of the Division of Healthcare Management and Occupational Safety at the UN; Dr. Vanessa Kerry, CEO of Seed Global Health; NASA Scientist Dr. Camille Wardrop Alleyne; Carlos Garcia Former Ambassador of El Salvador to the UN; Simone Monesabian, head of UNODC; activist and writer Ruchira Gupta, and author, philanthropist, and grandson of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, David Roosevelt.

BRIEFING OF MWIA NATIONAL COORDINATORS

Thursday, July 25, 2019

All National Coordinators (NCs) and National Presidents were invited for a briefing by the Secretary-General, Dr. Shelley Ross. Each congress registrant had received relevant materials for the General Assembly. NCs were reminded of the procedure for the election of officers and were given their voting cards. Each NC received an electronic version of the National Coordinator Manual that contained information about the current and incoming executive, the up-dated list of National Presidents and NCs, Statutes and By-Laws, meeting report forms, job description for NC's, information about dues, information about the website, twitter, resolutions and a foldable leaflet to use with information about MWIA. The executive and committee chairs were introduced and the NCs and National Presidents then had the opportunity to ask questions, and the rights and responsibilities of all officers were discussed.

CONGRESS TIMETABLE

Thursday	July 25, 2019	Saturday	July 27 2019
100-1300	UN Event	0830-1030	Breakout Session B
1415-1515	Committees	1100-1200	Breakout Session C
1515-1615	NC Briefing	1330-1530	Breakout Session D
1630-1730	Regional meetings	1530-1600	Break
1800-2000	Opening Reception	1600-1730	General Assembly 2
2000-2130	MWIA Exco Meeting	1930-2130	Gala
Friday	July 26 2019	Sunday	July 28 2019
0900-1200	Opening Ceremony	0830-1030	General Assembly 3
1200-1330	Lunch and Posters	1045-1145	Closing Plenary
1230-1330	yMWIA meeting	1145-1215	Awards
1330-1530	Breakout Session A	1215-1300	Closing Ceremony
1530-1600	Break	1245-1300	Exchange of officers
1600-1800	General Assembly 1	1400-1700	MWIA Executive Mtg
1600-1900	Residents/Students		
1900-2100	Film night		

OPENING CEREMONY

The Mistress of Ceremonies, Dr. Shelley Ross, called on Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer and Dr. Roberta Gebhard to bring greetings from MWIA and AMWA respectively. A history panel of MWIA past presidents, Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer, Dr. Kyung Ah Park and Dr. Afua Hesse highlighted the achievements of MWIA and concluded with welcoming national association presidents onstage to show the diversity and sisterhood of MWIA. Laurie Cooke, CEO of the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association invited prominent US healthcare leaders for a fireside chat - Dr. Danielle Ofri, award-winning physician author; Dr. Darilyn Moyer, EVP and CEO of the American College of Physicians; and Dr. Helen Burstein, EVP and CEO of the Council of Medical Specialty. Dr Esther Choo and Dr. Dara Kass, the founding members of TIME'S UP Healthcare delivered the Linda Brodsky Memorial Lecture, speaking on the need to end gender discrimination and harassment in the healthcare sector.

The highlight of the opening session was the conversation about life lessons with Ms. Gloria Steinem, activist, author and feminist of renown. The session was hosted by past AMWA President, Dr. Gayatri Devi.

Explanation of the General Assembly

According to the 2004 version of the Statutes and Bylaws, Article 7 of the Statues, the General Assembly is the highest authority of the Association. Article 8 goes on to say that the General Assembly is made up of delegates of the National Associations, the delegates of the Individual Members and members of the Executive Committee. Only these three categories hold voting rights. Members of Honour, other members of National Associations and other Individual Members who are not delegates can be present at the General Assembly as observers. The General Assembly elects the Executive committee.

Article 9 states that the General Assembly is held at least once in three years, upon summons by the Executive Committee. The General Assembly chooses the country in which its meeting shall be held and approves the dates. Article 10 talks about quorum which requires at least one hundred delegates to be present representing at least 10 National Associations from 2 Regions.

Article 11 stipulates that decisions are taken by the majority vote of the delegates or members present except in cases where the Bylaws provide for a qualified majority. Article 17 of the Bylaws outlines such a provision where members of the Executive must receive 2/3 (two thirds) of the votes of those voting in order to be elected. If this majority is not obtained after the first ballot a second ballot is taken and the candidate obtaining the highest number of votes is elected. If there are two or more nominations for the same office in the Executive, the election is conducted by secret ballot.

Rules of Order for the General Assembly

The President presides over the General Assemblies. If you wish to speak, please raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged by the President.

Use of social media for matters relating to the General Assembly while it is in progress is prohibited. If social media occurs during the voting process, the national association of the offending member will forfeit all its votes.

The General Assembly is run under Roberts Rules of Order.

**Agenda for General Assemblies
and Closing Ceremony
MWIA Centennial Congress
July 25-28, 2019**

Day one of the General Assembly – Friday, July 26- 1600 - 1800

1. Presidential welcome
2. Roll call, greetings and apologies and Introduction of the Executive by the Secretary General
3. In memoriam – Stand for 1-minute silence.
4. Report of the President
5. Report of the Secretary General
6. Report of the Treasurer
7. Presentation of candidates for the office of Treasurer in alphabetical order:
 Dr. Eliza Chin
 Dr. Helen Goodyear
8. Discussion and ratification of 2019 Revision of Statutes and Bylaws
9. Membership Checklist with request for modification by Taiwan Medical Women's Association for discussion and approval.
10. First round of voting for the position of Treasurer as the membership exits the room (a 2/3 majority if required on the first round of voting for the candidate to be elected)

Day two of the General Assembly – Saturday, July 27 - 1600- 1730

11. Announcement of the results of the vote for Treasurer (if a 2/3 majority has not been achieved, the second round of voting will occur during the second General Assembly)
12. Presentation of national associations requesting membership with voting to accept
 Ratification of new individual members granted membership
 Honorary Members and Members of Honour
13. Announcement of successful candidate for Treasurer and announcement of 2019-2022 MWIA executive
- 14a. Resolutions with discussion and voting

Day three of the General Assembly Sunday, July 28 - 0830 - 1015

- 14b. Continuation of discussion of Resolutions
15. Presentation for next Congress venue and voting
16. Any other business
17. Motion to adjourn

Closing Ceremony following Plenary Sessions

1. Awards
2. Highlights of the Centennial Congress – Dr. Eliza Chin
3. Summary of the Scientific Sessions – Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber
4. Transition of the new executive
5. Inaugural Address of the Incoming President for 2019-2022 – Dr. Clarissa Fabre

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Respectfully submitted by Dr. Shelley Ross MD, Secretary General 2007-2019

1. The President, Prof. Bettina Pfeleiderer, **called the first General Assembly to order** at 1600 hours on July 26, 2019, and welcomed the members in attendance.

2. The Secretary General, Dr. Shelley Ross, brought **regrets and greetings** from:

Past President Dr. Beverley Tamboline from Canada
Past VP Dr. Shafika Nasser from Egypt
Past VP Dr. Margaret Maxwell from New Zealand
Past VP Central Europe Dr. Gertrude Zickgraf from Germany
Past VP North America Dr. Charmaine Roye from Canada
President of Ecuador Medical Women Dr. Gina Del Rosario
President of the Russian MWA Dr. Olga Goncharova
President of the Peruvian Medical Womens Association Dr. Marlene Leon
The DAK Foundation

Dr. Ross took the **roll call** and the following national associations and individual members were present:

Australia
Austria
Belgium
Brazil
Canada
Denmark
Ecuador
Egypt
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Hong Kong
India
Italy
Japan
Kenya
Korea
Netherlands
Nigeria
Peru
Philippines
Russia
Sweden
Switzerland

Taiwan
Tanzania
Thailand
Uganda
UK
USA

Individual members in alphabetical order

Dra. Kumiko Eiguchi from Argentina
Dr. Verónica Rodríguez Torres from Mexico
Dr. Robyn Hewland from New Zealand
Dr. Cecilia de Trinidad from Nicaragua

Dr. Ross informed Prof Pfeleiderer that **a quorum was present**

Dr. Ross, Secretary General, introduced the **2016-2019 MWIA Executive:**

1. The President Prof. Dr. Bettina Pfeleiderer from Germany
2. The Past President Prof. Kyung Ah Park from Korea
3. The President-elect Dr. Clarissa Fabre from the UK/Australia
4. The interim Treasurer and VP for Northern Europe Dr. Tuula Saarela from Finland
5. The VP from Central Europe Dr. Khatuna Kaladze from Georgia
6. The VP from North America and co-chair of the AMWA local organizing committee for this congress Prof. Padmini Murthy from the USA
7. The VP for Latin America Dr. Marta Maite Sevillano from Brazil
8. The VP from Central Asia Dr. Piyanetr Sukhu from Thailand
9. The VP from the Near East and Africa Dr. Mabel Aboah from Ghana
10. The VP from the Western Pacific Dr. Cissy Yu from Hong Kong, SAR

3. Dr. Ross asked the General Assembly to stand for **one minute of silence** in memory of our colleagues who had passed away since the last international congress in Vienna in 2016. Particular mention was made of:

Dr. Atsuko Heshiki in 2016, President MWIA 2010-2013 from Japan and whose vision it was to hold this Centennial Congress in New York in the city where MWIA was born

Dr. med. Waltraud Diekhaus in 2018, Secretary General MWIA 1998-2007 from Germany who felt that the Secretariat was the heart and soul of the organization and was a stalwart advocate for gender equality and the empowerment of women

Dr. Marcella Sava Borgstrom former VP for Southern Europe 2001-2004 from Italy

Dr. Disa Lidman VP Northern Europe 1998-2001 from Sweden

Dr. Jean Fourcroy VP for North America 2004-2007 from USA

Dr. Hiroko Yamamoto in 2017, VP Western Pacific MWIA 2013-2016 from Japan

Dr. Margaret Mungherera in 2017, President World Medical Association from Uganda

Deaths of MWIA Members 2016-2019

Australia

Dr Laurie Delbridge 2017
Dr Eva Popper 2018
Dr. Margaret Henderson 2018

Canada

Dr. Eileen Cambon 2017 NC for FMWC

Dr. Patricia Rebbeck 2017
Dr. Mavis Teasdale 2018
Dr. Peggy Ross 2019

Georgia

Dr. Dali Khidirbegishvili
Dr Rusudan Dondoladze

Germany

Dr. med. Elisabeth Lohmann-Hrycak 2016
Dr. med. Jutta Semler 2016
Dr. med. Ingeborg Keyser 2016
Dr. med. Elisabeth Stierle 2016
Dr. med. Eleonore von Salisch 2016
Dr. med. Gisela Dahl 2017
Dr. med. Jutta Hantschmann 2017
Dr. med. Elisabeth Heymann 2017
Dr. med. Ilse Lommel 2017
Dr. med. Johanna Mertins 2017
Dr. Jutta Pyzik 2017
Dr. med. Ursula Riechers 2017
Dr. med. Lieselotte Schellert-Hock 2017
Dr. med. Brigitte von Prondzynski 2017
Dr. med. Elisabeth Wegner 2017
Dr. med. Waltraud Diekhaus 2018 Secretary General MWIA
Dr. med. Elfriede Dünnebier 2018
Prof. Dr. Sigrid Michel 2018
Dr. med. Gudrun Reinhold 2019
Dr. med. Ingeborg Keyser

Ghana

Dr. Mary Grant 2018
Dr. Aya Hayfron Oppong 2018
Dr. Akosua Archampong 2018
Dr. Joana DNL Akapko 2019

Hong Kong

Dr. Kuo Jui Wong

India

Dr. Monika Datta

Dr. Gita Mukherjee
Dr. Pushpa Saha
Dr. A.K. Banga
Dr. Minoti Gupta
Dr. Anita Dutta Gupta
Dr. Chamali Ganguly
Dr. Sneha Chowdhury
Dr. Nilakshi Jana
Dr. Urmila Khanna
Dr. Manju Mataliya
Dr. Mehroo Pardiwala
Dr. Aloo Billimoria
Dr. Nayana Dastur
Dr. Nalini Torne

Italy

Dr. Marcella Sava Borgstrom Vice President for Southern Italy 2001-2004

Japan

Dr. Atsuko Heshiki 2016 President MWIA 2010-2013

Dr. Kumiko Yoshizaki 2016
Dr. Hatsune Sumi 2016
Dr. Toshiko Kato 2016
Dr. Takako Hara 2016
Dr. Ysuko Hata 2016
Dr. Yoshi Yamada 2016
Dr. Kei Kanaya 2016
Dr. Fumiko Saito 2016
Dr. Misako Inaba 2016
Dr. Teruko Ohno 2017
Dr. Nobuko Tamada 2017
Dr. Yoko Ikegami 2017
Dr. Yasuko Miyazaki 2017
Dr. Natsuko Horiuchi 2017
Dr. Yahooi Nakagawa 2017
Dr. Fumi Kunimatsu 2017
Dr. Eiko Sakurabayashi 2017
Dr. Michiko Marumo 2017
Dr. Kayako Kisamori 2017
Dr. Akiko Kinouchi 2017
Dr. Shigako Suzuki 2017
Dr. Atsu Makino 2017
Dr. Kise Inutake 2017

Dr. Hiroko Yamamoto 2017 Vice President Western Pacific MWIA 2013-2016

Dr. Keiko Hamada 2018

Dr. Shinko Kubo 2018
Dr. Kazuko Okamoto 2018
Dr. Hiroko Nagayama 2018
Dr. Misao Moroi 2018

Dr. Midoi Ukawa 2018
Dr. Sachiko Hasegawa 2018
Dr. Kazuko Asai 2018
Dr. Chizu Nittono 2018
Dr. Kazue Ohara 2018
Dr. Teruko Ohtake 2018
Dr. Emiko Chikamoto 2018
Dr. Koko Yokouchi 2018

Kenya

Dr. Margaret Nyirenda Meme

Korea

Dr. Kwon Buni 65 year member
Dr. Lee Ok Ju 68 year member
Dr. Ju Ire Ok 68 year member
Dr. Kim Chang Hui 70 year member
Dr. Yoon Hye Seong 61 year member
Dr. Hwang Ok Ja 61 year member
Dr. Bae Hak Bun 58 year member
Dr. Yang Ok Ryeon 62 year member
Dr. Hyun Deok Sun 62 year member
Dr. Han Gyeong Suk 61-year member
Dr. Shin Yeong Sun 58 year member

Netherlands

Dr. Willy Jansen

Nigeria

Dr. Winnifred Kaine Former MWAN Board of Trustees member
Prof. Deola Orogade First paediatrician in the Northern Nigeria
Dr. Elsie Jack
Dr. Nnenna Ihiebuzo
Dr. Ada Nwokocha
Dr. Joy Okene
Dr. Olabisi Jobate
Dr. Chikwudi Rose
Dr. Chioma
Dr. Osuabo Solomon Alasia Former Rivers State President
Dr. Nene Ekong
Dr. Gitu Iweka
Dr. Okpakhala Evelyn
Dr. Florence Baris Onua
Dr. Tuboere Wokoma
Dr. Caroline Iyalla
Dr. Othibho Anastasia Ebalu
Dr. Onyinye Alali
Dr. Cynthia Olohigbe Ovuede

Philippines

Dr. Cecile Velasco
Dr. Raida Varona

Sweden

Dr. Disa Lidman VP Northern Europe 1998-2001

Tanzania

Dr. Subilaga Kasesela Kaganda MEWATA Executive Secretary (2005-2011)
Dr. Maria Chikawe
Dr. Nyobasi Ainory Gesase
Dr. Neema Simkoko
Dr. Rehema Shimwela
Dr. Mariam Malliwah who was our current Honorary Treasurer 2019

Thailand

Dr. Khunying Ananda Nisalak

Uganda

Dr. Margaret Mungherera 2017 President World Medical Association

United Kingdom

Dr. Margaret McGregor
Dr. E. Caroline Dunn
Dr. Romola Dunsmore
Dr. Joan Wells
Dr. Catherine Harkin
Dame Beulah Bewley MWF President 1986-1987
Dr. Pat Burton
Dr. Patricia Mackay
Dr. Rosemary Portwood
Dr. Heather Felicity Anne Vickery
Dr. Elizabeth Falle
Dr. Lotte Newman President MWF 1987-1988
Dr. Felicity Davies
Dr. Catherine Gardner

USA

Dr. Lucy Ozarin
Dr. Jeanne Fessenden Arnold
Dr. Stephanie Van Dyke
Dr. Jean Fourcroy Vice President for North America 2004-2007

4. President's Report in Powerpoint– Prof. Dr. Dr. Bettina Pfeleiderer

3 MWIA Presidents



Ok CHOO
(1989-1992)



Dorothy WARD
(1992-1995)



Atsuko HESHIKI
(2007-2010)



Waltraud DIEKHAUS

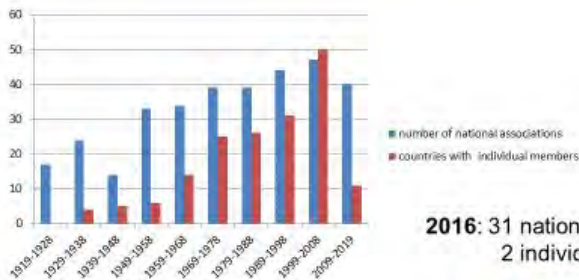
Waltraud Diekhaus Fund
Endowment 10.000 Euro

Secretary General (1998-2007)
VP Central Europe (2007-2013)

General Assembly I, New York, July 26 2019



Membership Development



2016: 31 national member associations
2 individual member countries

2019: *40 national member associations
reaffiliated: Uganda, Zambia
6 new membership applications:
China, Ethiopia, Ireland, Mali,
Mongolia, Zimbabwe
*11 individual member countries

General Assembly I, New York, July 26 2019



Governance

- Job descriptions for all Executive positions
- Guidelines for General Assemblies
- Updating of various MWIA documents
- Drafting of a policy document - to be completed next triennium
- Revision of the statutes & Bylaws

General Assembly I, New York, July 26 2019



MWIA projects- membership surveys



General Assembly I, New York, July 26 2019



MWIA projects – MWIA violence module

- Complete overhaul of the website: <https://mwiaviolencemanual.com/>



- Draft of Factsheets
- New Layout for cases
- Powerpoint presentation of cases for teaching
- Launch of a pilot workshop using the materials in Nairobi, November 2018
- Future plans: MWIA workshops to be continued at MWIA regional meetings

General Assembly I, New York, July 26 2019



Communication

- **February 21, 2019:** MWIA condemns all forms of sexual harassment, sexism and bullying in medicine
- MWIA survey on sexual harassment
- **August, 15, 2018:** Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) supports the request to end the campaign against physicians in Turkey
- **July 26, 2018:** MWIA express solidarity and urges immediate action by global community to restore Human Rights in Nicaragua
- **August 3, 2017:** Refugees Flee Venezuela in Midst of Humanitarian Crisis
- MWIA has **new flyer** in English, Spanish and Portuguese
- MWIA launched a **new Facebook site** and **Facebook group** December 2017

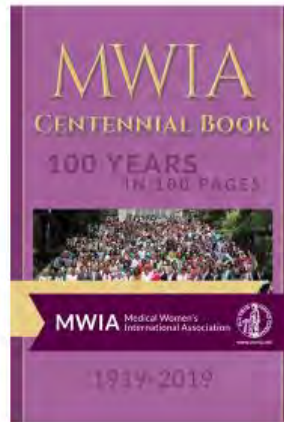
General Assembly I, New York, July 26 2019



Centennial Activities



- Historic articles
- Fabric collage
- Slideshow
- Centennial recipes
- Production of centennial memorabilia
- Scarf competition
- Centennial book



General Assembly I, New York, July 26 2019



Thank you!



General Assembly I, New York, July 26 2019

5. Secretary General's Remarks to the General Assembly -- Dr. Shelley Ross

I rise to thank you for the honour and privilege of serving as your Secretary-General since 2007. It has been a labour of love to work on your behalf as MWIA advocates for women in medicine and for women's health. We often are the voice for those who have no voice. The job of the SG is both governance and operational as it includes the administrative management of MWIA as well as serving as an executive member in the governance of the organization.

I would like to acknowledge my predecessor the late Dr. Waltraud Diekhaus who twisted my arm until I said yes – I would do this job. Waltraud was a great mentor and friend. I would also like to acknowledge my successor, Dr. Padmini Murthy, who will take over the reins of SG at the end of this congress. I wish her well and have let her know that I am always available should she need a bit of corporate knowledge.

I worked with several presidents during my tenure as SG – Dr. Afua Hesse, Dr. Atsuko Heshiki, Dr. Kyung Ah Park and Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer. I also had the pleasure of working with one treasurer during my time as SG and I would like to acknowledge Dr. Gail Beck for her dedicated service to MWIA since 2004. The number of VPs with whom I had the pleasure to work are too countless to name but all remain as friends over the years.

I am pleased that I took the advice of past president Dr. Florence Manguyu when she told me as I was becoming President of MWIA that we needed to get involved with gender mainstreaming. As SG I was able to maintain that work and MWIA is well known for its interest in this area.

I was pleased to work with Drs. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Padmini Murthy over many years on our parallel event for the Commission on the Status of Women each March in New York and to have developed relationships with many of the WHO staff as we advanced our work on FGM, gender based violence, safe childbirth, gender mainstreaming and HPV and cervical cancer.

I was pleased to organize a panel at the recent Women Deliver conference on female physician leadership, ensuring MWIA presence at such an international event for gender equality and the empowerment of women.

And most of all I was so pleased to interact with all of you – national associations or individual members – over the years to address your needs and get to know you better.

I shall leave this post with many fond memories of MWIA and with so many friendships that I have made over the years. No matter from where you come in the world, the issues facing women in medicine are the same. One of MWIA's strengths is the ongoing camaraderie and friendships that we cultivate over the years. I wish MWIA a bright future as she enters her next 100 years!

6. Interim Treasurer's Presentation to the General Assembly – Dr. Tuula Saarela

The long time treasurer of MWIA, Dr. Gail Beck, resigned her position as MWIA treasurer on November 23rd, 2018 and I was pleased to fill the interim treasurer position.

The ongoing budget period has been characterized by preparation for the approaching 2019 Centennial meeting. The President and SG have been working in a close cooperation with the representatives of AMWA. MWIA has created a separate Centennial Budget that has been approved by the Executive on February 25th, 2019.

MWIA has currently banking accounts in Canada (TD Canada Trust in Burnaby), in Germany (Apothekar und Ärztebank in Munster) and investments in Switzerland (Schroders & Co Bank in Zurich).

Budget up-date 2018-2019

The amount of dues paid by national associations has been declining during the past years. However, this trend has now been reversed and six new national associations applied for membership as well as individual members have been joining MWIA during 2018-19. This is in line with Dr. Beck's previous predictions of slightly higher revenues as compared with 2017-2018 as it was expected that individual members and national associations would be diligent in paying their dues in 2018-2019. In order to encourage payments the Executive decided in February 2019 that the SG and VPs will continue to remind those national associations in arrears that their dues must be paid by June 30th. The total of paid dues was 71363 CHF by the end of June 2019.

Centennial Budget

The Executive had earmarked 10% of dues (28,667 USD) to cover specific costs of the Centennial: the cost of the centennial book, the displaying of the fabric collage, the memory sticks, the printing of the 10 decade Centennial posters and the cost of gala dinner for the scarf competition winner. The final cost of the scarf project is still unclear. If all the scarves are sold there will be no financial losses for MWIA. The cost of layout and planning of the centennial book as presently known will amount to 4010 USD with an additional 4300 USD for printing.

The generosity shown by members and member associations to cover the Centennial costs has been amazing. The total of donations was over 20,000 USD. It is possible that the earmarked sum for the Centennial will not need to be used.

Financial review 2016-2019

MWIA uses CHF as currency since our legal headquarters is in Switzerland. Our budget and income are thus in Swiss Francs. Euro or USD expenditure or income is exchanged into CHF accordingly. Therefore the income related to dues may look very different between years because of fluctuation in the exchange rates.

The financial situation of the MWIA has been stable during the triennium. There was no need to turn to the reserves as the budget shows positive balance. The Centennial donations by the members have exceeded all expectations.

The interest rate for the portfolio has been modest (up to 3.6%) while the interest rate of the deposit accounts has been low or zero.

There has been yearly variation in administrative costs due to the meeting schedule of the executive. There was no Executive meeting during the fiscal year 2017-2018 as the 2017 annual executive meeting was held during the 2016-2017 fiscal year and the 2018 annual meeting of the executive during the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Accordingly to the Audit the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Medical Women's International Association in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Dr. Beck has pointed out that a continuing concern is that we have no way of verifying that the dues MWIA received from National Associations accurately reflect the true number of members they have.

Draft Budget 2019-20

The draft budget for 2019-2020 is in line with the previous financial strategy followed by MWIA. The new Exco needs to decide about the future of the investments at the Schroeder's

Bank, as new higher bank charges are being imposed. A new item of expenditure (12.000 CHF) is suggested for possible financing of essential MWIA projects

Concluding Remarks

Due to internationally low interest rates the annual return on the accounts is expected to be close to zero. The annual return from the portfolio has been better and is up to 3.6%. The USD account is invested in Guaranteed Investment Certificates at a low interest rate.

The value of Dr. Beck's contribution to MWIA during her years as the MWIA treasurer is to be highly respected. The President and SG have had much responsibility in both financial planning and practical issues during this budget period.

MWIA celebrates her Centennial with a sound economic situation. The unpredictability of the international financial world needs to be taken in consideration in the future.

7. The two candidates for the **office of Treasurer**, Dr. Eliza Chin and Dr. Helen Goodyear, presented to the General Assembly.

8. The **Statutes and Bylaws** were presented at the first General Assembly for input and presented again with amendments incorporated at the third General Assembly, at which time the 2019 version of the Statutes and Bylaws were passed. The 2019 version can be found on page 16 in this document.

9. The Taiwan Medical Women's Association had asked for an amendment to the **membership checklist** that ensured that any policy of the government of one national association of MWIA could not affect another national association of MWIA. This had been circulated to the attendees in their pre-congress package for discussion. The outcome of the discussion was to refer the membership checklist to the new executive for further discussion.

10. The first General Assembly was **adjourned at 1800** hours on July 26, 2019. Following adjournment, national associations and individual members voted for the position of Treasurer. Article 17 of the Bylaws outlines that members of the Executive must receive 2/3 (two thirds) of the votes of those voting in order to be elected. If this majority is not obtained after the first ballot a second ballot is taken and the candidate obtaining the highest number of votes is elected. If there are two or more nominations for the same office in the Executive, the election is conducted by secret ballot.

The **Second General Assembly** was called to order at 1615 on Saturday, July 27, 2019.

11. The President announced that a two-thirds majority had not been received by either of the two candidates for Treasurer and that a **second ballot** would be conducted during this second General Assembly. The candidate receiving a simple majority of the votes would be declared the winner.

12. The General Assembly membership voted to accept the following **national associations** in alphabetical order into the membership of the Medical Women's International Association.
China Medical Women's Association
Ethiopian Medical Women's Association
Women in Medicine in Ireland Network
Network of Women Doctors of Mali

Mongolian Medical Women's Association
Zimbabwe Women Doctors Association

The following **individual members** were accepted into the membership of the Medical Women's International Association in country alphabetical order.

1. Dra. Kumiko Eiguchi from Argentina
2. Dr. Yamina Ouldahoucine from Algeria
3. Dr. Ouadi Rabia from Algeria
4. Dr. Krenare Shabani from Kosovo
5. Dr. Lee Yew (Pamela) Fong from Malaysia
6. Dr. Verónica Rodríguez Torres from Mexico
7. Dr. Gordana Rajovic from Montenegro
8. Dr. Ilham Maarouf from Morocco
9. Dra. Cecilia de Trinidad from Nicaragua
10. Dr. Maria Moitinho de Almeida from Portugal
11. Dr. Thurayya Arayssi from Qatar
12. Dr. Bulden Akdal-Halmagyu from Turkey

Membership becomes active when dues are paid. The signing of a membership agreement was sent to the incoming Executive for discussion and decision.

13. The President announced the results of the second round of voting for the position of **Treasurer**. Dr. Helen Goodyear received the majority of votes and will be the MWIA Treasurer from 2019-2022. The remainder of the **2019-2022 MWIA executive** was acclaimed as follows:

President	Dr. Clarissa Fabre (UK/Australia)
Past President	Prof. Dr. Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer (Germany)
President-elect	Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi (Nigeria)
Secretary General	Dr. Padmini Murthy (USA)
VP Northern Europe	Dr. Elizabeth Lichtenstein (Sweden)
VP Central Europe	Dr. Edith Schratzberger-Vécsei (Austria)
VP Southern Europe	Dr. Antonella Vezzani (Italy)
VP North America	Dr. Vivien Brown (Canada)
VP Latin America	Dra. Magda Carneiro-Sampaio (Brazil)
VP Central Asia	Dr. Madakini Megh (India)
VP Near East and Africa	Dr. Christine Sadia (Kenya)
VP Western Pacific	Dr. Desiree Yap (Australia)

14a. The discussion about Resolutions was started and the second General Assembly closed at 1730 hours.

The **third General Assembly** was called to order at 0830 Sunday, July 28, 2019.

14b. The discussion regarding Resolutions continued. The disposition of the Resolutions was as follows:

Resolution one: Dues for Individual MWIA membership

Proposer: The Executive Committee of MWIA (secretariat@mwia.net)

Source: MWIA Executive

Background

It is stated in the Statutes, Article 5b:

Any medical woman belonging to a country which does not have an affiliated National Association and who has filed an application directly with the Association and whose application has been accepted by the Executive Committee as an Individual Member.

Motion

Whereas, the current dues amount for individual membership is 25 CHF yearly, many women physicians find this fee a barrier to membership;

And whereas, MWIA encourages individual members to join with the potential that they may be the nidus for a national association in their country;

MWIA resolves that the yearly fee for Individual Membership in MWIA is reduced to 10 CHF.

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 2: Timing of individual membership in MWIA

Proposer: The Executive of MWIA (secretariat@mwia.net)

Source: MWIA Executive

Background

It is stated in the current Statutes, Article 5b:

Any medical woman or belonging to a country which does not have an affiliated National Association and who has filed an application directly with the Association and whose application has been accepted by the Executive Committee as an Individual Member.

Motion

Whereas, currently when a medical woman wishes to become an individual member of MWIA, she must wait until the next General Assembly to be accepted which does not allow timely involvement in MWIA;

MWIA resolves that once the application form of the individual member has been accepted by the Executive Committee and her dues have been paid, that her membership becomes active immediately. This membership will be formally ratified in the next General Assembly.

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 3: Timing of membership of national associations in MWIA

Proposer: The Executive Committee of MWIA (secretariat@mwia.net)

Source: MWIA Executive

Background

The current Statute 5a of the Statutes and Bylaws outlining membership reads:

The affiliated National Associations:

Which must admit only qualified Medical Women according to the rules applicable to the medical profession in their countries. The Officers of the affiliated Associations as well as their delegates at the General Assembly of the Association must be freely elected by the members of their Associations. The constitutions of the affiliated National Associations must

be accepted by the Executive Committee of the Association. There can be only one affiliated National Association for each country.

Motion

Whereas currently a National Association needs to wait until the next General Assembly to be granted MWIA membership, it is noted that this can be a lengthy period in which interest in membership may be lost and this forms a barrier to active involvement in MWIA by that National Association.

MWIA resolves that once the constitution and application of the National Association has MWIA Executive Committee approval, and other national associations and individual members are consulted, in the absence of opposing opinions the MWIA executive will approve membership of the new association. Membership will be activated once dues are paid and then formally ratified in the next General Assembly.

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 4 - #MeToo Medicine - Physicians Can and Must Do better

Proposer: Canada Dr. Beverly Johnson -- bevjohnson2929@gmail.com

Source: Federation of Medical Women of Canada

Previous relevant resolution(s)

Resolution No. 5 (2016) proposed by Nigeria. Violence against Health workers.

Whereas patient-initiated violence against health workers has serious health effects on the health workers and the community MWIA resolves that health workers are entitled to work free from occupational stress and threat (in a safe environment, free from harassment, discrimination, violence, verbal and physical bullying).

Is your proposed resolution an enhancement of the existing one? Yes

Background

Over the past year, there has been an increasing awareness of bullying, intimidation and sexual violence against women including medical women (physicians, residents and students). Medical institutions and associations must have safe reporting systems for medical women and the policies and procedures in place to act when needed. We need to change the hidden culture of medicine.

Motion

Whereas #MeTooMedicine is raising awareness about how Bullying, Intimidation and Sexual Violence in Medicine against women physicians, residents and medical students impacts their mental and physical health and their ability to care for patients.

And whereas medical associations and institutions around the world are putting policies and procedures into place to raise awareness and educate about this

And whereas there needs to be a safe system in place for victims to report bullying, intimidation and sexual violence,

And whereas there needs to be commitment by these medical associations and institutions to act on this reporting

MWIA resolves that

1. Safe reporting mechanisms are developed for women physicians, residents and medical students who experience bullying, intimidation and sexual violence in all countries.
2. Policies and procedures are developed which go beyond the safe reporting systems to ensure mechanisms for follow-up and cultural change in behaviour for those perpetrating the bullying, intimidation and sexual violence.

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 5 – Women Peace and Security

Proposer: Dr. Nahid Azad NAzad@toh.ca

Source: National association - Federation of Medical Women of Canada

The only previous resolution touching on this matter is Resolution No. 6. Health workers and war 2016

Whereas increasingly health workers are targeted in war, conflict situations and other threatening behaviours

MWIA resolves to condemn all acts of conflict and other inappropriate behaviours especially those that target healthcare workers

Background

Canada's National Action Plan (C-NAP) objective is to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS)

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/wps/> by:

- 1) recognizing that sustainable peace is more likely to be achieved when women are fully involved at all levels of civil society and government work;
- 2) promoting the Implementation of the WPS Agenda through women's political and economic empowerment; and
- 3) encouraging women's full participation in conflict prevention, resolution, and post-conflict state building to create transformative solutions.

The existing FMWC WPS committee can leverage its voice by joining the Women, Peace, Security Network (WPS-N)- Canada with some 80+ other national groups and dedicated individuals to move forward in tandem to:

- 1) explore MWIA-WPS Network connections in other countries by working other groups and organizations and
- 2) work within the existing framework of UN, WHO, and governments.

Women are under-represented both as official negotiators and as technical advisors, despite clear evidence that they have often been critical to working across political divides, building grassroots support for long term sustainable peace and security, and providing essential expertise on both human rights and issues such as health and resource access. Required changes include:

- 1) improved representation of women in key decision-making positions, including in authority institutions;
- 2) integration of women's concerns into key political processes; and

3) consulting women in shaping political or humanitarian responses in countries and ensuring women's and girl's needs are not overlooked.

Resolution

Whereas the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security passed in October 2000 reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peace-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and in post-conflict reconstruction

And whereas the UN resolution 1325 stresses the importance of women's equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security

And Whereas women are under-represented both as official negotiators and as technical advisors, despite clear evidence that they have often been crucial in these roles

MWIA resolves that the national associations of the MWIA establish Women Peace and Security (WPS) committees to

- 1) Explore and educate members regarding UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security;
- 2) Communicate opportunities to members to promote the development and implementation of their nations Women, Peace and Security Agenda;
- 3) Promote peace through Women's Political and Economic Empowerment

MWIA further resolves that

- 1) A MWIA WPS committee is formed to act as a community of practice to collate and coordinate the activities of the various national WPS committees
- 2) All national WPS committees contribute, monitor and report to the MWIA WPS committee on all activities completed in support of the UN Security Council resolution 1325

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 6: Implementation and dissemination of a sex and gender sensitive medicine

Proposer: Antonella Vezzani vezzanto@gmail.com

Source: Italy – AIDM (Associazione Italiana Donne Medico)

Previous resolutions

1995.17

MWIA recognizes that medical care, including investigation, management and outcome, received by women is less than that received by men.

MWIA recognizes also that medical care provided by women physicians differs from that provided by men.

MWIA demands the elimination of all gender bias in medicine which is not biologically determined and demands the education of medical students and of practising physicians to this end.

MWIA demands that gender-related biological differences should be recognized in drug evaluation.

MWIA points out that drug evaluation conducted using a male population may not be directly transferable to a female population.

MWIA recommends that all health workers in fields such as education, research and. **No 2001.2**

MWIA recognises that gender inequities expose the urgent need to further empower women and supports global progress in the status of women.

MWIA urges affirmative action so that women, who represent half of the population, are given an equivalent share of appointed positions at all levels.

MWIA calls on all member governments to introduce a gender perspective into all health policies, health budgets and provision of health care. This should extend further than sex differences in morbidity and mortality rates and includes those gendered behaviours damaging to health.

MWIA also urges all countries to recognize gender specificity in all medical research and education

2007.11

Whereas MWIA recognizes that Primary Health Care (PHC) is an integral part of strengthening the health care system, and essential to meeting the needs of women. This is an important element in reducing poverty.

It Is Resolved That: All health care must be planned and delivered in a gender sensitive manner. Clinical practice be stimulated to become sensitive to gender differences and use this knowledge and attitude appropriately

Motion

Whereas many international organizations such as the United Nations (UN) and the World Health Organization (WHO) recommend taking sex and gender aspects in medicine into account.

And whereas gender is one of the most significant social determinants of well-being for all people, gender inequalities are present in all societies in terms of power, resources, rights, norms and values, and the resulting social organizations are structured in ways that negatively affects especially the health of girls and women.

And whereas gender equality has seemingly been embraced as a priority in global health, the global health community remains largely gender-blind.

MWIA resolves that

- a) An interdisciplinary approach between medical and human sciences is followed which takes into account gender differences as well as similarities
- b) Gender medicine is taught, with adequate levels of training and updating of medical and health personnel
- c) Public information on health and disease management should have a focus on sex and gender aspects

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 7: Gender in Medicine

Proposer: The Western Pacific Medical Women's International Association Region, recommends

Motion

Whereas a gender in medicine perspective has been included in many presentations at Medical Women's meetings,

MWIA resolves that a gender in medicine perspective is formally included in the themes of Medical Women's meetings in all regions.

Disposition: Passed

Resolutions 8 and 9 need to be considered together

ARTICLE 7 MWIA Statutes and Bylaws: The Executive Committee (known as The Executive) is the decision-making body of the association. It

Appoints representatives to other international organizations to whom MWIA is affiliated.

Resolution 8: UN/WHO Representative

Proposer: Associazione Italiana Donne Medico (AIDM) (vezzanto@gmail.com (AIDM president) and dr.deboraromano@gmail.com (National Coordinator))

Source: National association

Background

Whereas being a UN/WHO representative is not an elected office, the current representatives have been in office for several years and the UN representative and her deputy come from the same national association.

Whereas a term of office for all executive positions had been introduced, there is no explicit tenure for UN/WHO representatives and there have been no detailed written job descriptions for these positions.

MWIA resolves that:

1. The UN/WHO representatives will be elected by the Exco after all members of the association have been invited to submit an application.
2. WHO/UN representatives should whenever possible come from different regions to reflect the diversity of MWIA's membership and by preference should come not from the same region as their predecessors.
3. The maximum tenure of the WHO/UN representative is 2 terms of 3 years each
4. Detailed job descriptions are written for the WHO and UN representatives within one year
5. No reimbursement of expenses for participation in international meetings is foreseen.
6. The WHO / UN representatives are not part of the Exco. They may be invited to Exco meetings by the president when their input is needed
7. The executive committee should ensure continuity when the WHO/UN posts change.

Disposition: Referred to the incoming executive

Resolution 9: MWIA representatives to UN/WHO

Proposer: Dr Satty Gill Keswani MD sgkeswani@aol.com

Source: Individual Member

Background

The MWIA representatives to the United Nations and World Health Organization have been working to represent MWIA as an accredited NGO at these UN agencies. They invest money, time and energy to regularly attend conferences and briefings.

Dr Satty Keswani was instrumental in MWIA getting UN ECOSOC accreditation. Dr Padmini Murthy has been responsible for MWIA to get a slot at the CSW meetings every year in March at the United Nations for the past 7 years. For example the UN reps spend an average of 350- 400 USD every month to go to the UN to represent MWIA at the various events and submit reports to MWIA. Unless the MWIA UN representatives regularly attend the meetings and briefings and write the necessary reports to submit to the United Nations, MWIA's accreditation with the UN will be subjected to further scrutiny and it may affect continued UN accreditation.

Motion

Whereas MWIA representatives to the UN and WHO invest money time and energy attending conferences and briefings they are not part of the Executive committee

MWIA resolves that MWIA representatives to the United Nations and World Health Organisations are members of the MWIA executive committee

Disposition: This was considered to be a constitutional matter rather than a topic for a resolution and was referred to the incoming executive.

Resolution 10: Advocacy

Proposer: Western Pacific Region Cissy Yu

Motion

Whereas engagement with the mainstream government and advocacy processes makes links between women doctors internationally, and is highly effective in achieving health gains in our own countries,

MWIA Resolves that Women doctors' strong and extensive engagement in these processes is not only encouraged and supported by colleagues, but also recognized and affirmed by being published and included in nominations for awards.

Disposition: Passed

Resolutions 11 and 12 to be considered together**ARTICLE 16 of the MWIA Statues and Bylaws**

The nomination of candidates to the Executive is made as follows:

Through the Secretariat, the Executive invites the National Associations and the Individual Members to submit the names of their candidates for the offices of President-Elect, Secretary-General, Treasurer and Vice-Presidents at least eighteen months before the next General Assembly. The Vice-President for each region is nominated only by the members of that region.

The Executive reviews the nomination of candidates as to their eligibility for presentation to the General Assembly. The nominations are to be received by the Secretary-General at the latest 12 months before the next General Assembly

Resolution 11: Timing of nominations for executive committee positions

Proposer: Dr. Shelley Ross (shelley.ross@usa.net)

Source: Individual Member

Background

It is important to have the rules and procedures for elections to the positions on the MWIA Executive Committee very clearly outlined and followed in order to instill confidence in the impartiality and fairness of the process. For the 2019-2022 triennium election, the rules for nominations to the Executive Committee positions were clearly outlined in the First Special Update for the Centennial Congress distributed to the membership in January 2018 and a reminder sent out in the MWIA Update of March, 2018. The deadline for nominations was clearly stated as May 1, 2018.

While the nomination period was in progress, the Executive Committee against the advice of the Chief Electoral Officer (by convention the Secretary General of MWIA) who said that there was no need to extend the deadline as nominations for all positions were promised to be in by May 1, moved the closing date for nominations to June 30, 2018. Two nominations

were received within days of the extended deadline. This was felt to be unfair to those who followed the guidelines and had their nominations in by the May 1 deadline.

Motion

Whereas in the 2019-2022 elections the deadline for MWIA Executive positions was extended despite there being candidates for all positions

MWIA resolves that for future elections to the Executive Committee the nomination period once in progress cannot be extended unless the current nomination period ends without candidates for all the positions, in which case the nomination period for the empty position(s) can then be extended.

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 12: Time schedule of nominations for Executive positions

Proposer: Dr. Cissy Yu, Hong Kong, E-mail: cissyuu@gmail.com

Source: Individual member

Motion

Whereas, it is important for national associations to know well in advance when the deadline for submitting the nomination for Executive Committee positions will be, it has been difficult to know the deadline in advance, because the date is not fixed and can change every triennium;

And whereas, VPs are elected at their regional meetings which must be held before the deadline of nomination ends;

MWIA resolves that for future elections a fixed date - exactly 12 months prior to the next General Assembly - will be set for nominations for Executive Committee positions so that everyone knows the dates well in advance and thereby avoiding any discussions about deadlines.

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 13: Paid maternity leave for women doctors

Proposer: Dr. Clarissa Fabre cdafabre@gmail.com

Source: Individual Member from UK

Motion

Whereas women in medicine often struggle balancing the dual role of physician and mother and realize the value of maternity leave for both mother and baby, there is often pressure to return to work so as not to disadvantage other colleagues and patients by their absence. Only a few countries have adopted one year of paid parental leave.

And whereas the financial burden of taking maternity/parental leave is real;

MWIA resolves that

1. One year of paid maternity/parental leave with job protection should be available to all who would like this option. This leave should be able to be taken by the mother alone or shared between the parents
2. Adequate cover for absence due to maternity/parental leave should be in place

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 14: Sex and Gender in Research

Proposer: Australian Federation of Medical Women Contact person: Deb Colville colville@unimelb.edu.au

2001.2

MWIA recognizes that gender inequities expose the urgent need to further empower women and supports global progress in the status of women.

MWIA urges affirmative action so that women, who represent half of the population, are given an equivalent share of appointed positions at all levels.

MWIA calls on all member governments to introduce a gender perspective into all health policies, health budgets and provision of health care. This should extend further than sex differences in morbidity and mortality rates and includes those gendered behaviours damaging to health.

MWIA also urges all countries to recognize gender specificity in all medical research and education

Resolution is an enhancement of the resolution of 2001

Background: There are well known differences between men and women, with genetic and physiological differences that can affect diseases as well as Pharmacodynamics. These differences affect disease prevalence as well as clinical outcomes.

Gender is a separate variable to sex, although the terms are often mistakenly used interchangeably in research. Gender is a socio-cultural identity which can influence health and wellbeing by its relationship with occupation status, working conditions and access to health services. These differences need to be addressed in pre-clinical as well as clinical research, and the analysis of difference needs to be addressed in publications. It needs to be looked at and support provided from research facilities, funding bodies, universities, governments, and journal editors.

SAGER Guidelines: If only one sex is included in the study, or if the results of the study are to be applied to only one sex or gender, the title and the abstract should specify the sex of animals or any cells, tissues and other material derived from these and the sex and gender of human participants. **Introduction:** Authors should report, where relevant, whether sex and/ or gender differences may be expected.

Methods: Authors should report how sex and gender were taken into account in the design of the study, whether they ensured adequate representation of males and females, and justify the reasons for any exclusion of males or females.

Results: Where appropriate, data should be routinely presented disaggregated by sex and gender. Sex- and gender-based analyses should be reported regardless of positive or negative outcome. In clinical trials, data on withdrawals and dropouts should also be reported disaggregated by sex.

Discussion: The potential implications of sex and gender on the study results and analyses should be discussed. If a sex and gender analysis was not conducted, the rationale should be given. Authors should further discuss the implications of the lack of such analysis on the interpretation of the results

References:

1. World Health Organization. Gender, equity and human rights. Glossary of terms and tools. <http://www.who.int/gender-equity-rights/knowledge/glossary/en/> accessed 11 September 2018.

2. Heidari, S., Babor, T.F., De Castro, P., Tort, S., and Curno, M. Sex And Gender Equity in Research: rationale for the SAGER guidelines and recommended use.

Motion

Whereas sex and gender differences affect disease incidence, diagnosis and treatment, while recognizing the current low levels of female participation in research and cultural pressures on gender diversity recognition;

MWIA resolves that:

1. The definitions of sex and gender, according to the WHO, be adopted within the MWIA and that consistent definitions should be promoted in all academic writing.
2. Whenever planning research or publication the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines should be followed; and that these guidelines, or similar be adopted by all journals.
3. Where data on sex and gender of participants is collected, that the methods should articulate how these demographics were identified.

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 15: Breastfeeding

Proposer: Australian Federation of Medical Women (Deb Colville)

2010.4

Whereas MWIA values choice and responsibility, breastfeeding in the community must allow women to breastfeed in any place or time of their choice, be it the street, place of worship, or the parliament, with confidence and without fear.

It is resolved that **MWIA** advocates protection of breastfeeding, which ensures that mothers and their children are able to breastfeed anywhere with confidence and without fear of harassment.

Motion

Whereas many health care facilities, including hospitals, state they are breastfeeding friendly, there are many health workers who find on returning to work from maternity leave that they have nowhere to express breast milk, and are often left to do this in bathrooms or toilets.

And whereas breastfeeding mothers who return to paid work are still able to provide breast-milk safely for their children, the support of their workplace to maintain breastfeeding is required.

MWIA resolves that

1. Workplaces, particularly health care facilities and hospitals, provide support by the provision of Lactation Breaks each shift, together with, clean, hygienic and appropriate space for workers to express breast milk.
2. Medical conferences should consider if attendees are breastfeeding and allocate space that is clean, hygienic and appropriate for women to express breast milk.

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 16: Work life balance

Proposer: The Western Pacific Medical Women's International Association Region,

Motion

Whereas work life balance is crucial to all doctors' professional lives and careers, many Women Doctors are disproportionately affected by the greater time women currently spend in non-paid roles such as parenting, housekeeping, and as carers.

MWIA resolves that: Education about work life balance be included in all medical curricula, including undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing professional development educational activities.

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 17: Abortion – medication and aspiration

Proposer: Dr. Nahid Azad - Nazad@toh.ca

Source: National association – FMWC, WPS Committee

1980.1 Every individual woman in every country should have the right to decide for herself if she wishes not to become pregnant. Reliable information and safe means to prevent pregnancy should be at her disposal.

1995.18 The MWIA believes an effective way to reduce the number of abortions is to prevent unwanted pregnancies by provision of appropriate family planning services and family life planning. The MWIA urges that: 1. safe and legal abortion services are available, affordable and accessible in all family planning services in worldwide promotion of women's health safe abortion services are seen as an important issue. 2. Women should be encouraged to take leadership in advocating the legal and other changes, which may be required.

2007 Amendment It Is Further Resolved That safe abortion be available to all women to provide safe motherhood.

Is your proposed resolution an enhancement of the existing one? Yes

Background

In recognition that there are two vastly separate and different medical abortion options now widely available throughout the world. The clinical procedure, instrument based tissue aspiration abortion and the medication abortion where no clinical process or instrument or clinic facility is required. Especially for fragile state or humanitarian conditions where the formal medical care system may be disrupted or overwhelmed or conflict settings where systemic rapes are occurring, medication abortion is an important alternative option to clinic based surgical abortions.

Motion

MWIA resolves that the term “abortion” is specifically inclusive of both surgical/aspiration procedure abortion and medication abortion.

Disposition: Passed

Resolution 18: Gender Parity in UN Leadership Positions

Proposer: Christiane Pouliart - c.pouliart@telenet.be

Source: Medical Women’s Association of Belgium (MWAB)

No relevant previous resolutions

Background

Comparing the composition of the UN Security Council between 1946 to January 2019, the only difference is the presence of two women out of 15 UN council members at the leadership table. Despite many years of talking about the empowerment of women and gender equity at the UN, there has been little impact on council composition and there needs to be gender parity in the UN agencies leadership positions.

Motion

Whereas higher level UN leadership continues to be male dominated, MWIA resolves that the UN institute a policy that calls for gender parity in the higher leadership positions within the UN.

Disposition: Passed

15. The **Taiwan Medical Women’s Association** made the Presentation for the next Congress venue to be held in Taipei in 2022. The General Assembly voted in favour of accepting the bid to hold the **32nd MWIA International Congress** in Taipei in 2022.

16. There was no other business.
17. The third General Assembly was **adjourned at 1015 hours** on July 28th.

CLOSING CEREMONY

The Mistress of Ceremonies, Dr. Shelley Ross, opened the closing ceremony with a **huge vote of thanks to the American Medical Women’s Association under the direction of the co-chairs, Dr. Eliza Chin, Dr. Padmini Murthy, and Dr. Amanda Xi**, for organizing such a successful Centennial Congress. The countless hours of work that goes into the preparation for such an historic event is recognized and greatly appreciated.

Dr. Ross called on the MWIA President, Prof. Dr. Dr. Bettina Pfliederer to present the following **MWIA AWARDS**:

Honorary Members

From Northern Europe	Dr. Cisca Griffioen (The Netherlands)
From Central Europe	Prof. Dr. Dr. Bettina Pfliederer (Germany)
From Southern Europe	Dr. Christiane Pouliart (Belgium)
From North America	Dr. Satty Gill Keswani (USA)
From Latin America	Dra. Rebeca Kuniyoshi (Peru)
From Central Asia	Dr. Usha Saraiya (India)
From Near East and Africa	Dr. Shafika Nasser (Egypt)
From Western Pacific	Dr. Bong Ok Kim (Korea)
From Individual Members	Dr. Robyn Hewland (New Zealand)

Member of Honour

The DAK Foundation (Australia)

Lovejoy Scholarship

Dr. Dabota Yvonne Buowari (Nigeria)

Golden Jubilee Members

The Golden Jubilee Certificate recognizes those physicians who have been members of MWIA for 50 years since the last MWIA Congress in 2016. It should be noted that two of MWIA members receiving the Golden Jubilee certificate were present at the Congress and were able to receive their certificates in person. Congratulations to:

Dr. Elinor Christiansen (USA) 55 year member from USA
 Dr. Satty Gill Keswani (USA) 50 year member from USA

The certificates for the remaining Golden Jubilee Members were given to the National Coordinator of their national association to be distributed back in their home country.

Congratulations to:

Egypt

Dr. Shafika Nasser
Dr. Mervat ElRafie
Dr. Omaima Abou Shady
Dr. Amina Ghieth
Dr. Amara Salem

Germany

Dr. med Ineborg Kriebel

Japan

Dr. Shoko Koga
Dr. Sachie Watanabe
Dr. Sachiko Ichikawa
Dr. Tomoko Hamada
Dr. Yukiko Matsunaga
Dr. Hisako Kaneko
Dr. Hisaka Takagi
Dr. Toyo Yamazaki
Dr. Sachiko Hayashi
Dr. Reiko Kobayashi
Dr. Yumiko Shirahama
Dr. Sachiko Yoshida
Dr. Yoko Hashimoto
Dr. Kazue Takano
Dr. Kazuko Honda
Dr. Mouri Hiroko
Dr. Mutsuko Sugimoto
Dr. Shizuko Ohara
Dr. Maki Shoji
Dr. Midori Suwa
Dr. Akane Nishiyama

United Kingdom

Dr. Monica Bloomer
Dr. Lorna Drought
Miss Patricia Last
Dr. Rhiannon Howell
Dr. Jill Bullimore
Dr. Susan Campbell
Dr. Margaret Elmes
Miss Dorothy Gratton
Dr. Patricia Salmon

Dr. Daphne Scott
Dr. Marjorie Semmens
Professor Eva Alberman
Dr. Fiona Subotsky
Miss J. Lesley Baker
Dr. Barbara Banyard
Dr. Lettice Bowen
Dr. Nuala Sterling CBE
Dr. Jennifer Walsh
Dr. Agnes Blair

Dr. Ross invited Dr. Connie Newman and Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber to present the
AMWA AWARDS:

Presidential Awards

Jessica Posner Odede
Sandra Gold EdD

Larry Zaroff Award

Johannes W. Vieweg MD, FACS

Elizabeth Blackwell Award

Alma Littles, MD

Women in Science Award

Natalie Afshari, MD

Bertha Van Hoosen Award

Kimberly Templeton, MD, FAMWA

Lila Wallis Women's Health Award

Susan G. Kornstein, MD

Camille Mermod Award

Danielle K. Carrier, MBA

Anne C. Carter Leadership Award

Julia Festa

The American Medical Women's Association Exceptional Mentor Award

Prof. Gabrielle Casper (Australia)

AMWA Artist in Residence Dr. Somalee Banerjee

Resident Division Awards Dr. Chung-Sang Tse, Dr. Emman Dabaja, Dr. Fatima Fahs, Dr. Amanda Xi Dr. Brit Trogen

Medical Student Division Awards

Reid Mergler, Michelle Benedict, Madeline DeWane, Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine and Tannaz Safari

Pre-medical Student Division Awards Lara Rostomian, Nora Galoustian, Evelyn Somogyl, Felicia Reid, University of Pennsylvania, and University of Michigan

POSTER WINNERS

Physician Division

First Place: “*Mother’s Mind Matters: Unique Attempt to Provide Urgent Psychiatric Care to Depressed Perinatal Women within a Psychiatry Residency Program.*” Authors: Tareen RS, Kothari C, Gross K, Liepman M.

Second Place: “*Effectiveness and Feasibility of Lung Cancer Screening Using Network System with Computer-Aid Nodule Detection Program for Implementing in Population.*” Authors: Kim Y, Lee CW.

Third Place: “*Increase in the Childhood Thyroid Cancer Incidence Rate in Fukushima Prefecture after the Accident at the TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.*” Authors: Sakiyama H & Yoshida Y.

Resident Division

First Place: “*The Relationship Between Demographic Characteristics of Reproductive Age Filipino-Muslim Women And Their Knowledge, Attitude, And Practices Regarding Family Planning in Northern Mindanao Medical Center: A Cross-sectional Study.*” Authors: Lucman FM, Alonsabe MOV, Diawatan MMF.

Second Place: “*A Decade-Long Analysis of Gender Parity in Gastroenterology Fellowship Programs’ Leadership, Trainees, and Applicants in North America from 2008-2019.*” Authors: Tse CS; Nguyen H, Hinds P, Shaliesha K,* Haq M, Moss S, Bhagra A.

Third Place: “*Head and Neck Injuries Observed in Violence Against Women.*” Authors: Gn NT, Fi K, Diarra Y, Timbo Sk.

Student Division

First Place: “*The Relationship Between Barriers to Help-Seeking and Health Issues Among South Asian Immigrant Victims of Intimate Partner Violence.*” Authors: Shah A, Sabri B.

Second Place: “*Inflammatory Breast Cancer Masked as Puerperal Mastitis.*” Authors: Miller KJ, Ludwig KK, Bell MC, Loncharich AJ.

Third Place: “*A Patient’s Voice Guides Treatment of Pregnancy-Associated Breast Cancer.*” Authors: Huang C, Gehring V, Powell K, Newton E.

The outgoing and incoming officers were invited to the stage to allow a formal handing over of office from those serving for 2016-2019 to those incoming for 2019-2022. Members of the two executives are:

Office	Outgoing executive 2016-2019	Incoming executive 2019-2022
President	Prof. Bettina Pfliederer (Germany)	Dr. Clarissa Fabre (UK/Australia)
Past President	Prof. Kyung Ah Park (Korea)	Prof. Bettina Pfliederer (Germany)
President-elect	Dr. Clarissa Fabre (UK/Australia)	Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi (Nigeria)
Secretary General	Dr. Shelley Ross (Canada)	Dr. Padmini Murthy (USA)
Treasurer	Dr. Gail Beck (Canada)	Dr. Helen Goodyear(UK)
Interim	Dr. Tuula Saarela (Finland)	
VPs		
Northern Europe	Dr. Tuula Saarela (Finland)	Dr. Elizabeth Lichtenstein (Sweden)
Central Europe	Dr. Khatuna Kaladze (Georgia)	Dr. Edith Schratzberger (Austria)
Southern Europe	Dr. Antonella Vezzani (Italy)	Dr. Antonella Vezzani (Italy)
North America	Dr. Padmini Murthy (USA)	Dr. Vivien Brown (Canada)
Latin America	Dr. Marta Maite Sevillano (Brazil)	Dr. Magda Carneiro-Sampaio (Brazil)
Central Asia	Dr. Piyaneetr Sukhu (Thailand)	Dr. Mandakini Megh (India)
Near East/Africa	Dr. Mabel Aboah (Ghana)	Dr. Christine Sadia (Kenya)
Western Pacific	Dr. Cissy Yu (Hong Kong, SAR)	Dr. Desiree Yap (Australia)

The final event was the **inaugural address** from the incoming President, Dr. Clarissa Fabre, which can be found on page 7 of this congress report.

SOCIAL EVENTS and GATHERINGS

On **Thursday, July 25th**, dinner was provided at St. Francis College, which allowed time for the various regions to meet. This was followed by a group photo. The opening reception followed at the Brooklyn Bridge Marriott. Entertainment began with the Centennial song played by Dr. Mary Rorro, Psychiatrist and Violin Doc. Tessany Azizi, singer, actress, and guitar player then gave a performance. The Story Slam then followed with a number of true stories from the trenches of healthcare. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks were enjoyed by all.

On **Friday, July 26th**, congress attendees were treated to a night of film. There were three outstanding films highlighting advocacy for gender in medicine, prevention and treatment of cervical cancer and the work of the American Women's Hospital Service, in that order. The films were entitled:

The Gender Lady: The Fabulous Dr. May Cohen.

Lady Ganga: Nilza's Story

At Home and Over There: American Women Physician in WWI.

On **Saturday, July 27th** the Centennial Gala was held at the Brooklyn Bridge Marriott. Following a sit-down dinner, Dr. Mary Rorro led off with violin music, followed by a military recognition ceremony for those members who served in the military of their various countries. Barbara Callander then acted out the life of Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy in *Women Doctors Unite to Heal the World*. The audience was then treated to songs by Sarah Partridge. Direct from Korea and sponsored by the Korean Medical Women's Association was a Sand Art Performance by Jun Kim. Following the Jhirad Oration were multiple performances by the various national associations and lots of dancing and singing.

JHIRAD ORATION

The Jhirad Oration instituted by the Association of Medical Women in India in 1985 consists of a silver plaque and a traditional Indian ceremony. It is presented at MWIA international congresses. It is held in honour of Dr. Jerusha Jhirad, the first Bene Israel woman to qualify in medicine. She obtained her MD in England in 1919 and was the first Indian to be appointed as Superintendent of Cama and Albles Hospital in 1929. She was a founding member and President of many Societies including the Association of Medical Women in India.

The Jhirad Oration at the Centennial Congress was presented to two of MWIA's past presidents: Dr. Gabrielle Casper from Australia and Dr. Afua Hesse from Ghana.

TRIENNIAL REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT **Bettina Pfleiderer, Germany**

Being MWIA's president has been an inspiring journey with some challenges, but I feel very privileged and honored to have served as MWIA's president in this triennium and during the centennial celebrations 2019. I have travelled around the world on behalf of MWIA and had therefore the opportunity to meet many of MWIA members at congresses and/or communicated with them via e-mail. It is wonderful to see that MWIA has an active membership who is interested in MWIA affairs and I am sure that we can build on this in the future!

During my presidency a lot has been achieved. For example, job descriptions of all Exco positions have been drafted, the MWIA statutes and bylaws have been modernized, and travel guidelines have been updated as well as guidelines about the resolution.

I have worked on many things during this triennium, but it was particularly rewarding to be the co-editor -together with Helen Goodyear- of the centennial publication "100 years in 100 pages". The book is a wonderful showcase of the achievements of our members and MWIA's history.

I am deeply indebted to the current MWIA executive members, who have been a wonderful source of support, knowledge, motivation and friendship.

MWIA representations at conferences and meetings

I have been MWIA's ambassador wherever I went and gave talks or interviews, attended many conferences and represented MWIA at many occasions.

Just to name a few examples:

- Eight MWIA Regional meetings: Central European regional meeting in Moscow (Russia) 2016, Western Pacific regional meeting in Hong Kong 2017, Northern American regional meeting in Philadelphia (USA) 2018, Southern European regional meeting in Palermo (Italy) 2018, Central Asian regional meeting in Bangkok (Thailand) 2018, African and Near East regional meeting in Nairobi (Kenya) 2018 and Central European regional meeting in Tiflis (Georgia) 2019
- High level meeting on gender medicine in Brussels (Belgium) December 2016
- I visited the Latvian minister for Health in Riga (Latvia) in February 2017 to get Latvian female physicians interested in MWIA
- I attended the CSW in New York (USA) in March 2019 and gave a short input talk
- I attended the national meeting of the Medical Women's Association of India in Mumbai (India) in December 2017
- I had a lunch meeting with members of the Finnish Medical Women's association in Helsinki (Finland) May 2018
- Representation of MWIA at the general assembly of standing committee of European doctors (CMPE) in Brussels (Belgium) in April 2018 and MWIA was approved as an associated member with 100 % of votes.

- Representation of MWIA at the Eurasian Women’s Forum in St. Petersburg (Russia) in September 2018 and received the Eurasian Women’s Forum award “medical women” as public recognition.
- I am a board member of the European Women’s lobby representing the European MWIA region and was elected as MWIA’s representative in June 2018. I represented MWIA at two EWL’s general assemblies and board meetings: June 2018 in Brussels and Vilnius (Lithuania) January 2019. I am also serving on EWL’s membership committee.

Communication with the membership and executive

- Drafting many briefs prior to Executive meetings via Skype or face-to face
- Answered to many emails of the membership
- Regular email communication with the executive and the MWIA committees
- Sent greetings to many of our national and regional meetings
- Drafted messages for the MWIA update
- In consultation with the secretary general, drafted the agenda for the executive meetings and skype meetings
- Wrote presidential letters to national associations and their members, as well as individual members. I sent over 40 individual “thank you notes” to those associations and individual members who donated for our centennial activities

Social media and communication

- I am responsible for the MWIA website and IT issues of the association as MWIA’s webmaster and as such I am constantly updating information on the MWIA website to keep it up-to-date
- I was also updating the MWIA online teaching manual on violence as needed
- MWIA started a MWIA Facebook page and a closed MWIA Facebook group in December 2017 and I am managing both sites and continuously add content, respond to messages reaching MWIA via Facebook.
- I was also finalizing and managing lay-outing of the new MWIA flyer.

Financial- Management

- Management of the Apotheker and Ärztebank in Muenster account in Germany with up-to-date accounting: sent APO bank statements to the secretariat and treasurer, provided translation from German into English when necessary
- Money transfer in Euro to reimburse the EXCO
- Payment of dues in Euro: EWL and CIOMS
- Communication with the bank in matters requested by the secretariat and treasurer
- Provided documents for the annual audit of the APO bank account in Germany
- After the resignation of the previous MWIA treasurer Dr. Gail Beck in November 2018 I became the main contact person in issues related to our Schrodgers Swiss bank account on Schrodgers request.

- I was very much involved in drafting the centennial MWIA budget in close collaboration with our interim treasurer Dr. Tuula Saarela and MWIA's Secretary General Dr. Shelley Ross

Centennial MWIA Activities

Centennial committee and MWIA scientific subcommittee:

- Co-Chairing (scientific committee till September 2018)

Publication centennial MWIA subcommittee:

- Co-editing together with Dr. Helen Goodyear the Centennial publication "*100 years in 100 pages*" and managing the layouting and printing process of the book in this role
- Editing the 10 decade centennial posters
- Drafting together with Dr. Antonella Vezanni the centennial slideshow
- Organizing the historic centennial session at the centennial meeting in New York "*100 years in 30 minutes*"

Public relation committee:

- Drafting the first historic teaser
- Co-editing together with Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi the historic teasers before sharing with the membership and posting online.
- Drafting and editing a document with all published centennial teasers for the MWIA centennial memorial stick.

Activities related to MWIA

- Chairing the executive meetings and draft of the agenda
- Promoting Gender sensitive medicine
- I was an active member in the work group "Update of the congress manual"
- I was an active member in the working group "online teaching module on violence" prepared many teaching slides and I am in close contact with the chair
- I piloted successfully a MWIA workshop based on the MWIA online teaching module on violence in Nairobi in November 2018 (MWIA regional meeting Africa & near East). Another workshop was conducted in Tiflis at the MWIA regional meeting Central Europe.
- I played an active role in the team which developed the MWIA survey on sexual harassment.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Kyung Ah Park, Korea

During these three years, I had opportunities to attend important meetings of MWIA.

The first one was the centennial celebration of British Medical Women's Association(BMWA). It was held in May, 2017 and was very successful. It was very impressive that BMWA was founded earlier than MWIA. We were pleased by the hospitality of the members of BMWA.

The second one was the Regional Conference of Southern Europe of MWIA in Palermo, Italy. This regional conference was quite successful with active participation of Italian members. I gave a lecture on 'Stress management of women doctors'.

The third one was the Western Pacific Regional Conference in Hong Kong in August 2017. We had two typhoons in a row during the stay.

The fourth one was the Regional Conference of Central Asia(CARC) in Bangkok, Thailand. Thai Medical Women's Association is a well organized association and they had a good academic program. I gave a lecture on 'Work Life Balance of Women doctors'.

I had trips to attend two funerals of Japanese friends, Dr. Atsuko Heshiki(Sept. 2016) and Dr. Hiroko Yamamoto(Jan. 2017).

These were my main activities during this triennium and it was a beautiful memory as an immediate past president of MWIA. I will never forget these moments.

PRESIDENT-ELECT'S REPORT

Clarissa Fabre, UK

It has been a great honour to join the MWIA Executive Committee, under the leadership of Professor Bettina Pfliederer. We have achieved a great deal. Below is a summary of the positions I have held in this triennium, the meetings attended, and the talks I have given. More details can be found in MWIA Updates (2016-2019).

1. Positions held

(i) Chair of the Strategy and Membership Committee

Our main achievement was the MWIA membership survey to which over 1000 members responded. MWIA's main priorities were felt to be work/life balance, violence against women and girls, leadership and mentoring, sexual harassment and career progression. Networking between women doctors and medical students from different countries was felt to be one of our greatest strengths.

- (ii) **Chair of Centennial Finance Committee**
MWIA members donated over \$US20,000 in our fundraising appeal – an outstanding achievement. Many many thanks for all your contributions.
- (iii) **MWIA representative to WHO (2012-2019)**
Please see reports separately under WHO heading

2. Meetings attended

- (i) **MWIA Regional and national meetings**
Moscow Central European meeting November 2016
London Northern European meeting (also MWF UK centenary) May 2017
Philadelphia AMWA meeting March 2018
Palermo Southern European meeting April 2018
Bangkok Central Asian meeting September 2018
Nairobi Africa and Near East meeting November 2018
Tbilisi Central European meeting to be attended in May 2019
MWF national meetings – May and November 2016, 2017 and 2018
Victorian Medical Women’s Association 2017

I have enjoyed attending all these meetings and have learned such a lot. The programmes have been varied and interesting, and I realise the enormous amount of work that has gone into their preparation. A heartfelt thanks to all the organisers, and appreciation of the very great warmth and hospitality with which we were received. **Highlights** included: visiting beautiful Moscow and St Petersburg and meeting officials in the higher echelons of government; visiting the Trafalgar Tavern in Greenwich, London where MWF held its first meeting 100 years ago; seeing at first hand the strength of the mentoring system in AMWA, and realising the importance of stress and burnout in the medical profession; the beautiful palaces and churches of Palermo, and the importance and relevance of gender medicine to Italian women doctors; the importance of looking after our own health and well-being, the strengths of Buddhism, and the beauty and grace of Thailand. Nairobi for me was a life changing experience, meeting so many people from different spheres, and levels in medicine, and forming productive collaborations for future MWIA projects.

- (ii) **Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the UN**
I have attended CSW every March in New York since 2016. Next year will be the celebration of 10 years of UN Women. **Highlights of CSW** for me include: Consultation Day, especially presentation of the Woman of Distinction Award (this year to a 22 year old Afghan woman promoting education and leadership training for the girls of Afghanistan); hearing the Secretary General Antonio Guterres who is a true believer in parity for women; the MWIA parallel event beautifully organised by MWIA UN representatives, Satty Gill Keswani and Padmini Murthy; Dr Gaye Casper with her group of 20 or more Australian medical students who present their posters to the MWIA delegation and other dignitaries

- (iii) **Women of the World Festival** to celebrate International Women's Day in March

This festival began in London 9 years ago and is now celebrated in 17 countries in 6 continents. It represents a wonderful opportunity to hear influential women speaking passionately about the progress of women (or lack of it) in many spheres of life. I would highly recommend you look for a venue near you.

3. Talks given to MWIA 2016-2019

I have spoken on the Role of Women Doctors in addressing Violence against Women and Girls; the WHO Safe Childbirth Checklist; Parenthood and Medicine: a Global Perspective;

Parenthood, Medicine and Economic Empowerment; Priorities for Medical Women: Findings from the MWIA membership Survey; MWIA: the Voice of Women Doctors; the Hamlin Fistula Hospital in Addis Ababa (which I visited in 2017); Music and Humour in Medicine; Observations on Teenage Pregnancy and Contraception in Kenya; and HPV vaccination and the Elimination of Cervical cancer.

I look forward very much to becoming your president in July this year. MWIA is a powerful force in advancing the cause of women's health and welfare, as well as improving the lives of women doctors. Working together I am sure we can achieve real progress, and deliver practical advances in every part of the world.

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT
Shelley Ross, Canada

Thank you for the honour and privilege of serving as your Secretary-General for the triennium 2016-2019, since the 30th International Congress in Vienna, Austria, July 28-31, 2016. The theme for this triennium was *Ambassadors of Change*.

I would like to thank the executive for their commitment to MWIA.

This has been a busy time for MWIA and I wish to report on the activities handled by the Secretariat.

I would like to divide the duties of the Secretariat into a number of categories, as follows:

1. general administration
 2. financial
 3. membership
 4. newsletter
 5. website
 6. public relations and media
 7. meeting organization
 8. project coordination
 9. liaison with WHO and UN
 10. meetings attended for MWIA
-
1. General administration includes the day to day routine of the Secretariat from answering emails to registering members to various organizations, meetings and committees.
 2. Financial includes coordinating the banking in Canada, Switzerland and Germany, looking after dues, both incoming and outgoing and arranging and participating in the audit.
 3. Membership includes keeping the national officers updated and encouraging new membership. We have a number of new individual members and national associations to present to the General Assembly.
 4. The MWIA Newsletter, entitled the MWIA Update, goes out every three months by email to interested members and it is also posted on the website.
 5. The MWIA website keeps members up to date with meetings and newsworthy items.
 6. The Special Interest Group for Young Women Doctors and Medical Students has a Facebook account (<http://mwia.net/young-mwia/>).
 7. Public Relations and Media involves contact with other organizations, radio and TV and keeps the MWIA name visible. The twitter handle for MWIA is #MedWIA and

the facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/mwia.network>, the Facebook group is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mwia.network>, and the facebook group for the Special Interest Group for Young Doctors and Medical Students is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/youngMWIA>.

8. Meeting organization is multifaceted and includes organizing the executive meetings, minute keeping, and gathering reports. It also includes registering delegates to various UN and WHO meetings.

The Secretariat has been working closely with the organizing committee for the 31st International Congress in New York City, MWIA's Centennial Congress, and the Secretary General has acted as the co-chair of the Congress Scientific Committee, organizing what promises to be an exceptional congress. The hashtag for the Centennial meeting is **#MWIA100**.

The Secretariat sent out the First and Second Special Updates for the congress, with detailed information requested of national associations. In the First Update was the call for officers with a clear deadline of May 1, 2018. I must acknowledge that while nominations for officer positions were being received the deadline was unnecessarily extended, allowing two late applicants. These applicants have now withdrawn for personal reasons and a resolution is ready for voting at the General Assembly that will not allow such an error to occur again.

9. Project coordination and oversight of many activities including:
 - Safe Childbirth Checklist in partnership with WHO
 - Birthing kits in partnership with Zonta International
 - Commenting on the Implementation Guide to the AA-HA! (Framework for Accelerated Action for Adolescent Health)
 - Advocacy against female genital mutilation
 - Advocacy against cosmetic gynecologic surgery
 - Respectful Maternity Care
 - Partnership for Maternal Newborn and Child Health
 - HPV and cervical cancer
 - Diabetes and Pregnancy
 - Gender and Health
 - Adolescent Sexuality
 - Leadership
 - Non-communicable diseases
 - Primary Health Care
 - Prevention of Maternal to Child Transmission in HIV/AIDS (PMTCTPlus)
 - Universal Health Care
 - Issues for Women Doctors
 - Millennium Development Goals and now the Sustainable Development Goals
 - Virginty Testing
 - Gender based violence with Dr. Claudia Garcia Moreno

10. Liaison with UN and WHO

- Economic and Social Council of the UN (ECOSOC) in New York with Dr. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Padmini Murthy representing MWIA
- Department of Public Information, NGO division (DPINGO) in New York with Dr. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Padmini Murthy representing MWIA
- WHO in Geneva with Dr. Clarissa Fabre, Dr. Shafika Nasser and Dr. Shelley Ross representing MWIA
- UN in Vienna with Dr. Iris Habitzel representing MWIA
- CIOMS (Council for the Organizations of the Medical Sciences), in an executive committee capacity, with Dr. Christine Wieland representing MWIA
- Executive member status at the NGO Section of the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations in New York. Dr. Padmini Murthy sits on the executive
- Dr. Bettina Pflleiderer and Dr. Antonella Vezzani are the delegate and alternate to the European Women's Lobby
- Observer status at the World Medical Association

11. At any meeting I attend, I always network for MWIA.

I look forward to seeing many of you in New York City. It is always a pleasure to meet former acquaintances and make new friends. Beyond the scientific portion of the congress, which looks to be excellent, is the camaraderie that can only be experienced by attending an international congress of medical women. No matter how different the country and culture from which we come, as medical women we have a common bond. Many of the friendships made through MWIA will last a lifetime.

Once again, thank you for the honour of serving as your Secretary General.

INTERIM TREASURER'S REPORT Tuula Saarela, Finland

Contents of Report

1. Introduction
2. Budget Up-date 2018-2019
3. Centennial Budget
4. Financial review 2016-2019
5. Approval of Financial Statements and Audit
6. Concluding Remarks

Introduction

The long time treasurer of MWIA, Dr. Gail Beck, resigned her position as MWIA treasurer on Nov. 23rd, 2018. Due to this unexpected resignation there was no time for any personal transition of information concerning actual financial situation.

The ongoing budget period has been characterized by preparation for the approaching 2019 Centennial meeting. The President and SG have been working in a close cooperation with the representatives of AMWA. MWIA has created a separate Centennial Budget that has been approved by the Exco on Feb. 25th 2019.

MWIA has currently banking accounts in Canada (TD Canada Trust in Burnaby), in Germany (Apothekar und Ärztebank in Munster) and investments in Switzerland (Schroeder's et Co. in Zurich).

At the end of 2018 the SG was informed by the director of our Swiss Bank that the bank fees for handling the funds would be substantially increased annually. The MWIA President was actively involved in several discussions in order to prevent the expected loss of money. As a result of this the decision concerning bank costs increase was postponed until the new exco will be installed in August 2019. Further decisions about the MWIA portfolio and investment at Schroeder's Bank need to be on the agenda of the new executive at the end of the Centennial Congress.

Budget up-date 2018-2019

The amount of dues paid by national associations has been declining during the past years. However, this trend has been reversed now and three new national associations applied for membership as well as individual members have been joining MWIA during 2018-19. This is in line with Dr. Beck's previous predictions of slightly higher revenues as compared with 2017-2018 as it was expected that individual members and national associations would be diligent in paying their dues in 2018-2019. In order to encourage payments the Exco decided in February 2019 that the SG and VPs will continue to remind those national associations in arrears that their dues must be paid by June 30th. The total of paid dues was 82.300 CHF by the end of April 2019

The meeting costs were budgeted to be 65.000 with the assumption that two Exco meetings would be held. The costs on travel reimbursement paid via APO Bank are ca. 10.200 and cover travel costs of exco members other than the SG, Dr. Beck and VP for North America.

Centennial Budget

The Exco had earmarked 10% of dues (28,667 USD) to cover specific costs of the Centennial: the cost of centennial book, the displaying of the fabric collage, the memory sticks, the posters for those outside the USA using the MWIA code, the printing of the 10 decade Centennial posters and the cost of gala dinner for the scarf competition winner. The final costs of the scarf project is still unclear. If all the scarves are sold there will be no financial losses for MWIA. The costs of the centennial book as presently known will amount to 4010 USD; costs for printing the book are not included in this sum because we do not know the the costing amount of books to be pre-ordered for printing.

The generosity shown by members and member associations to cover the Centennial costs has been amazing. The total of donations was over 20.000 USD on April 12th, 2019. It is possible that the earmarked sum for the Centennial will not need to be used. Donations forming a possible surplus are to be transferred to the next international congress. (Appendix 1).

Financial review 2016-2019

MWIA uses CHF as currency since our legal headquarter is in Switzerland. Our budget and income are thus in Swiss Francs. Euro or USD expenditure or income is exchanged into CHF

accordingly, Therefore the income related to dues may look very different between years because of fluctuation in the exchange rates.

The financial situation of the MWIA has been stable during the triennium. There was no need to turn to the reserves as the budget shows positive balance. The Centennial donations by the members have exceed all expectations.

The interest rate for the portfolio has been modest (up to 3.6%) while the interest rate of the deposit accounts has been low or zero.

There has been yearly variation in administrative costs due to the meeting schedule of the executive. There was no Exco meeting during the fiscal year 2018. (Appendix 2)

Accordingly to the Audits the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Medical Women's International Association in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Dr. Beck has pointed out that a continuing concern is the that we have no way of verifying that the dues MWIA received from National Associations accurately reflect the true number of members they have. The auditors have, however, not been able to determine whether any adjustments in MWIA accounting be necessary.

4. Draft Budget 2019-20

The draft budget for 2019-2020 is in line with the previous financial strategy followed by MWIA. The new Exco needs to decide about the future of the investments at the Schroeder's Bank. A new item of expenditure (12.000 CHF) is suggested for possible financing of essential MWIA projects (Appendix 3).

5. Concluding Remarks

During this triennium the job description of the treasurer has been completed. Travel rules have been revised to keep the officer travelling costs under control.

Due to internationally low deposit rate the annual return on the accounts is expected to be close to zero. The annual return from the portfolio has been better and is up to 3,6%.

The value of Dr. Beck's contribution to MWIA during her years as the MWIA treasurer is to be highly respected. The President and SG have had much responsibility in both financial planning and practical issues during this budget period.

MWIA celebrates her Centennial with a sound economic situation. The unpredictability of the international financial world needs to be taken in consideration in the future.

MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Statements of Financial Position
As at June 30, 2019 and 2018

Assets	June 30 2019 CHF	June 30 2018 CHF
Current:		
Cash and Bank Accounts		
Apothekerbankble		
Euro	451,244	429,857
Bank Schroders		
Euro	22,330	25,457
Swiss Francs	-	82,210
TD Canada Trust		
US Dollar	29,350	55,532
Canadian Dollar	7,926	9,273
Petty Cash	856	856
Prepaid expenses	980	0
	512,686	603,185
Investments:		
Fixed deposits	559,816	434,203
Equity investments	267,611	273,685
Total Assets	1,340,113	1,311,073
Liabilities		
Current:		
Accrued liabilities	5,476	4,112
Total Liabilities	5,476	4,112
Net Assets		
Beginning fund balance	1,306,961	1,182,069
Excess of receipts over expenditures	27,676	124,892
	1,334,637	1,306,961
	1,340,113	1,311,073

MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Statements of Income and Expenditures/Statement of Operations
For the Years Ended June 30, 2019 and 2018

	2019 CHF	2018 CHF
<hr/>		
Receipts:		
Subscriptions	87,300	88,760
Donations and fundraising	23,630	12,345
Interest	4,411	1,835
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	115,341	102,940
<hr/>		
Expenditures:		
Secretariat	11,223	11,417
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	11,223	11,417
<hr/>		
Administration Costs:		
Bank charges	2,276	2,227
Travel	40,442	9,878
Audit	2,929	3,372
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	45,647	15,477
<hr/>		
Other items:		
Fair value adjustment (loss)	1,233	1,592
Foreign exchange loss	(32,028)	47,254
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(30,795)	48,846
<hr/>		
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over expenditures	27,676	124,892
<hr/>		

VICE-PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

NORTHERN EUROPEAN REGION

Tuula Saarela, Finland

Many of us share a long history with MWIA. My first encounter with MWIA took place at the International Congress in Vienna 2016. For the new exco members in 2019 the start will be easier since the job descriptions of vice presidents and other officers are now available.

One of the highlights of this triennium was The Medical Women's Federation Centenary Event in May 2017 in London. The excellent clinical and social programs opened up many new perspectives. The Centenary publication Medical Woman, Years of Women in Medicine still works as an encouragement to medical women leadership and clinical excellence. The Northern Europe region business meeting of this triennium was held in connection with the congress. The new regional meeting guideline now available will help colleagues planning future regional meetings.

During these three years I have had a close contact with our Swedish colleagues. I have been impressed by the activity level the Swedes have on female leadership and gender equality issues. I had a possibility to attend the Spring meeting in Stockholm, 2017. I have visited the Webpage of our Danish colleagues, met Dutch colleagues at meetings and have had email contact with the Dutch NC and individual members in our area. The activities of the Northern Europe member associations have been described in the national reports.

One of the great news is the joining of the Irish Medical Women to MWIA. We welcome Dr. Sarah Fitzgibbon who has started the Women in Medicine in Ireland. At the same time, some of our organizations still struggle with diminishing membership.

The increased use of social media by the MWIA has been important for our region and opened many possibilities for sharing information, news and also reaching for each other.

The triennium theme, Medical Women, Ambassadors of Change has been adopted in different forms and ways in different countries. Each association finds the means of implementation that are suitable for their resources, local needs and circumstances. Collaboration with other groups sharing the same values and goals has continued in our region.

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Many members of our associations are senior doctors who are an important resource in organizations. Seeing each other at meetings is both supporting and inspiring. We hope to find activities and contact forms that would also suit our younger colleagues.

I thank for the opportunity to serve MWIA as a vice-president, I also thank my colleagues at the exco. I am very grateful for and appreciate the co-operation with the regional colleagues during this triennium.

CENTRAL EUROPEAN REGION **Khatuna Kaladze, Georgia**

I. List of the national associations and individual members in your region with the names and emails of the Presidents and the National Coordinators

CENTRAL EUROPE

Azerbaijan, Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Switzerland
New individual members from **Kosovo and Turkey.**

Azerbaijan (not EU)

Dr. Aynur Safieva (Azerbaijan)
(Individual member)

Austria

Dr. Edith Schratzberger (President)
Dr. Iris Habitzel (NC)

Web:

<http://www.aerztinnenbund.at/>

Bulgaria

Dr. Liliana Havezova

Czech Republic

Dr. Nada Kocnarova

Estonia

Dr. Ene Tomberg

Georgia

Dr. Nino Zhvania (President)

Dr. Marina Tsertsvadze (NC)

Dr. Khatuna Kaladze (VP)

Office

<http://www.gmwa.org.ge>

Website

<http://www.gmwa.org.ge>

Germany

Dr. Christiane Gross (President)

Dr. Eva Hennel (NC)

Dr. Gudrun Guenther

Office

gdaeb@aerztinnenbund.de

Hungary

Dr. Agnes Fenji

Erzsébet Podmaniczky

Kosovo

Krenare Shabani

(applied for individual membership)

Poland

Dr. Adriana Pietraszkiewicz

Dr. Barbara Bruziewica

Office

Sekretariat@FoGera.de

Russia

Dr. Olga Goncharova

Larisa Skuratkovskaya

Serbia

Dr. Nada Radan Milovancev

Krstina Dokleštic

(Individual member)

Slovak Republic

Elena Zigova

Slovenia

Dr. Elizabeta A. Baretic-Kolar

Switzerland

Adelheid Schneider-Gilg (NC, President)

Office

sekretariat@medicalwomen.ch

Web

[http:// www.medicalwomen.ch](http://www.medicalwomen.ch)

Turkey

Akdal-Halmagyi

(individual member)

2. Names and emails of those from your region who served on MWIA Committees during the triennium

1. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof. Krstina Dokleštic, Serbia,
Manana Gogol, Georgia

2. STRATEGY COMMITTEE

Dr. Edith Schratzberger-Vecsei

3. CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Dr. Aynur Safyeva,
Dr. Nino Zhvania

4. ETHICS AND RESOLUTION

Dr. Edith Schratzberger-Vecsei (Austria)
Dr. Iris Habitzel (Austria),

1. Activities that have taken place in your region including meetings and regional congresses since the 2013 Congress in Seoul, including any issues that have arisen from these activities

1. Triennial Report of Georgian MWA

Georgian MWA 2016-2017

- September 2016 GMWA established their section in the frame of International Medical School Conference in Chakvi Georgia. Three GMWA members had the presentations at this international conference.
- In November 2016 five GMWA members participate in Central European Regional Congress of MWIA in Moscow. Professor Khatuna Kaladze VP of Central European Region of MWIA, actively participated in organization of this congress.
- Besides it three GMWA members - Professor Khatuna Kaladze, Professor Nino Zhvania the President of GMWA and Professor Khatuna Koridze had the scientific presentation at the congress.
- Khatuna Kaladze and Nino Zhvania also had the presentations in the State Duma of the Russia Federation, about activities of medical women doctors and about activities of GMWA as the first and active Association in former soviet countries.
- In December 2016 GMWA arranged the scientific practical conference in Gori, Sukhishvili University, Shida Kartli Region of Georgia. The conference was well attended by doctors of region and had good practical meaning.
- The 8th volume of scientific practical journal of GMWA dedicated to the women's health issues "Actual topics on Women's Health" was published by the end of 2016.
- The Georgian Medical Women's Association has appointed Dr. Yvonne Buowari of the Medical Women's Association of Nigeria to the editorial board of their official journal, Actual Topics on Women's Health. She is to focus on African countries.

Georgian MWA – 2017-2018

- 2017 GMWA performed scientific practical conference dedicated to actual problems of internal medicine in Akhaltsikhe Georgia.
- 2018, February GMWA performed very interesting and well attended scientific practical conference dedicated to actual problems of internal medicine in Telavi, Kakheti Region.

- 2018, March: Very impressive and successful was the exhibition of doctor artists work, prepared by GMWA members in March. This exhibition was well attended and widely translated by different TV channels.
- The 9th volume of scientific practical journal of GMWA dedicated to the women's health issues " Actual topics on Women's Health" was published by the end of 2017.
- On June 2018 GMWA hosted Yousef Tizabi, Professor of Washington Howard University. Professor Tizabi is the member of Editorial board of Journal " Actual Topics on Women's Health" published by GMWA. He made the lecture " Novel antidepressants- perspective of implementation" Lecture was well attended by scientists and GMWA members.

Georgian MWA – 2018-2019

- June 2018 - GMWA had the conference dedicated to usage of plant anti lipid medicines, which are very actual for treatment atherosclerosis especially for women.
- On July 7, 2018 members of GMWA, made the humanitarian action in village Ruispiri, Telavi district. Many patients were examined by ophthalmologist, angiologist, cardiologist and endocrinologist.
- On July 5, VP Central Europe MWIA Khatuna Kaladze, GMWA and HPFund members visited the shelter for victims (women and children) of family and sexual violence in Baku, Azerbaijan.
- The 10th volume of scientific practical Journal "Actual Topics on Women's Health" was published.
- On 2019, GMWA are preparing for Central European Regional Congress of MWIA " Actual Topics on Women's Health".
- On July 8-16 the members of GMWA participated in International Medical Conference in Chakvi. 3 of them made interesting presentations concerning women's health issues.

Every year on 2016-2017-2018 President of GMWA professor Nino Zhvania was invited on different TV programs, for speak about differences of Cardiovascular diseases in women, following the priorities of MWIA concerning studies of women's health problems.

2. Triennial Report of German MWA

German MWA 2016-2017

Make doctors stronger and yourself too! Because Germany's doctors have a common voice.

Together with Anna Fischer – gender and Medicine

- **Gender medicine - women develop differently** - March 8, 2017, 6:00 pm, Ravensburg

DGB Women's Day Baden-Württemberg

Lecture: Annegret Hofmann, Network Gender Research & Public Relations

- Gender Medicine - How to better serve Munich citizens

March 30, 2017, 10.00 - 13.00, Munich

- What is the issue of gender medicine club evening of the Katholische Deutschen

Frauenbundes Berlin, 31 March 2017, 6.30 pm, Berlin

- **Fachtagung: Gender-oriented health care in the state of Brandenburg - where we stand, where do we want to go?"** Potsdam, 22 September 2016

29.04.2017

Cologne
 Value balances as a doctor and manager
 29.04.2017
 Mannheim, Germany
 Gender Symposium at the Congress of the German Society of Internal Medicine (DGIM)
 29.04.2017
 Mannheim, Germany
 Symposium "... and it gives it, the small difference - in the focus kidney, heart and bone"
 30.04.2017
 Application Completion Silver Feather 2017
 May 02, 2017, Dortmund
 Insights into modern osteoporosis therapy, taking into account the DVO Guideline 2014
 09.05.2017, Frankfurt
 Etiology and pathogenesis of systemic lupus erythematosus - "From Bench to Bedside"
 10.05.2017, Helmstedt
 Guided tour of the monastery of Marienberg (protestant women's pen) and his paramental workshop
 10.05.2017, Wiesbaden, Germany
 Quality standards: Public health is practically relevant on the spot
 18.05.2017, Muenster
 Rice medicine and medical travel assistance
 22.05.2017, Freiburg
 Meeting of the female delegates of the 120th German Medical Day
 May 24, 2017 - May 27, 2017
 Labor meeting of gynecologists in AKF

German MWA 2017-2018

Events:

- **35th Congress of the German Medical Association, October 5-8, 2017, Berlin**
- Within the framework of the congress: the awarding of the scientific prize of the DÄB and the children's book "Silberne Feder" and the award "Brave Lioness".
- The workshops focused on the topics of livelihoods, rhetoric and spelling techniques as well as intercultural conflict management.
- Our motto has proved itself and this time again is "We join in - in occupational health and health policy". DÄB Congress offered current topics from occupational health and safety policy, bioethics, medicine and globalization.
- **June 2017 – June 2018-07-14 Trainings for women doctors.**
<https://www.aerztinnenbund.de/Terminkalender.0.283.1.html>
- In the occasion of the DÄB congress, the German Medical Association (DÄB) awards the Science Prize of the German Medical Association every two years.
- The prize is awarded to a young doctor or dentist from the clinic, practice or research. And is endowed with 4,000 euros. The work should address the biological and / or socio-cultural differences between the sexes relevant to prevention, diagnosis and / or medical care in the clinic or establishment. Research results with the gender aspect in the field of public health / global health as well as in the field of medical teaching can also be submitted. Membership of the German Medical Association is not required.

Projects:

- **Maternity Protection**
Hints and tips for (pregnant) female doctors (PDF) Created for the DÄB by Dr. med. med. Astrid Bühren, Honorary President of the DÄB in cooperation with the DÄB Board in November 2017.
- **For a Responsible Handling of Sexualized Discrimination and Violence at Universities (PDF)**
Press release from the Federal Association of Women and Equal Opportunity Officers at Universities from 24.5.2018
- **#Me too**
Leaflet (PDF)
Information for female doctors on sexual harassment in the workplace. May 2018.

Overview of activities taken from the journal

2016-2017

- Female migrant doctors meeting female German doctors on a professional base
- German MWA (DÄB), is asking their colleagues to get ready for being elected into different medical committees and bodies
- In Germany pregnant doctors are not allowed to conduct surgery during their pregnancy. German
- MWA states: stop this law, which is overdue.
- German MWA states: stress at workplace is hampering young female doctors.
- German MWA demands reasonable working conditions for the next generation.

2017-2018

- For the German MWA (DÄB), health policy stands above all for the structural change in the health system, in which the number of female doctors is continuously increasing. The DÄB keeps an eye on the gender-specific aspects of medicine. In this field, the DÄB wants to help shape the future, to contribute expertise, to be heard by the politicians in discussions whether women doctors should increasingly practice in rural regions in the future and what incentives there are for doing so. The DÄB is constantly concerned with questions relating to public health, an application-oriented field that deals with the health of the population.

2018-2019

- Professional policy is important to the DÄB in order to advance the medical women profession. This means improving the working conditions of female doctors in terms of work-life balance and thus keeping work and private life in balance. To achieve this, the DÄB demands flexible working hours, additional daycare places and changes towards a modern role model in which fathers also assume responsibility for their children.

Selected topics of press releases

2016-2017

- In medicine, gender-specific medicine refers to the special attention paid to the biological
- differences between men and women. It implies gender-specific research and treatment of diseases.
- Gender-specific differences are also particularly relevant in the prescription of drugs.
- The integration of gender-specific medicine into medical curricula is still in its infancy in Germany.

- Unfortunately, gender-specific research results have so far rarely found their way into medical teaching. According to the German MWA (DÄB), gender-specific aspects should be a binding part of diagnosis and treatment.

2017-2018

- In statements and reports, the DÄB Ethics Committee presents the views of female doctors in the association on current issues. Female physician health is important for the DÄB in a profession with special requirements.
- Background: In health policy, the health system is planned, organised, controlled and financed – so that it works. Associations and bodies of joint self-administration are important partners here, as are health insurance funds, the Kassenärztliche Vereinigungen (KV) and the hospital associations. The
- Joint Federal Committee (G-BA) is the statutory body in which these associations and bodies are to come to jointly supported solutions.

2018-2019

- The MentorinnenNetzwerk (MNW) of the German MWA (DÄB), since 2000 promotes the careers of female doctors. About one third of the mentees are female students, more than half are female doctors in continuing education. The female mentors currently work as doctors and dentists in doctor's offices, clinics, hospitals, universities and science institutions. They are active in professional political committees and have international contacts. The international networking of the DÄB's network of mentors also enables internships abroad. The MNW of the DÄB is a member of the association Forum Mentoring e.V., whose goal is equal opportunities for men and women in science and research. The association serves to network and support gender- and diversity-based mentoring measures at all levels of education and qualification, with particular emphasis on women.
<https://www.aerztinnenbund.de/MentorinnenNetzwerk.0.176.1.html>
- The DÄB actual project is ÄRZTIN „medical woman“2020, for which many colleagues from the DÄB have already developed numerous perspectives for the year 2020 in 2011. By 2020 there are only a few years left. The countdown has begun.

3. Triennial Report of Austrian MWA - 2016-2019

Austrian MWA 2016-2017

- The 30th International MWIA Congress, held July 28-31, 2016, at the University of Vienna. The theme was Generation Y – Challenges of the Future for Female Medical Doctors. There were 586 persons from 34 countries plus 62 Austrian Medical Students as members of the organization.
 - Organization of the annual "Women in Medicine" conference with a focus and workshops (ÖÄK certified)
 - Regular meetings of the Board open to all members and interested parties in the sense of a jour fix; Once a year also in Western Austrians
 - Support for social projects, eg the training of a Nigerian nurse to the midwife
 - Lobbying success relief for Viennese female part-time part-time workers after a possible interest-free deferral of the welfare fund contribution
 - Encourage participation in the "Gender Medicine" course at the MedUni Vienna for one of our members
 - Collaboration with the Austrian Society for Gender-Specific Medicine
 - Lore Antione Prize for the Promotion of Medical Students by awarding the Lore Antoine

Science Prize

- Establishment and administration of a network of female physicians Experienced female doctors support their colleagues with their professional goals
- Maintaining international contacts Participation in the international congresses of MWIA and / or its member countries

Austrian MWA 2017-2018

- General Meeting of the Organization – 21st April 2017 at 7.00 pm in the winter garden of Parkhotel Schönbrunn 1130 Vienna, Hietzinger Hauptstrasse 10; Meeting of the Organization – 12 May 2017 at 6.30 pm in the winter garden of Parkhotel Schönbrunn 1130 Vienna, Hietzinger Hauptstraße 10
- National Conference in Vienna, the topic was ,privacy and public spheres, Donation of the Lore Antoine Price for a publication in the field of gender medicine, 2018

LORE ANTOINE PRIZE 2018

The Lore Antoine prizes are awarded exclusively to female medical professionals.

Lore Antoine Prize for a diploma thesis / dissertation in the amount of € 1,500.-

- **Organization of the annual "Women in Medicine"** conference with a focus and workshops (ÖÄK certified)
- **Regular meetings of the Board** open to all members and interested parties in the sense of a jour fix; Once a year also in Western Austrians
- **Support for social projects**, e.g. the training of a Nigerian nurse to the midwife
- **Lobbying success** relief for Viennese female part-time workers after a possible interest-free deferral of the welfare fund contribution
- **Encourage participation in the "Gender Medicine" course** at the MedUni Vienna for one of our members
- **Collaboration with the Austrian Society for Gender-Specific Medicine**
- **Lore Antione Prize for the** Promotion of Medical Students by awarding the Lore Antoine Science Prize
- **Establishment and administration of a network of female physicians** Experienced female doctors support their colleagues with their professional goals
- **Maintaining international contacts** Participation in the international congresses of MWIA and / or its member countries

Austrian MWA 2018-2019

- 2019 National Conference in Vienna, **Austrian MWA** celebrates 100 yrs Organisation der Ärztinnen Österreichs.
- Lore Antoine Price for a publication in the field of gender medicine

Priorities

- Support for social projects, such as the formation of a Nigerian nurse midwife
- Lobbying success breaks for Viennese physicians in part-time work after maternity leave by possible interest-free deferral of the welfare fund contribution.
- Promoting participation in a college course "Gender Medicine" at the Medical University of Vienna for one of members of the association.
- Cooperation with the Austrian Society for Gender Medicine
- Lore Antione-prize – promotion of doctors and medical students by awarding the Lore Antoine Science Prize
- Build and manage network doctors - experienced doctors support their colleagues in their professional goals.
- Maintenance of international contacts - take part in the international congresses of MWIA or their member countries.

4. Triennial Report of Switzerland MWA- MWS - 2016-2019

MWA- MWS 2016-2017

- March 3, 2016 - Special stamp Marie Heim-Vögtlin - is the anniversary of the death of Marie Heim-Vögtlin, the first Swiss female doctor with activities in Switzerland, for the 100th time.
- The annual conference of MWS (Medical Women Switzerland) in March 2016 and other events including a stamp (designed by Swiss Post) were dedicated to the first Swiss female physician Marie Heim-Vögtlin, whose 100th anniversary we celebrated in 2016. The motto of the annual conference in March 2017 was "openness". In workshops we gained insight into the work of a general practitioner, a chief physician, a researcher and a medical director. We also opened MWS to female dentists.
- In 1916 the first Swiss woman doctor Marie Heim-Vögtlin (born 1845) died. She was the first woman to earn a medical degree from the University of Zurich, became a gynecologist (the first in Europe) and co-founder of the first Swiss women's hospital in Zurich. She was married, mother of two children and in addition committed herself to the matter of women's rights. To commemorate the centenary of her death various events took place, likewise it was the theme of our annual meeting – especially in celebration of the fact, that the Swiss Post dedicated a stamp to the physician, which is a particular deference.
- Additionally, our professional mentoring-consultation-program (by doctors for doctors) worked out well and showed a rising number of requests. Furthermore, we are participating in the project “Steigbügel,” which is supposed to facilitate the re-entry for career break returners into professional life with financial support by the Swiss Federation, private businesses and healthinsurance companies. Student coordinators of the MWS welcomed young medical students at the “Erstsemestrigentag” (first day of studies) and introduced them to the activities of our organization – resulting in about 20 new registrations of students.
- Annual General Meeting - New president and new board members election - 10th April,
- 2017, Zurich
- We are glad to be able to inform you, that Dr. Adelheid Schneider-Gilg was chosen as the new president of Medical Women Switzerland.

MWA- MWS 2017-2018

The annual conference in April 2018 was devoted to the question of whether modern medicine is women-friendly or women-hostile, with discussions on ethical challenges, digitisation and new practice and work structures. We also dealt with the issues of equal opportunities and equality. We have expressed our concern that women/medical professionals in management positions and within academic careers are still underrepresented and undersuccessful compared to male counterparts. We organized a symposium on this topic and gave interviews for various newspapers.

Seminar "Performance skills - Voice of coaching" – 10th June 2017, Zurich.

A seminar for everyone who likes to speak or speak publicly, also want to gain more competence and security.

Partner organizations:

BPW: Business and Professional Women Lawyers Switzerland

Swiss Association of University Women

Business Women Switzerland

Female doctors in the Cantonal Hospital have better opportunities for advancement

Dominance of "Machos in Weiss"? At the KSW, the doctors get on.

30.05.2018 Landbote

Something is happening!

The future is bright - 06.06.2018 Swiss Medical Journal 2018/23

Part Times and Time Share - 06.06.2018 Swiss Medical Journal 2018/23

We do not have enough senior doctors

Fewer ten percent of the top posts at the University Hospital Zurich are filled by women. The new director of university medicine wants to change that. If you make the managements more attractive, that could be successful, says Beatrice Beck Schimmer.

03.06.2018 NZZ on Sunday

Gender Equality Office wins UN Award

The Federal Bureau for Gender Equality EBG has won the "United Nations Public Service Award 2018". The prize, which honors contributions from public administrations to realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), has been awarded to Switzerland for its commitment to equal pay.

Women only pick up a bit on the basis of average wages, the women still earn 12 percent less than the men

15.05.2018 NZZ

Annual General Meeting 2018

New composition board

Female physicians in power

In hospitals, only a minority of women occupy executive positions. Now the demand for a quota is loud.

22.04.2018 Sunday newspaper

Is equality in the stars?

When gender feminism focuses on writing, it overestimates the power of language - and loses sight of the essential.

31.03.2018 NZZ

Abortions

There are actually 63 million more women and girls living in India. But because parents want sons, millions of female fetuses are aborted.

31.03.2018 Lucerne newspaper

Network events 2018

Gaining insight - sharing experiences - in short: networking!

31.05.18 - ETH Zurich Rehabilitation Engineering Laboratory

12.07.18 - Zurich Zoo

01.11.18 - Rega-Center Kloten

Discrimination recognized for the first time - groundbreaking judgment

See you on 23.02.2018 in "Schweiz Aktuell" at 19 o'clock the interview with our Vice-President, Dr. Ing. med. Bettina von Seefried.

26.03.2018 Medinside

24.02.2018 Appenzeller newspaper

21.02.2018 NZZ

21.02.2018 Berner Zeitung

Stern-Gattiker Prize for female role models in academic medicine

The SAMW launches a new prize honoring women in academic medicine and motivating

female offspring. Behind the name are two doctors: Lina Stern, the first professor at the Medical Faculty of Geneva, and Ruth Gattiker, one of the first professors at the Medical Faculty of Zurich.

MWS Annual Meeting and General Meeting 2018

Modern Medicine - Women- **friendly** ? Hostile woman?

April 21, 2018, Zunfthaus zur Zimmerleuten, Zurich

Doc Day 2018

We look forward to your visit to our booth!

March 17, 2018

ETH Zurich

Rämistrasse 101, 8092 Zurich

SWONET Business & Network Day

"I have a dream ..." - women are everywhere!

March 9, 2018, campus hall Brugg Windisch

Making music instead of operating: How doctors find a professional balance in music

See "gesundheitheute" on 23.12.2017, 18.10 - 18.45, Repeat: 24.12.2017, 9.25 -

10.00:[preview](#)

Gender in medicine: a topic with many facets

Glass ceilings and walls for female doctors - what does it mean?

Article by Dr. med. med. PD MSc Carole Clair , SÄZ from 13.12.2017 (No. 50)

World Medical Association passes new doctors' oath

MWS Zurich Section: Annual Meeting and General Assembly 2017

Thursday, 9 November 2017, 16.45 - 22.00, Zurich

Women in the Bundersrat

"Federal Council: women call for their own hearing in the future", article by Kathrin Alder, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 23.9.2017

"Women in the Bundesrat, now!" , open letter to the parliament of alliance F

News from the NGO Coordination post Beijing Switzerland

- Change in the general recommendations of the CEDAW Committee

- 17. Work meetings of gender-oriented umbrella organizations: CEDAW as a core topic

- Saahas - App for survivors of gender-based violence

Delegate Assembly FMH

Represented by:

Dr. Maya C. Züllig, Zurich

Dr. Susanna Stöhr, Basel

2. Office for Data and Demography FMH

Represented by:

Dr. Annalis Marty-Nussbaumer, Lucerne

Deputy: Dr. med. Judit Pök Lundquist, Zurich

3. Medical Associations

Many mws members are represented in cantonal medical associations as well as in specialized societies and are also there strong for our concerns.

Female doctors in the Cantonal Hospital have better opportunities for advancement

30.05.2018 Landbote

MWA- MWS 2018-2019

- Annual conference in April 2019 was focused on the question of whether modern medicine is women-friendly or women-hostile. It included lectures, some of them interactive, on ethical challenges, digitisation in everyday practice, new practice models and part-time work at hospitals in training and management functions.
- In 2018, MWS was accompanied by the problem of equality and equal opportunities including wages for female doctors in hospital structures. The topic is and is becoming more and more prominent, not only among women doctors but also in other professional areas; and so it came that various newspapers invited us for an interview. The public response was high.
Unfortunately, it is still a fact that women are under-represented in management positions and academic careers. The reasons are manifold: many men still successfully defend their positions of power, working conditions tend to be hostile to women. But we women are partly to blame for it ourselves: We don't defend ourselves enough, we don't dare to do enough, we "sell ourselves too badly".
- Recently a successful symposium was held on these topics and, fortunately, it was mainly young women who attended. In Switzerland, there is now an institution called Café Med in various cities, where patients can get free advice, a second opinion from retired doctors and, above all, from retired female doctors.

In the last 3 years, we have also made increased efforts to reach out to the younger generation. We presented our organization at first semester days and the "Docday" (a fair for medical students) and organized an under-40 get-together with tailored topics. In addition, we have set up a programme called „Steigbügel“ (stirrup) for women returning to work - for the purpose of final specialist training after a family break. Moreover, with the aim of an individual exchange of ideas, we organized network excursions that have to do with women and/or medicine in the broadest sense and are very well attended.

In MWS now (2019) 973 members, 165 of which are students and 8 are honorary members. 2016 there were 900. We had 10 deaths since 2016. We don't have a young forum.

In Switzerland there are about 37'525 physicians, 15'982 of them are women.

Since 2017 our president is Adelheid Schneider-Gilg, she has also (due to temporary personnel constraints) the function of treasurer und NC (since 2011).

Triennial report of Russian MWA 2016-2019

Russian MWA 2016-2017

Activity of RMWA includes the development of organizational and methodical support of "motherhood schools" and "healthy child rooms" in the polyclinics, also, implementation of existing scientific and methodical manuals.

Central European Regional Congress "The possibilities of international cooperation in the field of solving medical and social problems of health care for women and children" would be held in Moscow, Russia, 23-25 November 2016.

1. Moscow department of «Russian Medical Women Association» continued working on the organization of the Congress of Medical Women's Association of Central Europe (23-25 November 2016)
2. In the Moscow region (Stupino) was carried out work on the organization of full-time and distance learning in «Parent's University» for the future and present parents.
3. The classes and lectures for doctors were held in Moscow-city.

4. The conference on the prevention and treatment of common diseases in pediatrics for physicians was held in Ulyanovsk (Lecture of the President of the "Russian Medical Women Association" MD, professor O.V.Goncharova)



5. The conference was held in Krasnoyarsk (Lectures of the regional head of the "Russian Medical Women Association" of Krasnoyarsk and the President of the "Russian Medical Women Association" MD, professor O.V.Goncharova)



This photo was made in Perinatal center of Krasnoyarsk. The regional head of the "Russian Medical Women Association" of Krasnoyarsk and the President of the "Russian Medical Women Association" MD, professor O.V.Goncharova are on the photo.

6. The websites of the "Far East" region of Russia were created. The subjects of Russian Federation are presenting their medical and social programs in there. These websites will be presented at the Congress of Medical Women's Association of Central Europe.
7. Another website about medical technology was created and it will be presented at the Congress of Medical Women's Association of Central Europe as well.
8. A monograph about the rehabilitation of lesions of the nervous system in pediatrics was written by the «Russian Medical Women Association».
9. A web conference with the Japanese Biomedical Technology Fund conference was held

RMWA ongoing Projects:

1. School of future parents
2. Internet projects for parents on children's health

- Publishing Project "National Book childcare"
3. Safe Motherhood
Mother and Child
Decreased Maternal mortality/morbidity
 4. Gender and Health
 5. HIV/AIDS
 6. Children
 7. Violence/Abuse
 8. Leadership for female physicians

Russian MWA 2017-2018

RMWA, includes more than half (46) subjects of Federation.

Activity of the organization manifests in scientific research in the field of improvement of Health Care System and implementing their results in practice.

Fields of activities of the «Russian Medical Women’s Association»:

- Support of government authorities in the development of prevention programs (for the governors and ministers of healthcare of the territorial territories):
- development of electronic projects and National registers of health and social programs and technologies: regions-inform.ru, company- inform.ru; clinic-inform.ru, baby-inform.ru;
- the organization of scientific research in the field of health protection of women and children; development of the information support for «Parents’ schools»: «Handbook on childcare», study DVD – film on «Child Development» the activities of the «Russian Medical Women’s Association» are presented at international and Russian conferences and congresses.
- The activities in the regions of Russia, connected with the problems of health of women and children.

Activity of RMWA includes the development of organizational and methodical support of “motherhood schools” and “healthy child rooms” in the polyclinics, also, implementation of existing scientific and methodical manuals.

- The Moscow region (Stupino) worked on the organization of full-time and distance learning at the Parent's University for the future and present parents.
- Classes and lectures for doctors were held in Moscow-city.
- A conference on the prevention and treatment of common diseases in pediatrics for physicians was held in Ulyanovsk (Lecture of the President of the "Russian Medical Women Association" MD, professor O.V.Goncharova)
- A monograph about the rehabilitation of lesions of the nervous system in pediatrics was written by the Russian Medical Women Association.
- Websites of the "Far East" region of Russia were created. The subjects of Russian Federation are posting their medical and social programs there. These websites as well as

one on medical technology has been presented at the Congress of Medical Women's Association of Central Europe.

RMWA new website is ready <http://rmwa.ru/en/about/DECISION.php>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8ufMDmLr0E&feature=youtu.be>

4. Electronic projects and National registers of health and social programs and technologies:

5. National Register of Private Clinics of Russia and Another Countries

Clinic-Inform.Ru

6. National Register of Companies and Technologies

Company-Inform.Ru

7. National Register of Medical and Social Programmers and Technologies of The Far East of Russian Federation

Regions-Inform.Ru

8. Internet Project «Motherhood and Childhood»

Baby-Inform.Ru

9. Rosmed.Info – Medical Platform of New Generation

Www.Rosmed.Info – to Improve the Quality of Life of Patients

Russian MWA 2018-2019

RMWA, includes more than half (46) subjects of Federation.

Activity of the organization manifests in scientific research in the field of improvement of Health Care System and implementing their results in practice.

Fields of activities of the «Russian Medical Women's Association»:

International and Russian conferences and congresses:

- 2018 Organization of Conference. Together with Embassy of republic of Croatia in Russia.
«Possibilities of the international cooperation in the field of health tourism and rehabilitation»
- March 2018, Participation in the international congress «Prospects of progress myofunctional therapy», Moscow
- April 2018, Participation in the first national interdisciplinary congress «Pediatric Physical and rehabilitation medicine: traditions and innovations », Moscow
- Participation in the 6th crikvenica international health tourism conference. november 2018. Crikvenica-Croatia.

Support of government authorities in the development of prevention programmes (for the governors and ministers of healthcare of the territorial entities)

- 2018 Videoconference with the Far East (with Ministries of Health of the Far East and regional administrations). Moscow, AHO «Agency on progress of the human capital in the Far East» http://rmwa.ru/o-soyuze/project_government/
- 2019 – Organization of the Round table in AHO «Agency on progress of the human capital in the Far East» with Embassy of Taiwan in Moscow together with the Ministry on progress of the Far East.
- 2019 – Scientifically-practical conference of regional branch of RMWA in Tomsk.
- 2019 - Organization of scientific researches in the field of health protection of women and children, development of «schools for parents» in the area of Moscow : online training

10. Liaisons with other organizations, including WHO, UN, medical associations, etc. with any suggested follow-up by MWIA

3. Meetings you have attended on behalf of MWIA

2016-2017

Central European Regional Meeting of MWIA, held in Moscow in November 23-25, Moscow, Russia;

- February 5, 2016, American and Georgian Heart Association event “Go Red for Women”, Drug Control Centre, Tbilisi, Georgia.
- USAID and Governing For Growth in Georgia (G4G) business forum “Women’s Role in Economic Growth and Policy Development”, held in Radisson Blue Iveria, on March 31, Tbilisi, Georgia;
- USAID organized event: Earth Day 2017, on April 22, Tbilisi, Georgia (upcoming event)

2017-2018

- February 8, 2018, American and Georgian Heart Association event “Go Red for Women”, Drug Control Centre, Tbilisi, Georgia.
- USAID and Governing For Growth in Georgia (G4G) business forum “Women’s Role in Economic Growth and Policy Development”, held in Euphoria hotel, on March 27, Batumi, Georgia

2018-2019

As a VP Central Europe MWIA I visited the shelter for victims (women and children) of family and sexual violence in Baku, Azerbaijan, together with doctors (family medicine doctor, surgeon, gynaecologist, ophthalmologist), psychologists.

We provided them free examination and psychological trainings during 3 days.

Also we had business meetings with founders and directors of the “Clean World” and Azerbaijan colleagues from the central Custom Hospital, Baku.

Special thank to the director of the shelter Mehriban Zeynalova, Dr. Aynur Safiyeva and our colleagues and partners from Baku Nargiz Karimova for the wonderful job and great charity.

We are looking forward to our useful, noble and successful cooperation for women's health and wellbeing worldwide!

- February 2018, American and Georgian Heart Association event “Go Red for Women”, Tbilisi, Georgia.
- USAID and Governing For Growth in Georgia (G4G) annual business forum “Women’s Role in Economic Growth and Policy Development”, held in Euphoria hotel, on March, Batumi, Georgia
- I was invited on different Telecast, to speak about Women’s Health and Wellbeing on behalf of MWIA

4. What has been done in your region regarding the triennial theme of “MEDICAL WOMEN: AMBASSADORS OF CHANGE”

2016-2017

Georgia

Health Professionals Fund (HPFund) ongoing projects – www.hpfund.net

1. Women's wellbeing network – for Georgia and region – together with the Public Unity of Help to Women “Clean world”, Azerbaijan.

2. Women for Women – Let's Make This World a Better Place

Project is an initiative, to create innovative public health campaigns for Future Without Violence. We want to define and strengthen the role of Women Health Professionals in this field.

Awareness and education of population, further promotion of institutional and legal mechanisms for fighting domestic violence against women is needed, as well as increasing human resources at all levels, developing systems of monitoring gender-based violence, and improving gender equality overall.

Violence against women is preventable. The fight against violence has to become an integral part of various strategies and measures. This will enable simultaneous impact on numerous areas that condition and sustain violence.

We would be very pleased if our projects would be supported by MWIA and CSW UN.

Austrian MWA

Relief for Viennese doctors in part-time employment after parental leave

2017-2018

1. We are working on the developing of our project - Women's international wellbeing network

together with the Public Unity of Help to Women “Clean world”, Azerbaijan.

2. Women for Women – Let's Make This World a Better Place

Project is an initiative, to create innovative public health campaigns for Future Without Violence.

We want to define and strengthen the role of Women Health Professionals in this field.

Awareness and education of population, further promotion of institutional and legal mechanisms for fighting domestic violence against women is needed, as well as increasing human resources at all levels, developing systems of monitoring gender-based violence, and improving gender equality overall.

3. New addition of the book: Domestic and sexual violence for health care professionals

4. Upcoming event: No violence against women and children July 23.

We would be very pleased if our projects would be supported by MWIA and CSW UN.

2018-2019

1. We are working on the developing of our project - Women's international wellbeing network together with the Public Unity of Help to Women “Clean world”, Azerbaijan.

2. Obesity – Gender difference and complex approach and treatment criteria

3. Developing the project - Violence against health professionals in Healthcare professionals relationships

4. Green environment and women – importance of healthy life style

5. Women for Women – Let's Make This World a Better Place Project is an initiative, to create innovative public health campaigns for Future Without Violence.

We want to define and strengthen the role of Women Health Professionals in this field.

Awareness and education of population, further promotion of institutional and legal mechanisms for fighting domestic violence against women is needed, as well as increasing human resources at all levels, developing systems of monitoring gender-based violence, and improving gender equality overall.

6. Event: No violence against women and children July 23, 2019

We would be very pleased if our projects would be supported by MWIA, WHO or CSW UN.

5. What have you contributed to date to MWIA projects?

- a) Violence against health professionals in Healthcare professionals relationships
- b) Importance of domestic violence perpetrator program
- c) MWIA Centennial Congress preparation (member of Scientific, PR and Bazar Committee, advisor of scientific committee from Central Europe)
- d) MWIA Central European Regional Congress Preparation

Your plans for the coming year and any other comments you wish to make

- 1. Health Screening Program for mothers of many children
 - 2. Hyperandrogenism and PCOS in Women – the regional problem
 - 3. Psychological violence victim's assessment criteria and survey
 - 4. Psychological Standing Appraisal Service of Matrimonial Couples
- We would be very pleased if our projects would be supported by MWIA, WHO or CSW UN.

SOUTHERN EUROPEAN REGION
Antonella Vezzani, Italy

Taking part in the MWIA means participating in a broader intellectual exchange on health questions affecting women but also fighting medical women's obstacles advancing on career. The Southern European region is made up of 5 nations. Italy is the one with the highest number of members, followed by France, with a very small amount of members and individual members in the other states.

Although new individual members have been recruited in Spain and Portugal, in these three years, no new national associations have been born in southern Europe.

It follows that the activities of Southern Europe are mainly the result of the activity of the Italian association that has been very active in all sectors of interest of MWIA.

In these three years the interest of women doctors has turned mainly to counteract domestic violence. Training courses for doctors, protocols with law agencies and territorial networks for the management of victims have been created. AIDM was involved in National guidelines for health agencies and hospital on the subject of rescue and social-health assistance to women victims of violence. (GU General Series n.24 of 01-30-2018). The protocols implemented by some AIDM sections (Parma, Turin, Palermo) were the basis for the implementation of this law. It is of fundamental importance that women doctors work to ensure adequate assistance to women victims of violence, but it is equally important to participate in the cultural debate to raise public awareness on this delicate issue.

AIDM worked hard to spread and implement gender-oriented medical culture: national and regional meetings in all provincial sections, university training courses, educational activities for medical students and so on. The commitment of AIDM has contributed to the creation, in Italy, of a gender-oriented law. These are the salient points of the law (From paragraph 2, Art.3):

- a) prediction of an interdisciplinary approach between medical areas and the human sciences that takes into account the differences deriving from gender;
- b) promotion and support of biomedical, pharmacological and psycho-social research based on gender differences;
- c) Teaching the gender medicine, guaranteeing adequate levels of training and updating of medical and health personnel;

d) promotion and support of public information on health and disease management, with a view to gender difference.

Together with the other Italian scientific societies, AIDM takes part in the activities of the National Health Department - Coordination for gender medicine. In 2018 has drawn up the Plan for the application and dissemination of gender medicine as envisaged by art. 3, paragraph 1 of the Law 11 January 2018. The Plan was approved by the Ministry of Health, which after having authorized it, shared it with the AIFA who sent it to the conference State Regions to be verified and approved.

Finally in this last year, many members have been involved in Centennial activities: scarf competition, centennial book, slideshow for centennial celebration, proposals and posters. For this reason the participation of Italian members in the centenary congress will be numerous.

NORTH AMERICAN REGION

Padmini Murthy, USA

1.List of the national associations and individual members in your region with the names and emails of the Presidents and the National Coordinators

1. American Medical Women's Association
2. Federal of Medical Women of Canada
3. President AMWA- Dr. Roberta Gebhart
4. National coordinator- Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber
5. 4. President FMWC- Dr. Kathee Andrews
6. National coordinator- Dr Vivian Brown

2.Names and emails of those from your region who are serving on MWIA Committees.

1. Dr Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber
2. Dr. Connie Newman
3. Dr. Amanda Xi
4. Dr Eliza Chin
5. Dr. Beth Abramson
6. Dr. Belinda Lategan
7. Dr Karen Breeck
8. Dr Mary Ellen
9. Dr Yinan Florrie Zhu
10. Dr Roberta Gebhart

3.Activities in your region including meetings, regional congresses including those planned for the remainder of the triennium, issues that have arisen

1. USA- AMWA Interim meeting March 29th – 31st Washington DC
2. Canada- FMWC- Annual meeting Sept 20-22 – Ottawa
3. USA- MWIA centenary meeting July 25-28, New York City

Issues : challenges with the upcoming centenary meeting , finances- no commitments so far from international funders, and visa procurement may affect international attendance at the centennial . Unfortunately visa denials as indicated by the members and we cannot address these.

Liaisons with other organizations, including WHO, UN, medical associations, etc.

1. Liaisons with other organizations, including WHO, UN, medical associations, etc.

USA-

1. American College of Physicians
2. American Women's Hospital Services
3. Drexel University
4. iGiant
5. Patient Advocacy translation Collaboration

Canada-

1. North American Menopause Association
2. Medical Council of Canada
3. Ontario Medical Association
4. .Medical Women of Canada Foundation

2. Meetings you have attended on behalf of MWIA and suggested resolutions arising from these meetings for the Centennial Congress in 2019 in New York City.

1. The United Nations General Assembly, New York Sept 2018
2. American Public Health Association Annual meeting, San Diego Nov 2018
3. The UN CSW meeting 2018 March 2019
4. Attended DPI briefings representing MWIA since 2017- present regularly
5. Attended NGOCSWNY Exco meetings, CSW planning meetings, NGOPI Exco committee meetings since 2018- present as member
6. Health Literacy Conference and Global health Forum Taiwan Nov 2018
7. Attending meetings as Co chair of Press and Media for upcoming DGC UN NGO conference

6. What has been done in your region regarding the triennial theme of "MEDICAL WOMEN: AMBASSADORS OF CHANGE"

American Medical Women's Association and Federation of Medical women of Canada have been organizing various activities and implementing initiatives which highlight the triennial theme.

Some of the initiatives / activities launched by

American Medical Women's Association are

1. Diversity and Inclusion
2. Gender Equity Task Force.
3. Gender and Equity Task force.
4. Human Trafficking

2017 Canada March

The Federation of Medical Women of Canada sent out a reminder to their membership that their daily goals are: • be a unified public voice for women physicians by better representing you; • promote your interests within medical organizations and the government; • influence health care policies pertaining to women and the general population; • aide and encourage ongoing education and career advancement of female medical students, residents and

physicians by sharing opportunities The Federation has stepped up its advocacy role with statements on a variety of topics such as women's reproductive health as a human right and the recent federal budget addressing women's health. The link is <https://fmwc.ca/advocacy/>. FMWC has endorsed

United States of America March

In January, 2017 American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) members participated in the women's march which was organized across the country. In January, 2017 AMWA received the 2016 iGiant Champion Award in recognition of the support and dedication to the mission of iGiant in accelerating the translation of gender into gender/sex specific design elements. 11 AMWA co-sponsored the screening of a movie, *The Girl in White*, which was based on the life of Dr. Emily Dunning-Barringer, who was New York's first ambulance surgeon and later President of AMWA. AMWA designed and distributed a survey on endometriosis as an initiative to address women's health in Feb 2017. AMWA was represented by Dr. Eliza Chin, Executive Director of AMWA, during a meeting with the Dean of the Harvard School of Public Health to discuss key issues and challenges in Public Health in February, 2017. AMWA members Drs. Roberta Gebhard and Eliza Chin participated in the Commission on the Status of Women held at the United Nations in March, 2017. Dr Padmini Murthy was invited to give a talk at the New York Medical College about Gender Based Violence and the role of women physicians to commemorate the exhibit about GBV from the US National Library of Medicine in March, 2017.

June

In April AMWA partnered with Region VIII Federal partners to organize the 2017 Webinar Series under the National Prevention Strategy: Health Across the Life Span series. A webinar on Tobacco Free Living was organized on April 20, 2017, which was well attended. AMWA also co-sponsored lecture series *From Farmer's Daughter to Physician: The Advocacy, Activism and Legacy of Dr. Mary Bennett Ritter and her Contemporaries* on April 25 at the Countway Library of Medicine, Harvard School of Medicine. On May 3, AMWA co-sponsored Diabetes Heart Connection Event in Sacramento with Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease (PFCD). This took place at the State Capitol in Sacramento. On May 10th, AMWA partnered with Emmy-nominated filmmaker, Tiffany Shlain, on 50/50 Day to promote a global conversation about gender equality in which MWIA participated. AMWA members, Dr. Connie Newman, President-elect of AMWA, Dr. Karen Poirier-Brode and Dr. Padmini Murthy attend the Medical Women's Federation Centennial Celebration in London. In June, AMWA co sponsored the Women's Health Care Innovation and Leadership showcase conference with Healthcare Business Women Association, Johnson and Johnson and Rutgers University at Rutgers Piscataway campus. Drs Connie Newman, Satty Gill Keswani and Eliza Chin attend the meeting, representing AMWA and MWIA.

September

Canada

The annual conference of FMWC was held from September 15-17 in Ottawa. The theme of the Conference was Women's Health and Well-Being: Connected, Compassionate and Courageous. There were 170 in attendance. As part of the meeting, there was a march on Parliament Hill to protest against the proposed Liberal tax reform on private corporations. Check out this you tube 8 link for messaging from MWIA's Secretary General:

[m.youtube.com/watch?v=oOvIU2QcWhY&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oOvIU2QcWhY&feature=youtu.be)

The Federation under the leadership of Dr. Vivien Brown is launching the inaugural HPV Prevention week, beginning October 1st. The plan is to spread this to all MWIA associations

as an annual event. The link to the information on the website is <https://fmwc.ca/hpv-preventionweek-2017/> The hashtag is #CANADAvsHPV. Due to ongoing lobbying by the Federation, British Columbia has become the latest province to provide the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination to boys, as part of B.C.'s publicly funded immunization program. In addition to the new HPV Awareness week, October 16-20, 2017, is the annual cervical cancer awareness week when clinics are encouraged to sign up to hold a Pap test clinic

United States

July: AMWA partnered with Green Science Policy to offer online webinars on six classes of chemicals of concern to educate physicians. 11 August: AMWA board members, MWIA NGO representatives to UN were working on finalizing the venue and details of the upcoming MWIA Centennial Congress to be held in NYC in 2019. September: AMWA hosted a webinar: "On how to position yourself as a physician leader" which was well received by the membership. The AMWA interim meeting was held on Sept 15- 17 in Kansas City and there was a special event honouring women physicians in World War 1. The meeting was well attended by physicians, medical students and residents. AMWA is a cosponsor of the 8th Biennial National Conference on Health and Domestic violence in San Francisco. AMWA is also a co-sponsor of the Gender Divide in Health Care Professions (2nd Annual women in science and health care symposium) at the Rosalind Franklin School of Medicine in Chicago

December

Canada

The Federation has become an organization member of the Women Peace and Security Network. Dr. Nahid Azad will act as the liaison and an interest group will be formed. Dr. Kathee Andrews (2018 AGM Planning Committee Chair) has kindly agreed to a "Women and Peace Talk" at the AGM. Dr. Azad's interest group, in consultation with Dr. Andrew's, will find the speaker/topic. This will be a regular feature at the annual convention. Dr Vivien Brown, past president of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada reported that for the first time in history, Canada led the world in declaring a national HPV Prevention Week, to be held the first week of October of every year. The launch of this HPV Prevention Week was announced at Parliament on May 30, 2017 and was unanimously supported by all parties. For this inaugural year, HPV Prevention week was held on October 1-7, 2017. 13 The HPV Prevention week provided an open forum for public dialogue amongst Canadians on the prevention of HPV-related diseases and cancers. Events for the week were designed to increase awareness of an infection that is estimated to affect as many as 75% of sexually active men and women in their lifetime, and can cause genital warts and up to 6 different types of cancer (i.e. Oropharyngeal, Penile, Anal, Vaginal, Cervical, and Vulvar). The Federation of Medical Women of Canada (FMWC) spearheaded this initiative and collaborated with various stakeholders, organizations, politicians and partners, to develop a joint effort for this inaugural week. We reached out both nationally and locally via media outreach campaigns (i.e. YouTube, Twitter), webinars, traditional in-office posters, as well as educational programs to align both health care professionals and the public with information. This was a huge success with many other organizations participating, including the MWIA. Plans are underway for 2018. Join the fight #HPVPV2018. And while we used #CANADAvsHPV, you can lead in your country too!! For information on how to do this, please contact fmwcmain@fmwc.ca.

Poster for #CANADAvsHPV



United States of America

Dr. Eliza Chin, Executive Director of AMWA, writes that in 2014, I read in the MWIA newsletter about the Australian Federation of Medical Women and their work to commemorate Australian women physicians who served in WWI. Thus began the work of the American Medical Women's Association to do the same. In 2016, we launched our exhibition, Women Physicians in World War I (amwa-doc.org/wwi-exhibition) which has continued to grow with 17 additional materials being added every month. We have a section for women physicians from other countries and are happy to include information about your WWI history if you send it to us. In 2017, we have been celebrating the centennial of the American Women's Hospitals Service, AMWA's group which did serve in France during the war. To that end, we have partnered with Raw Science Foundation on a short documentary (running time 15 minutes) about women physicians in the WWI. The film premiered at the French Embassy in Washington, DC last week. Please enjoy the film here: <https://app.frame.io/f/keFvZcD1> If you are interested in having the film captioned in your language, we can send you the text for translation. Please contact me at your earliest convenience. Dr. Chin also wants to remind you that not only is AMWA organizing the 2019 Centennial Congress, but they are also organizing the MWIA North America Regional Meeting. This will be held March 22-25, 2018, in Philadelphia, PA, and will include a special visit to the AMWA and MWIA archives. Please register at amwa-doc.org/amwa103. Dr. Murthy, VP for North America goes on to report on AMWA activities: On September 12 at 12:00 p.m. Central time, the AMA hosted a webinar "How to Position Yourself as a Physician Leader" (1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™), a timely and empowering webinar for women physicians. September 15-17 AMWA interim meeting was held in Kansas City September 26-28th 8th Biennial national conference on health and domestic violence was held in San Francisco and AMWA was a sponsor of this event On October 4-7 The 12th annual cardio metabolic conference with AMWA as co sponsor was held in Chicago October 4 Impacts of Sexual Harassment in Academia held an information gathering meeting in Cambridge, MA and AMWA was a co-sponsor October 12- 20- Bone action week was observed by AMWA On November 6th AMWA film At Home and Over There: American

Women Physicians in World War 1 premiered at the French Embassy in Washington DC We look forward to celebrating the MWIA centennial with you in 2019.

2018 March

Canada

Dr. Vivien Brown, Chair of the HPV Prevention Week Committee writes: Join us in fighting HPV – An invitation from the FMWC to fellow MWIA members Canada is the first country in the world to have created a week dedicated to HPV Prevention and Education. It was celebrated and promoted across our country from October 1-7, 2017. And now we are gearing up and preparing for our 2018 week with our website, our hashtag for social media, #HPVPW2018 and #CANADAvsHPV. The goal of the week was to foster collaboration with government, with the public health authority, with other interested organizations, with industry and with patient groups. To succeed we all need to work together, educating the public, the patients, the parents and each other. We, in Canada, invite you to use our information, take advantage of the work we have done thus far, link to our website and start your country's HPVPW 2018 week. Maybe your hashtag will be #AUSTRALIAvsHPV or #NIGERIAvsHPV. Join us, work with us, and let MWIA lead the way to the WHO so that we can truly eliminate HPV and the killer of women, cervical cancer. For more information, please visit our website <https://fmwc.ca/hpv-prevention-week-2017/> or email us at fmwcmain@fmwc.ca. The Federation has developed a partnership with Canada's Women Peace and Security Network (<https://wpsn-canada.org/>). They recently attended the Vancouver Women's Forum on Peace and Security on the Korean Peninsula. <https://www.womencrossdmz.org/vancouver/> 13 FMWC is planning the 2018 AGM in Toronto, September 21-23, where the theme is Women Physicians: Making a World of Difference. To assure a constant healthy growth, the FMWC is constantly evaluating and attending to its members' needs as well as working on strategies and new partnership that allow for the reach of new potential members. FMWC is gathering followers on our social media platforms, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn; and has launched our blog, WoMED in 2018.

June

The Federation of Medical Women of Canada is gearing up for the second year of CANADA vs HPV. The week will start with a call to action with an event on Parliament Hill October 1st and carry on with media events across the country. There are many partners including the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada. Following on the success of last year's HPV Prevention Week, Dr. Vivien Brown wrote an article in the March Update to share Canada's material. The American Medical Women have embraced this invitation and are having their USA vs HPV week beginning January 22nd. A week of webinars is planned that can be shared internationally. 12 The Federation also has a Peace and Security Committee as the Federation became a corporate member of the Canada Peace and Security Network. The Federation is offering conjoint membership with the Women in Medicine group who are focusing on women physician wellness. The Federation is pleased to announce that AMWA and its partners are joining in HPV Prevention Week as USAvsHPV, theirs to be held in January.

September

The Federation of Medical Women of Canada held a most successful annual general meeting and educational session at the Intercontinental Toronto Yorkville Hotel. Entitled, "Women Physicians: Making a World of Difference—Taking care of ourselves, those close to home

and the world around us.” From humanitarian medicine through infertility to nutrition and brain health, there 14 were a number of excellent speakers. The gala was held at the Bata Shoe Museum and could you think of a better place for women physicians than being surrounded by shoes! Many attendees battled the aftermath of the tornado in Ottawa to make their way to Toronto for the meeting. Dr. Bev Johnson handed over the presidency to Dr. Kathee Andrews of Toronto. We were delighted to have the President and President-elect of the American Medical Women’s Association in attendance, Dr. Connie Newman and Dr. Roberta Gebhard #CANADAvsHPV begins October 1st with a launch and call to action on Parliament Hill. This is the second annual HPV Awareness Week. You will recall in an earlier newsletter that Dr. Vivien Brown, chair of the HPV Awareness Week Campaign, issued an invitation to all national associations to join Canada and feel free to use their materials as women doctors make the public aware of HPV disease, its detection and prevention



Left to right: Drs. Connie Newman, Bev Johnson, Roberta Gebhard, Shelley Ross, Vivien Brown

December

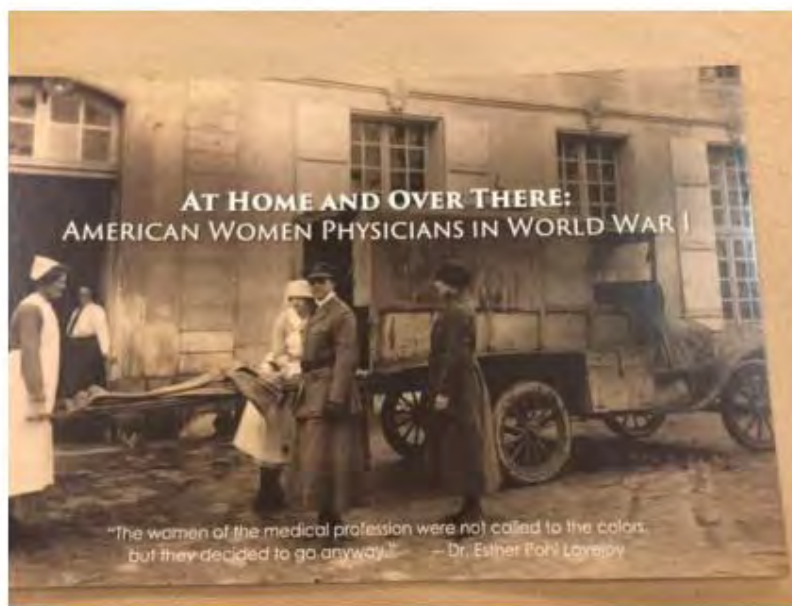
The Gender Equity and Diversity Committee of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada wrote the following article to the Medical Post newspaper. <http://www.canadianhealthcarenetwork.ca/physicians/discussions/forced-and-coercedsterilization-is-a-violent-violation-of-human-rights-54786> Dr. Beverly Johnson, past president of FMWC, attended the Near East and Africa Regional Meeting of MWIA in Nairobi. MWIA Update Text – HPV PW The second annual HPV Prevention Week in Canada took place October 1-7, 2018. Led by the Federation of Medical Women of Canada in collaboration with the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada (SOGC) the week harnessed the power of social media to reach Canadians about HPV and how to protect themselves against infection. The week began with a kick off event on Canada’s Parliament Hill led by Dr. Brown of the FMWC and Dr. Blake of the SOGC. They were joined by a patient speaker and parliamentarians, making HPV a National Event. A new website was created with materials and resources for anyone interested in learning more about HPV and its prevention. The materials are found at www.canadavshpv.ca and we’re happy to share anything possible with any MWIA members interested in learning more, or even starting their own initiatives

United States

March

The American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) supported the Afghanistan Girls Robotics Team who last year made international news last year when their visas were denied, then later granted. They have won awards at robotics competitions in the U.S. and Europe.

The team was hosted by Eliza Chin, MD and AMWA members in the San Francisco area. The local event had 100 attendees with robotics teams and scouts where AMWA was featured as the host. The AMWA 103rd Annual Meeting and MWIA North America Regional Congress “Women Igniting Change” took place in Philadelphia PA, March 22-25, 2018. It was a successful and well-attended meeting and had several sessions and workshops on current medical issues. MWIA leaders, Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer, President, Dr Shelley Ross, Secretary General, Dr. Clarissa Fabre, President-elect and NGO rep to WHO, Dr. Padmini Murthy, VP North America and UN NGO rep to UN, participated in the meeting and spoke at various sessions. Dr Beverly Johnson, President of FMWC, and Dr Vivien Brown, Past-President, participated and spoke at the meeting. AMWA is again partnering for the Sex and Gender Health Education Summit: April 8-10, 2018, at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT. 18 The Advocacy Committee has been very busy this year working to ensure that women’s health services continue to be a covered entity. The committee encourages members to supports the Women’s March Anniversary and many will be participating in their own cities. The gala at the North American Regional Meeting of MWIA gave attendees a chance for a viewing of AMWA’s film on American Women Physician in World War I.



June

United States of America April - American Medical Women’s Association, Laura W. Bush Institute for Women’s Health, Mayo Clinic, and the University of Utah co-hosted the 2018 Sex and Gender Health Education Summit: Advancing Curricula through a Multidisciplinary Lens, held at the University of Utah. sghesummit2018.com Sign up to view the program webcast here: <https://form.jotform.com/80990740166158>. Join the Sex and Gender Health Collaborative: amwa-doc.org/sghc.2 AMWA hosted a Mentorship Webinar: Leading Through Change: Being Decisively Collaborative. Dr. Connie Newman, AMWA President, attended the MWIA regional conference in Italy. Dr. Padmini Murthy, MWIA VP North America, presented at the Women’s Economic Forum in New Delhi, India. AMWA Participates in Climate & Health Solutions for Our Future Conference <http://ms2ch.org/live-stream/> May - AMWA organized a presentation on Human Trafficking: A Call to Action for Health Care

Professionals in Florida which was well attended. Presenters included Dr. Suzanne Harrison, AMWA past president. AMWA Participated in a Blockchain and AI Innovation Venture Summit on May 18, 2018 hosted by One Traction. AMWA Executive Director, Dr. Eliza Chin participated on the HealthTech Disruption Panel. AMWA recognized over 482 women graduates with the Rubin Glasgow award. This award is given to the women medical students who graduated in the top 10% of their class from medical schools across the country. June - AMWA members will be presenters at the 2018 Own the Bone Fragility Fracture Symposium and Workshop organized by the American Orthopedic Association in Boston. Dr. Padmini Murthy attended a conference in Taiwan and she met the members of the Taiwanese medical association and conveyed her greetings and extended a personal invitation on behalf of AMWA and MWIA to attend the upcoming MWIA centennial in New York in July 2019. AMWA leaders continue to speak out against gun violence. AMWA Leaders Contribute to Society of Women's Health Research (SWHR) Paper: Understanding the Impact of Sex and Gender in Alzheimer's Disease: A Call to Action 13 The local organizing committee of AMWA members are working on the upcoming MWIA centennial. Advocacy efforts of AMWA from April- June 2018 April 3, 2018 – AMWA signs onto letter supporting FY19 funding of the Title V Maternal and Child (MCH) Services Block Grant April 18, 2018 – AMWA signs onto letter supporting legislation that would help address the substance use disorder (SUD) treatment workforce shortage April 24, 2018 – AMWA signs onto letters to the House and Senate supporting inclusion of sufficient funding for Alzheimer’s Disease research and programs in Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) appropriation bills April 25, 2018 – AMWA signs onto letter thanking Rep Peters (Peters Letter) for co-sponsoring the 340B PAUSE Act and letters encouraging his colleagues Rep Paul Ruiz (Ruiz Letter), Rep. Mimi Walters (Walters Letter) and Rep. Tony Cardenas (Cardenas Letter) to co-sponsor this legislation May 23, 2018 – AMWA signs onto letter supporting H.R.3378, the Ensuring Access to Air Ambulance Services Act May 25, 2018 – AMWA Opposes Proposed Rule on Title X Funding June 14, 2018 – AMWA joined other LEAD Coalition member organizations who signed onto letters to Congress in support of the Concentrating on High-Value Alzheimer’s Needs to Get to an End (CHANGE) Act. [S. 2387 | Senate Letter | H.R.4957 | House Letter] June 14, 2018 – AMWA Sends Letter of Support for AB 2601 that requires sex education in charter schools in California June 25, 2018 - AMWA Writes Letter Denouncing Policy of Separation of Children From their Families at Southern Border.

September

The American Women Physicians in World War I was screened at the American Library in Paris on September 5th . Dr Murthy VP MWIA represented AMWA at the CARC Congress in Bangkok from September 6 – 8th 2018. The AMWA Interim Leadership meeting was held on September 15th and 16th at the home of Berta Van Hoosen, founder of AMWA in Michigan. Dr. Connie Newman President of AMWA and Dr Roberta Gebhard President elect of AMWA attended the annual meeting of the Federation of Medical Women on Canada on September 21st - 23rd in Toronto Canada. AMWA with its partners - medical students, physicians, and community partners - is throwing a first ever “VOTEKIDS” concert in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Learn what you can do to protect children from gun violence and other public health on September 30th . The local organizing committee of AMWA is working on the upcoming centennial congress in New York City in July 2019. The web site of the congress is being updated frequently as information is updated. Registration for the Congress and the hotel is open. The sub committees of the LOC are coordinating the various aspects of the logistics and organization for the upcoming congress. The LOC is working on fund raising and outreach for the conference.

December

The American Medical Women have been active this quarter. October 2018 AMWA members actively participated in A Road for the Cure Foundation's 4th annual fundraising gala: Arabian Nights at Fort Lauderdale Florida to raise awareness for childhood cancers on October 4th AMWA IUSM at Bloomington hosted a Women in Medicine night with the IUSM students and the AMWA premed IU Bloomington group in October 2018. November 2018 AMWA co hosted the first summit on Artificial Intelligence at San Francisco on November 8th and 9th which was well attended December 2018 Dr. Kanani Titchen, Co-Chair of AMWA-PATH, participated in the HHS Health and Human Trafficking Symposium on November 28-29 th in Washington, D.C on December 2nd AMWA is busy organizing the upcoming MWIA Centenary Congress in New York City in July 2019 The American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) presents a CME program on Myalgic Encephalopathy (Chronic Fatigue) through the award-winning, critically acclaimed film Unrest. VIEW THE FILM AND GET FREE CME HERE: amwa-doc.org/unrest The team from American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) and Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer (GIAHC) and Indiana University is excited to host its very first USvsHPV Webinar Series, January 22 – 28, 2019. Learn more with this series of five, onehour on-line, recorded and free webinars intended for anyone interested in the various aspects of HPV-related disease and HPV prevention, including HPV vaccination. Please register at https://iu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dIZtThsMQ0OX0aGh9wWxvQ

2019 March Canada

The Federation of Medical Women of Canada is planning the North American Regional Meeting for the next triennium. It will be a Mediterranean cruise aboard the Celebrity line. The topic will be Women's Health: Aging Well. The dates are August 17-28, 2020. Further information will follow so keep checking the website www.fmwc.ca. The Federation has a number of active committees including HPV, Gender Equity and Diversity and Women Peace and Security, all under the auspices of the Federation's President, Dr. Kathee Andrews. Dr. Bev Johnson, a past president of the Federation chairs the Gender Equity and Diversity Committee and included this article in the recent Federation newsletter. <https://fmwc.ca/perception-and-use-of-contraceptives-among-kenyan-youth/> Ms. Darby Little, University of Toronto class of 2021, was the first winner of the Gender Equity and Diversity Essay contest. You can read her essay on Locker Room Talk.

June

The FMWC held a [Wellness Challenge](#) to promote overall health and resiliency for women physicians. Our hope was to encourage the importance of taking time for oneself, for one's well-being and health and to promote the notion that this act can take many forms. The annual meeting is scheduled for September 20-22, 2019 at the Ottawa Art Gallery. The Federation is hosting the North American Regional Meeting August 17-28, 2020 onboard a cruise of the Mediterranean. Visit <https://fmwc.ca/events/mwia-north-american-event-2020-mediterranean-cruise/>

United States March

In January, AMWA celebrated the HPV Prevention week with a series of on-line webinars hosted by American Medical Women's Association and Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical cancer, following the lead by the Federation of Medical Women of Canada. The list can be found at http://www.giahc.org/assets/cms/uploads/UsvsHPV_agenda.pdf. The Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) is one of the coalition supporters! AMWA also

hosted a Webinar about Negotiating Physician Employment Agreements. On February 7th, AMWA leaders, Dr. Connie Newman, Dr. Roberta Gebhard, Dr. Kim Templeton and Dr. Eliza Chin met with Surgeon General VADM Jerome Adams to discuss the Surgeon General's work on the opioid epidemic and AMWA's interest in that area with respect to opioid use in women. AMWA will work to disseminate information and educational resources put out by the Surgeon General's office on this public health crisis. The 2019 Region 5 AMWA conference was held February 15-16 at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. March 1st, marked the official launch of TIME'S UP Healthcare at the New York Academy of Medicine, a program which opened with Dr. Esther Choo's proclamation, "Today, time's up in healthcare." AMWA is a founding member and was represented by AMWA physician and student leaders. AMWA was well represented along with its other MWIA colleagues at the Commission on the Status of Women in New York. Drs. Satty Gill Keswani and Padmini Murthy received Notre Dame School of Medicine CSW Awards. The local organizing committee is working full out to provide an exceptional experience at the MWIA Centennial Congress. Dr Robert Gebhard was installed as president of AMWA at Interim meeting in Washington DC on March 30th 2019.

AMWA leaders at the launch of the Timesup Health care movement oot New York Academy of Medicine



June

In April AMWA partnered with world care congress for the 16th annual congress in Washington DC. The AMWA travelling exhibition on World War II is being hosted at different venues in the USA. In April Dr Roberta Gebhard took over as President of AMWA from Dr Connie Newman and Dr Nicole Sandhu is President Elect. Dr Sharon Barista is treasurer and Dr Lunda Kabbash as Secretary. The AMWA board, members of local organizing committee are busy with preparations for the upcoming Centenary Congress in July 2019.

7. What have you contributed to date to MWIA projects?

1. Working on increasing MWIAs visibility at the United nations and a member of the newly launched mentoring program for new NGOs by the UN Department Global

Communication.(DGC) Written quadrennial and annual reports submitted for maintaining accreditation of MWIA with the ECCOSOC and DGC.

2. Continue Working with Zonta International who is a partner of MWIA's safe motherhood project by sending birthing kits to women in low income countries.
3. Working as co chair of communications and social media committee, have created a what sap group for members to communicate and also members of the executive committee. I post pictures and updates about work I do on behalf on MWIA at the UN on facebook and twitter
4. Working as member of LOC AMWA on the upcoming centennial congress in NYC.
5. Discussed with finalized vendor for supplying of Congress commemorative scarf.
6. Personal financial commitment in memory of my parents for the Congress
7. Working with UN agencies and missions to organize a program during Congress at United Nations
8. Worked to increase individual membership in the organization

8. Your plans for the coming year and any other comments you wish to make

1. Continue to work And represent MWIA at various events I am invited to .
2. Continue working with my AMWA colleagues as member of LOC the upcoming 100th birthday of MWIA which AMWA is hosting in NYC.

LATIN AMERICAN REGION
Marte Maite Sevallano, Brazil

2016 was presented to me as a unique opportunity to get along with colleagues from all over the world, to get to know their cultures and professional status, and to feel that, despite distance in miles, we are very close to aspirations, problems and solutions.

At the same time that the work of bringing MWIA's statute to present needs, celebrating the centennial with its congress in New York, and taking to Latin American colleagues the steps of the celebration like collaborating with the book of the centenary, exchanging recipes between countries, a competition for scarf that will represent the centenary, promoting a true integration since despite the geographical and language differences we all have one common goal: to defend the rights of women and women doctors.

Motivated by the celebration of the centenary Latin America will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Pan American Association of Medical Women in 2021, which will leave us more united.

Latin America is going through difficult times, where doctors, because they do not take a political party other than patients, have been put to the test and in the front line even of murders, I am honored by MWIA to have expressed in favor of the colleagues of the Nicaragua.

We are working so that in the next 2 years we can bring colleagues to internship in Brazil, the exchange will strengthen the ties of the associations of the Latin American countries, where I am honored to have reached contact with countries that were far from the MWIA and maintained information exchange and thus we will have delegations from several countries celebrating the centenary.

Apart from this, the experience of having participated in the congresses of women doctors in England and Thailand, exchanging experiences among colleagues and getting to know the assistential work of the two monarchies that are patron of these associations was very enriching personally.

Through the MWIA I had the opportunity to be presented to various international entities in various fields: medicine and healthcare, it was a management that has focused on expanding both our horizons and our visibility as a centennial international institution.

I am grateful to the colleagues of the executive - Bettina, Clarissa, Park, Shelley, Tuula, Gail, Mabel, Pya, Cissy, Mini and Antonella for the encouragement that changed my personal life, including electing a Member in my country and all the colleagues who occupy in my heart an important space that with their words, affection and support no doubt have made me a better human being.

I can not fail to finish my narrative with the greatest gift I received from MWIA, the opportunity to talk and exchange experiences with future colleagues and I received a message from a medical student I met as a VP of MWIA in Thailand: “ I am writing this to let you know that your words on taking a leadership role in your current affairs in order to make meaningful changes, have inspired me greatly to take part in my own university's recent election, and won with the highest vote count, making me the president of student board.”

Thank you so much.

CENTRAL ASIA REGION Piyaneetr Sukhu, Thailand

Thailand

Election of the new committee (October 2018- October 2020)

Major General Dr. Jantra Chennavasin , President of TMWA , jantramd@yahoo.com

Dr. Khun Swanya DejUdom , Vice President # 1, swanyad@yahoo.com

Dr. Siraporn Sawasdivorn , Vice President #2, alternate national coordinator,
sirapornbellagio@gmail.com

Dr. Mayura Kusum , Secretary General , mayurasakol@gmail.com

Dr. Darunee Buddhari, national coordinator , daruneet@gmail.com

Activities :

1) 8th Central Asia Regional Congress : date September 6-8, 2018 ;

Theme : “ Women’s Well- being : A Global Perspective “

The congress was very successful with total of 232 registrants, and many are from various countries e.g. 2 from India, 2 from Japan , 2 from Taiwan , 9 from Myanmar , 2 from UK , 1 from Italy, 1 from USA, 1 from Georgia , 1 from Finland , 4 from Canada , etc.

We are also pleased to have MWIA executive meeting here also.

Regional business meeting was held and congratulated to Dr. Mandakini Megh who will be new Vice President of Central Asia starting July 2019.

Dr. Megh is particularly interested in domestic violence in the region.



2) UN Public Service Award year 2018 :

It's truly a great honor that the Thai Medical Women , Professor Emeritus Dr. Khunying Kobchitt Limpaphayom received 2018 United Nation Public Service Award for inventing simple techniques to diagnose and treat cervical cancer suitable for women in the rural area.



3) First medical woman to be the President of Medical Council of Thailand. Evidences of gender inequalities do exist in Thailand . For the past 51 years that Medical Council of Thailand was founded, Professor Emeritus Dr. Somsri Pausawasdi has been elected to become the first female President of Medical Council of Thailand year 2019 -2021. She was also the first female President of the Medical Association of Thailand after 97 years that the Association has been founded.



4) Female medical students' scholarship :

TMWA' s medical student' s scholarship program was initiated by Dr. George Curuby in year 2005 at which assisting female medical students from rural area . Dr. Curuby has been providing his own fund together with fund from Dr. Jason Roussos's heritage and also from many Thai philanthropists. At present , total of 84 students, 27 were graduated , all but one are working in the rural area ,the rest are still studying.



5) Prevention of unsafe abortion : (UNSDG #3 maternal good health and well-being)
TMWA has launched “ Teenage Pregnancy Initiative Project “ since year 2016. Our mission is to provide public service focusing on women’s health , this project aims to promote and support the government agencies in solving and preventing the teenage pregnancy. Currently, “Teenage Pregnancy “is one of the most important maternal - childhood problems of Thailand and often relating to the unsafe abortion. TMWA implemented setting up a national policy and strategy , initiated collaboration among medical providers, schools and social service providers to work closely with the community. In this project we summarized the national data and analyzed the cause of the problems . We highlighted Nakorn Sawan province located in the lower northern region of Thailand as our first location to start. What we found as the first tackle is to give a thorough understanding and knowledge about sexuality education to parents and teachers. So they can raise and give better education to teenagers under their care. We hope this will be the first defender of “ Teenage Pregnancy “ problem and help to prevent unsafe abortion in the future.



6) Leadership training program:

Three years ago , leadership training program for medical women was started, and already trained 2 groups and now we are enrolling the third class with approximately 45 attendees. This program is free of charge which was initiated by Dr. Chamaree Chuapetcharasopon , past VP Central Asia .

The purpose of this program is to train female leaders , empower women and minimize

gender inequalities.(UNSDG #5)



7) Providing cervical cancer and breast cancer screenings :

TMWA provides cancer screenings for women free of charge at our office 2 days a month by volunteers medical personnel and also women prisoners couple times a year.

In 2017 , total numbers of inside outside examined were 2113 with 3.3 % abnormality for cervical and 2.2 % abnormality for breast cancer screenings.

8) Promoting public education :

a) Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation training program:

By collaborating with The Heart Foundation of Thailand Under the Patronage of His Royal Majesty King Rama IX , we provide CPR training to general public. Public awareness about CPR . It is beneficial when perform within the first initial 6 minutes which is very crucial to save life and prevent brain damage.

Last year we trained CPR to 306 people .



b) Thai Food Good Heart Program :

To teach young children at elementary, junior high and high school level how to choose healthy diet to prevent non-communicable diseases (NCD) and cardiovascular diseases.

Last year we taught 891 students at various schools

9) Promoting Education to rural medical personnel :
“ Traveling Lecturer Program “

Last year 2017- 2018, TMWA sponsored lecture programs at Ranong Hospital and Trang Hospital . The topics are selected according to the request from rural hospital medical personnel. At Ranong Hospital on 18 November 2017; topics were Community Acquired Bacterial Sepsis, Stress Management, and Adjusting Body Alignment by “Maneevej Method“. The programs were well accepted with 100 attendees.

Second lecture at Trang Hospital on February 8, 2018 , with 247 attendees and the topics were anti-aging , living will and palliative care for terminally ill patients.

Third lecture this year 2019 at Chainat Narinthon Hospital on March 15, with topics Palliative Care in Children and The Art of Conflict “ How to Handle “



10) Awarding role model and outstanding female medical women :

Role Model Female Medical Woman Award year 2018 to Dr. Khun Ananda Nisalak ,
Professor Emeritus Major General Dr. Tip Sripaisarn, and Dr. Amara Malila .

Outstanding Female Medical Woman Award year 2018 to Dr. Phanpimol Vipulakorn and Dr.
Napat Paepol.



11) Senior citizen program:

TMWA supports health and well-being of senior part of UNSDG # 3 , there are 320 elderly

female in the program . Two half days a week of meetings for activities from religious practices, meditation, karaoke singing, exercise dancing, handicrafts makings , etc.



India

Dr. Mandakini Megh , V P Central Asia 2019-2022 ; drmandakinimegh@gmail.com

Dr. Vandana Walvekar, President of AMWI ; vandanaWalvekar723@gmail.com

Dr. Nalini Kurvey m National Coordinator ;

nalini kurvey@rediffmail.com

Dr. Usha Saraiya ,Past VP Central Asia

ushasaraiya@hotmail.com

TMWA 's office next to Gateway Center welcomed visiting of 3 ophthalmologists from India on March 3,2019 : Dr. Kakali Sen, Dr. Anushka Sharma and Dr. Suvidha Mahar.



On September 6-8 ,2019 , Dr. Usha Saraiya, past VP of Central Asia and Dr. Mandakini Megh, future V P of Central Asia , both came to attend our regional congress. Dr. Mandakini has special interest in domestic violence and she was one of our speakers

Theme of the Triennium is “**AMWI Ambassadors of Women’s Health**,” adopted from MWIA. We work along with MWIA’s theme as well as the Theme of our AMWI for this Triennium “ **Wellness beyond 45.**”

Association Of Medical Women In India (AMWI)- Every year , Golden Jubilee research Award is presented to the member below 50 years age, submitting her thesis on the research done.

AMWI Mumbai Branch conducts every year “three days course in cytology.” Around 30-35 trainees attend the course, for which they get certificates.

Cytology clinic is run by Mumbai branch every week at CAMA Hospital. Colposcopy is done after screening whenever needed.

Shirin Mehtaji Paper presentation competition is conducted every year for post graduate students.

News letter is published every year by Mumbai branch and circulated to all members.

Kolkata Branch of AMWI runs a Hospital, AMWI Mission Hospital, for women and children at Kolkata, founded by the efforts of Late Dr. Mary Catchatoor, catering the underprivileged with minimum cost both for Indoor and Outdoor patients.

Cancer detection clinic and mobile clinic in van twice a week in slum areas is ongoing project Training in Nursing for underprivileged girls is regularly carried out.

Journal is published by Kolkata branch of AMWI.

Nagpur Branch conducts scientific activities very regularly. Diagnostic and awareness camps are organised very frequently in urban as well as rural areas.

Pap smears and colposcopy are done every week in collaboration with Indian Cancer Society. Association Of Medical Women In India (AMWI) celebrates festivals and social events like Saraswati puja, Christmas day, Diwali & Idd, Holi with great fervour.

We celebrate International Women’s day with lot of scientific and social activities every year.

National Conferences

Central Asia Regional Congress of MWIA was held in Kolkata on 5th & 6th December 2015, which was attended by International delegates Dr K.A. Park and others from South Korea.

National Conference of AMWI was held in Nagpur on 15th & 16th December 2016. Two days multidisciplinary medical specialities Orations, lectures, paper presentations, panel discussions, symposia, debates & quiz sessions were held. Very active and interesting participation from audience took place. Cultural night on 15th December was relaxing and entertaining.

National Conference of AMWI for 2017 was held at Mumbai on 16th & 17 December 2017 at Krishna Palace Hotel, Mumbai. MWIA International President, Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer from Germany and International Vice President, Dr. Padmini Murthy from USA attended the conference. For two days, 5 Orations, 4 Plenary sessions, 3 Guest lectures, were delivered by 10 guest speakers. All subjects were covered, including Yoga, Bones & Us, Violence against women, Palliative care, Ovarian tumours, Diabetes, Disorders of Sexual development, Vaccination in women, awareness of Cancer Cervix, antenatal care and Diet in gut dysfunction. 27 papers were presented by post graduate students.

AMWI National conference was held on 16-17th November 2018 at Kolkata. Theme of the conference was “ Women’s Health – Everyone Everywhere.” Scientific program included - Free Papers, Mixed bag of lectures on various disciplines of medicine, guest lectures, symposia, Orations, Panel discussion on Male Infertility, Symposia on Breast cancer, Panel discussion on menopause and various topics. Cultural evening was well crafted and enjoyed by all.

NEAR EAST AND AFRICA REGION
Mabel Aboah, Ghana

National and Regional Meetings of Near East and Africa

- Medical Woman Association of Ghana AGM: *Oct. 2016 (Accra, Ghana)*
- Medical Woman Association of Ghana AGM: *Nov. 2017 (Accra, Ghana)*
- Medical Woman Association of Nigeria AGM: *Sept. 2017 (Nigeria)*
- Medical Woman Association of Kenya AGM: *May 2018 (Nairobi, Kenya)*
- Regional Conference: Near East and Africa Region of MWIA: *Nov. 2018 (Nairobi, Kenya)*

MWIA Conferences and Meetings Attended

- 30th International Triennial Conference of MWIA: *July 2016 (Vienna, Austria)*
- Executive Committee meeting of MWIA: *July 2016 (Vienna, Austria)*
- 8th Regional meeting of Central Asia Region: *Sept. 2018 (Bangkok, Thailand)*
- Executive Committee Meeting of MWIA: *Sept. 2018 (Bangkok, Thailand)*
- Hosted and assisted in organizing the Near East and Africa Regional conference: *2018 (Nairobi, Kenya)*
- Meeting with Executive Committee member of the Cameroonian Medical Women Association- *To enquire of the state of their national association and to encourage them to be more active.*
- Meeting with Executive Committee members of Kenya Medical Women Association- *In preparation towards the Near East and Africa Regional Conference.*

Contribution to MWIA Projects

- Re-established the MWAG Well Woman Clinic: *2012 (Accra, Ghana)- been seeing to the day-to-day running since its re-establishment.*
- Involved in effective advocacy and screening program for cervical cancer in Ghana
- Supported in the establishment of the 2nd Well Women Clinic in the Northern Sector of Ghana.
- Addition of 5 more new national associations to the MWIA Near East and Africa Regional association.
- Re-instatement of a few dormant national associations into the MWIA Near East and Africa Regional Association.
- Co-moderated Domestic Violence Module workshop during Regional conference in Nairobi, Kenya-*Nov. 2018*
- (Submitted a report on it subsequently)
- Spear- heading the establishment of a permanent secretariat of the Near East and Africa Region in Abuja, Nigeria.

Other Contributions

- Helped in resolving crises concerning the non-attendant Nigerian members during the 30th Triennial Congress in Vienna- *July 2016*

Interactions and Communication with Members of the Near East and Africa Region

- Consistent e-mail communication with members in my region.
- Telephone conversations with various members in my region.
- Created a WhatsApp group for members of the region where issues concerning MWIA are discussed.
- Visited with Members in Cameroun and Kenya where we discussed concerning their national associations and the region in general.
- I have also consistently encouraged and strategized with national associations to rope in more members into the MWIA.
- I also interacted with association members in Sierra Leone, as well as sending condolence messages for the loss of their medical colleagues during the Ebola outbreak, on behalf of MWIA. I encouraged them to re-establish the association in their country and made them aware of our availability to assist them.

WESTERN PACIFIC REGION

Cissy Yu, Hong Kong

Regional meetings of Western Pacific region

The following regional meetings were held during my term:

- 2017 August Western Pacific Regional Conference held in Hong Kong, with 250 participants from 12 countries and regions attending the conference. First Western Pacific Regional Business Meeting was held
- 2018 May Second Western Pacific Regional Business Meeting was conducted via Skype

MWIA Conferences and meetings attended

The following meetings were attended:

- 2016 July The 30th International Congress of MWIA in Vienna, Austria.
I presented a talk on Work Life Balance of Medical Women.
MWIA Executive meeting
- 2017 May North Europe Regional meeting in London, United Kingdom, where a talk on Work-Life balance of medical women was presented.
- 2017 May MWIA Executive meeting in London, United Kingdom.
- 2018 April South Europe Regional Meeting in Palermo, Italy.
- 2018 September Central Asia Regional meeting in Bangkok, Thailand
- 2018 September MWIA Executive meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.
- 2018 November Near East and Africa Regional meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, where a talk on Advocacy on Women Migrants' Health in Hong Kong was presented.

2019 May Central Europe Regional meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia.

WHO and UN's CSW meetings

2017 October World Health Organization's Western Pacific Region Office meeting, in Brisbane, Australia. A report of the meeting was written to MWIA Executives.

2018 March United Nations' Commission on the Status of Women, in New York, USA, where a talk on Women Migrants' Health Issues at the NGO Forum hosted by MWIA was presented.

Communication with members of Western Pacific region

Apart from the email communication, I visited the Australian Federation of Medical Women and the MWIA members in New Zealand in November 2017. I have set up a Whatsapp chat group for members of Western Pacific region in Summer 2018. I visited the Philippines Medical Women Association in Cebu, Philippines in July 2018. I have also reconnected with the Mongolian Medical Women Association, who had sent their National Coordinator, Dr. Nergui G to attend the Central Asia Regional meeting in Bangkok, Thailand in September 2018.

Other contribution

I drafted the document **MWIA Regional Meeting Guidelines** which was adopted by the Executives as the official guidelines for regional meetings to follow.

I submitted my candidacy for the post of MWIA's Secretary General in the triennium 2019-2021. My nomination, curriculum vitae and personal statement was vetted by the Executives and I was accepted as a valid candidate. Subsequently, due to change in my career development and family situation, I was unable to continue my intense level of engagement with MWIA and I regretted that I have to withdraw my candidacy for the Secretary General post.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE Marte Maite Sevillano, Brazil

No Report

SCIENTIFIC AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE Antonella Vezzani, Chair, Italy

The work done by Bettina and Helen Goodyear, in the manual against violence against women, continued. The manual has been enriched with contents and clinical cases and represents a teaching document centered on case studies provided by many of our national associations

The manual is a door opener for advocacy, raise awareness among physicians and may be used to train physicians on every professional level: from junior to senior for example in workshops.

In 2017 an online survey was carried out to assess MWIA members' views on a variety of subjects, to determine its future priorities: job satisfaction, discrimination on grounds of gender, sexual harassment and bullying, work-related stress and burnout, information was sought on paid/unpaid maternity and parental leave were explored with a series of questions. Work-life balance emerged as the top priority, with violence against women and girls, and leadership and mentoring close behind.

In 2018 a survey on sexual harassment in the workplace with 19 questions in English; twenty semi-structured interviews were undertaken with volunteers, in English, to explore survey responses in more depth. Most participants (57.1%) strongly agreed/agreed that sexual harassment occurred in the medical workplace, with over a third reporting sexual harassment in their current work place (37.2%) and 35.2% reporting personal experiences of sexual harassment at work. Over a third had witnessed sexual harassment at work, directed most commonly at female doctors (33.1%), female medical students 29.0%, and less commonly at male medical students (6.7%) and male doctors (6.0%).

Many international organizations such as the United Nations (UN) and the World Health Organization (WHO) recommend taking sex and gender aspects in medicine into account. Gender sensitive medicine has been included in many regional and national presentations at Medical Women's meetings and, at the Centennial Congress in NY, a complete session will

be dedicated to gender-sensitive medicine. In addition two resolutions titled: “Implementation and Dissemination of a Sex and Gender Sensitive Medicine” and “gender in medicine” will be presented at the MWIA assembly in New York.

Finally, I would like to raise the question of the health care to refugee women reaching the Europe countries. It seems that once again it is women who pay the highest price: often experienced by physical and psychological trauma they do not find sanitary services able to guarantee adequate health and psychological care for them and their children. The idea is to collect the methods of health assistance of the various countries and to highlight the difficulties that doctors encounter to ensure adequate health care for refugee women.

ETHICS AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Helen Goodyear, Chair, UK

Members:	Afua Hesse	Ijeoma Anyitey-Kokor
	Amanda Owen	Laura Ferrara
	Anthonia Njoku	Letizia Gelsomini
	Augustina Badu-Preprah	Maren Schmidt
	Carole Williams	Maria Antonietta Toscana
	Catherine Duncan	Marion Okoh Owusu
	Chisa Ugboaja	Modupe Abiola
	Christiane Erley	Nnesochi Offor
	Claribel Abam	Obelebra Adebisi
	Cristina Tarabbia	Obi-Nwosu Amaka
	Coletta Mauro	Patizia Masi
	Deb Colville	Rosemary Ogu
	Dorcas Annan Nanka Bruce	Rosmaria Petrelli
	Edith Schratzberger-Vecsei	Saama Sabeti
	Eeva Leppavuori	Sonia Adesara
	Federica Sebastianai	Susie Close
	Gyikua Plange-Rhule	Yinan Florrie Zhu

It has been a busy 3 years for the committee starting immediately the Vienna Congress had ended to get the 2016 Congress Resolutions ready for publication on the MWIA website. I am particularly grateful to my 2 Vice Chairs, Deb Colville and Susie Close for help with the resolutions from the Vienna Congress.

List of activities in chronological order as requested by Exco with response to them for consideration. This work has involved Dr Goodyear in attending the MWIA Exco meeting in London at the Medical Women’s Federation, UK Centennial celebrations and via Skype meetings.

1. **Work on MWIA view of sex selection and a female's right to abortion** responding to Swiss and Dutch organisation and letter to WMA.
2. **Formulate of a MWIA protocol for when an executive member dies**
3. **Development of the guidelines on how to run General Assemblies** producing a template document for the assemblies
4. **Revision of the Statues and Bylaws.** This involved 3 rounds using a Delphi technique to get recommendations for Exco as we are a large committee which is helpful to represent the views of the MWIA membership, but means a number of different views for collation and synthesis. Once recommendations had been established Dr Goodyear presented the findings to Exco.
5. **Process for countries/individual members submitting resolutions** including development of a template and timeline.
6. **Writing of Exco job descriptions** for President, Vice President, immediate Past President, Secretary General, Treasurer and Vice Presidents. Dr Goodyear was asked to work with the Exco on these job descriptions.
7. **Revision and review of guidelines on how officers are elected**
8. **Guidelines for presentation of resolutions, timelines for them and a resolution template.** The endpoint was to get a standard MWIA format. The template went through 4 draft versions before being submitted to Exco.
9. **Reviewing and preparing 18 resolutions which have been submitted for the Centennial Congress** ensuring that the resolutions were clear to read and any amendments agreed with the proposer. The resolutions have been linked where applicable to past resolutions. This work has involved numerous emails and committee members working in groups with the resolutions shared between the groups for consideration. I am very grateful for committee members input in this considerable task.

In summary, a busy triennium for the Ethics and Resolutions committee. We have been highly productive due to input from a number of MWIA members. The richness of the committee is that we have members from many countries, and I am in debt to them for their time and effort.

COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE
Padmini Murthy, Chair, USA

In the current triennium of 2016 to 2019 the committee has updated the MWIA brochure. The facebook pages for both MWIA and MWIA young doctors and medical students are frequently updated by the administrators and latest information about regional, global health issues are shared.

This platform provides interaction between individual members and associations. MWIA members tweet often using the MWIA hashtag (#mwia100) . Information and updates about the upcoming centenary congress in New York are posted regularly.

STRATEGY AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Clarissa Fabre, Chair, UK

The greatest achievement of this committee has been the MWIA Membership Survey. This was an online survey conducted in 2017. 1150 members responded. Apart from demographic details, members were asked about discrimination, bullying and harassment, mental and physical illness. MWIA's greatest strength was felt to be excellent networking opportunities. Top priorities for members were work/life balance, violence against women and girls, leadership and mentoring, sexual harassment, career progression, and gender medicine.

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Shelley Ross, Chair, Canada

CEREMONY SUBCOMMITTEE

Shelley Ross, Chair, Canada

Members: Dr. Kyung Ah Park (Korea)
Dr. Afua Hesse (Ghana)
Dr. Gabrielle Casper (Australia)
Dr. Nino Zhvania (Georgia)

Dr. Christiane Pouliart (Belgium)
Dr. Carole Williams (Canada)
Dr. Shafika Nasser (Egypt)
Dr. Mini Murthy (USA)
Dr. Pia Sukhu (Thailand)
Dr. Vandana Walvekar (India)
Dr. Usha Saraiya (India)
Dr. Mary Ellen Morrow (USA)
Dr. Roberta Gebhard DO (USA)
Dr. Connie Newman (USA)

The Ceremony Committee worked with the Congress Local Organizing Committee with input from the MWIA executive meeting to develop the opening and closing ceremony programs. We hope that you will find both ceremonies enjoyable and memorable.

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

Clarissa Fabre, Chair, UK

We are all delighted that US\$ 24,000 was raised from MWIA members' donations for the Centennial book, memory stick, fabric collage and other MWIA contributions to the centenary celebrations. We are very grateful to Professors Kyung Ah Park and Bong Ok Kim

for the idea of asking our members. Many thanks to all of you for your generosity. Donors' names appear in the Centennial Book.

PUBLIC RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Eleanor Nwadinobi, Chair, Nigeria

Members:

Dr. Chicca Genna (Italy)
Dr. Naa Adorkor Sodzi-Tettey (Ghana)
Dr. Aynur Safyeva (Azerbaijan)
Dr. Khatuna Kaladze (Georgia)
Dr. Gabrielle Casper (Australia)
Dr. Cissy Yu (Hong Kong)
Dr. Tuula Saarela (Finland)
Dr. Padmini Murthy (USA)
Dr. Chisa Ugboaja (Nigeria)
Dr. Marjorie Cross (Australia)
Magdalena Simonis (Australia)
Dr. Deb Colville (Australia)
Dr. Desiree Yap (Australia)
Dr. Eno Ekop (Nigeria)
Dr. Obelebra Adebisi (Nigeria)
Dr. Bev Johnson (Canada)
Dr. Sarah Khalid Khan (UK)

Dr.

The PR subcommittee has been effectively using email for consultations and for making necessary input.

The committee started with 14 members and during the course of drafting of the monthly decade teasers enlarged subcommittee membership to include volunteers.

1. Completed tasks/activities of your committee according to your work plan

Scarf competition submissions, judging of entries resulting in the winning scarf. A total of 12 scarf entries were received and the winning scarf is currently being produced in silk and modal fabric.

2. Ongoing tasks/activities of your committee according to your work plan

Calls for recipes, formatting, and dissemination the regional VP's and social media including Facebook on the MWIA page.

Drafting of Decade teasers compiled from poster and sourcing of additional materials.

The PR subcommittee has also been responsible for calls for individual country fabric squares for electronic and hard copy submission of fabric collage. The deadline of the end of May is for electronic whilst actual fabric will be submitted at the centennial meeting.

In total 20 recipes and a total of 19 collage indication of interest with six actual submissions from New Zealand, India, Kenya, Thailand and Mali have so far been received.

3. Do you need to modify your current work plan? If yes, please submit your work plan with an adjusted timetable.

The current workplan and timetable will remain as scheduled

4. Planned tasks/activities with timeline of your committee May 2018-July 2019.

Planned tasks are as follows:

1. Recipe formatting of already received recipes and publishing for dissemination on Facebook and to VPs
2. Conclude decade teasers and recipes in June
3. End of teaser quiz in July
4. More collection of fabric squares

PUBLICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Helen Goodyear, Chair, UK

Members: Dr. Vetty Agala (Nigeria)
Dr Mabel Aboah (Nigeria)
Dr Uzoma Agwu (Nigeria)
Dr. Obelebra Adebisi (Nigeria)
Dr. Dabota Yvonne Buowari (Nigeria)
Dr. Ornella Cappelli (Italy)
Dr Gabrielle Casper (Australia)
Dr. Letizia Gelsomini (Italy)
Dr. Cisca Griffioen (Netherlands)
Dr. Robyn Hewland (New Zealand)
Dr Khatuna Kaladze (Georgia)
Dr. Shafika Nasser (Egypt)
Dr. Petronilla Ngiloi (Tanzania)
Prof. Dr. Dr. Bettina Pfliederer MWIA President
Dr. Christiane Pouliart (Belgium)
Dr. Usha Saraiya (India)
Dr Vandana Walvekar (India)

1. Completed tasks/activities of your committee according to your work plan

We have achieved all our tasks and activities after intensive effort from members and with a huge amount of input from many members of the MWIA especially MWIA President Bettina Pfliederer. These are

1. **10 high quality posters** for display at the MWIA centennial conference designed by a number of committee members. There is one poster for each of the decades of the MWIA.
2. **MWIA Centennial book – 100 years in 100 pages.** This has been a gigantic task. The committee is grateful to members and national associations who have all contributed and provided photographs. It grew so large that ordinary Dropbox was too

small and for a short while business Dropbox with much more memory was required to store the book and material. It has been a true labour of love with the “midnight oil” being burnt on quite a few occasions to keep progress going and in the later stages meet the publisher’s deadlines for proof reading. Especially thanks go to Dr. Caroline Sheldrick, UK for proof reading several drafts and helping with English language content and to Dr. Rachel Walter who proof read in depth the first layout draft of the book. It will be available in hard copy and on USB stick. This has been possible through generous donations from an extraordinary number of members, all listed in the back of the centennial book.

- 3. Slideshow with music for the centenary conference.** Material has been sourced and collated by Dr Antonella Vezzani, Vice President for Southern Europe together with MWIA President Bettina Pfleiderer.

2. Ongoing tasks/activities of your committee according to your work plan

We have achieved all of our workplan!

- 3. Do you need to modify your current work plan? If yes, please submit your work plan with an adjusted time table.**

No

4. Planned tasks/activities with time line of your committee May 2018-July 2019.

All done! Prof. Atsuko Heshiki, late past President of MWIA had the vision for the MWIA centenary and was instrumental in setting up this committee. We have worked in her memory to produce work of the highest standard.

BAZAAR SUBCOMMITTEE

Patriya Jarutat, Chair, Thailand

Members: Dr. Tuula Saarela (Finland)
 Dr. Khatuna Kaladze (Georgia)
 Dr. Antonella Vezzani (Italy)
 Dr. Padmini Murthy (USA)
 Dr. Maite Sevillano (Brazil)
 Dr. Piyaeya Sukhu (Thailand)
 Dr. Mabel Aboah (Ghana)
 Dr. Cissy Yu (Hong Kong)
 Dr. Lorella Melillo (Italy)
 Dr. Koko Loliya Somina (Nigeria)

The Bazaar Committee has been busy preparing for the Centennial Congress. Highlights of the work include the development of the Centennial Logo which has been well received. Hats with the logo have been produced for the congress. The committee anticipates the donation of interesting and culturally specific gifts for sale at the Bazaar. Thank you to all the national associations for their participation.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, Shelley Ross, Antonella Vezzani

Members: Connie Newmann (USA)
Roberta Gebhard (USA)
Katherine H. Saunders (USA)
Kari Nelson (USA)
Binita Shah (USA)
Sohah Iqbal (USA)
Chemen Mzima Neal (USA)
Susan E Wieggers (USA)
Saura Fortin (USA)
Jean Martin Mensz (USA)
Sara Jo Grethlein (USA)
Yoon Kang (USA)
Mini Murthy (USA)
Eliza Chin(USA)
Jan Coles (Australia)
Khatuna Kaladze (Georgia)
Isabell Hach (Germany)
Rachel Walter (yMWIA; Germany)
Afua Hesse (Ghana)
Mandakini Megh (India)
Vandana Walvekar (India)
Laura Lanza (Italy)
Michiko Suwa (Japan)
Elizabeth Ogboli-Nwasor (Nigeria)
Stella Kokoricha Essiet (Nigeria)
Dabota Yvonne Buowari (Nigeria)
Pauline Green (Nigeria)
Vetty Agala (Nigeria)
Titilola Ibiyemi (Nigeria)
Thurayya Arayssi (Qatar)

The committee had previously outlined suggested topics for the congress and expressions of interest for speakers and posters were requested. The response was overwhelming and it was difficult to select among so many excellent abstracts.

Volunteers from the committee reviewed abstracts and ranked them according to a grid. In retrospect the grid was more appropriate for research posters than the variety of topics that

were requested for the congress. Nevertheless, over 100 speakers were accommodated and over 350 posters were received.

Sessions cover global health, women's health, gender equity, violence against women, sexual harassment, obesity as a global health crisis, leadership and professional development, maternal and women's health, digital health innovation, work life balance and the prevention of burnout, and gender specific medicine.

Key sessions will focus on MWIA's work in gender and health--a breakout on gender equity provides a primer followed by discussions of the impact on women physicians around the world; a workshop on violence against women introduces MWIA's online training module; and an international panel on HPV prevention highlights MWIA's leadership in hosting national HPV prevention weeks.

These sessions will forward MWIA's dual mandate of supporting the leadership of women in medicine and advocating for women's health issues.

The committee focused on the oral presentations while another committee reviewed the abstracts. In addition, there are some very interesting plenary speakers in the line-up, including world-renowned feminist, Gloria Steinem.

The abstracts have been compiled into a document that will allow participants to select the sessions they wish to attend.

**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP FOR YOUNG WOMEN DOCTORS
AND MEDICAL STUDENTS (yMWIA)**

Geneviève Koolhaas, Chair, The Netherlands

It is a great honour to attend the Centennial Congress of the Medical Women's International Association (MWIA). It is time to celebrate one hundred years of intelligent women using their talent and drive to make this world a better place. I am struck by the often impressive and historical places where the conferences are organized. The high standard of presentations inspires us to overcome uncertainty and realize our ambitions, informs us about diseases encountered on 6 continents and the way to treat them, and offers a global platform on which we can share our achievements and seek mentorship in this highly interesting network. In a world where '#MeToo' lit the cover of Pandora's box, it is more than ever time for sisterhood, to empower each other and break the glass ceiling. As women keep struggling to pursue their ambitions and combine this with family life, we also feel grateful. As Julie Graham said "I don't know what the future holds. But I'm stepping forward with grit anchored in grace."

REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UNITED NATIONS

MWIA UN Representatives to the United Nations

**Dr Satty Gill Keswani MD – Main NGO Representative of MWIA to the United Nations.
Dr Padmini (Mini) Murthy MD- Alternate NGO Representative of MWIA to the United Nations.**

2016 September

Dr. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Padmini Murthy Dr Mini Murthy, MWIA Alternate NGO Representative to the UN, attended the UN General Assembly and the associated side events from September 18 to September 23. Ms. Aishu Narasimhadevara, MWIA youth rep, represented MWIA at several youth related events during the GA including the Microsoft DATA Playground where youth from several countries had the opportunity to review correlation between SDGs implementation and data collection through interactive models and applications. Dr Murthy had the opportunity of being a media person at the United Nations Foundation Social Good Summit representing NGOs and Academia on Saturday September 18th, which was a fore runner to the General Assembly. Dr Murthy was invited as a NGO representative and she met the First Lady of Namibia, HE Monica Geingos, and had a brief discussion about safe motherhood kits. MWIA has partnered with Zonta International on these kits and will explore opportunities to send kits to Namibian women. Dr. Murthy and Ms. Narasimhadevara were invited to a high-level reception honoring the President of Malta, Mrs Ban, and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh. She was also invited by the US Mission to attend a high-level meeting with Secretary of State, John Kerry, and the President of Croatia. She also represented MWIA as a media person at the SDG Social Media Zone at the United Nations during the General Assembly and tweeted about the event. She met with Ms. Leymah Gowbee. Nobel Peace Laureate and on behalf of MWIA has worked with Zonta International to organize a shipment of 500 Safe Mother Hood Kits to Liberia. 14 In summary, it was an honour and a privilege for me as MWIA Alternate Representative to the UN to be one of the few health NGO representatives at several high level UN events

December

Dr Murthy has been representing MWIA at various UN and NGO related events. She has been working on the upcoming CSW as a member of NGOCSW executive committee. Dr Murthy has been attending the DPI NGO briefings representing MWIA. In November, Dr Murthy was invited to be the lead discussant on the role of NGOs in promoting SDG 3 and SDG 5, which was organized by the DPI NGO Section. On December 1st Dr Murthy was invited to moderate a DPI NGO and UN AIDS Briefing, Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030 in the Trusteeship council at the United Nations. Partnering with Zonta International Dr Murthy was able to send 750 safe mother hood kits through Nobel Laureate Lemah Gowbee's foundation to Liberia. Ms. Aishwarya Narasimhadevara has been attending several youth briefings as an appointed member of the DPI NGO Youth committee. In December, 2016, she is attending a conference on Human Rights in Colombo, Sri Lanka as a delegate/panelist representing MWIA. Drs Keswani and Murthy have been working on the upcoming CSW parallel event for March, 2017.

2017 March

For a brief history of the Commission on the Status of Women, visit <http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/brief-history> and if you wish more information <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/CSW60YRS/CSWbriefhistory.pdf> The CSW61 agreed

conclusions were approved March 24th and can be found at <http://us1.campaignarchive1.com/?u=eb520eecfe82a5bf0d814ea1f&id=9822e201b8&e=07f5d20caf> Drs. Satty Gill Keswani and Padmini Murthy have been representing MWIA at various events at the United Nations since January. They attended briefings and NGO CSW NY preparatory meetings. Youth representative, Aishu Narasimhadevara, has been representing MWIA as a member of the DPINGO Youth steering committee. Dr. Murthy and Aishu were invited to be members of the DPI NGO task force to raise awareness about the plight of migrants and refugees among the general public. Aishu has represented MWIA as one of the organizers of the Youth CSW which was held on March 11 and 12th. She was a moderator on a Climate Smart Agriculture youth panel. MWIA was well represented at the 61st CSW session and members attended a number of events in the United Nations and in the various venues. The MWIA organized a parallel event that was held on March 15th in the Hardin Room at the Church Center entitled Women Doctors: Economic Empowerment and Social Determinants of Health,” which was co sponsored by the American Medical Women’s Association, the European Women’s Lobby and African Views. Juan Chebly, lead from the UN Environmental Program, was the keynote speaker. Other speakers were Drs. Gail Beck, Roberta Gebhard, Vivien Brown, Eleanor Nwadinobi, Pamela Liao, Pretty 12 Verma, Padmini Murthy and Ms. Aishu Narasimhadevara and Ms. Mary Collins. MC for the event was Dr Satty Keswani. The event was well attended with positive feedback from the audience. On March 15th Dr. Murthy and Aishu were invited to represent MWIA at a high level event at The Sri Lanka Mission. On March 17th Dr. Murthy represented MWIA and moderated an event where the e-launch of the book “100 Peaceful Solutions” took place. On March 23rd Dr. Murthy was invited as a NGO rep to attend a program on addressing health needs of adolescents at the United Nations organized by the World Health Organization, Missions of Canada, Italy and Mozambique. On March 21st and March 23rd Aishu Narasimhadevara was a speaker and moderator representing MWIA at DPI NGO led briefings titled “Youth Economic Empowerment of Women : Partnership and SDGs Young Women’s Leadership and Voices at the UN.”



Participants in MWIA Parallel Event at CSW61

June

Drs. Keswani and Murthy and Aishu Narasimhadevara have been attending briefings at the United Nations. Dr Murthy has been re-elected as member at large to the NGOCSW Committee NY for a 3 year term commencing in June 2017 and will represent MWIA on the board. She has also been nominated and elected to NGO Committee on Mental Health for a 2 year term starting June 2017. Aishu Narasimhadevara represented MWIA as a DPI Youth representative and spoke to Korean High School students via skype at an event to discuss the role of youth in promoting SDGs in June 2017. Aishu Narasimhadevara represented MWIA at the Oceans Conference at the United Nations in June 2017. Padmini Murthy represented MWIA at the Yoga and Health on occasion of Yoga day on June 21st at the event organized by the World Health Organization and Permanent Mission of India to the UN. Murthy has also been invited as a NGO rep and professor to attend an event on Advancing UN SDG 3

(Good health and Well Being) on June 29th. Drs Keswani and Murthy continue to work with AMWA leaders in planning the upcoming MWIA centennial congress in New York City in July 2019

September

Report of activities from July to September, 2017 Drs. Keswani and Murthy, have been representing MWIA by attending events held in and around the United Nations. July: Aishu Narasimhadevara attended the HLPPF- High Level Political Forum and represented MWIA and interacted with several youth delegates. Aishu Narasimhadevara has been reappointed to the DPI NGO Youth steering committee for 2017- 2018. Mini Murthy attended a reception on behalf of MWIA at the Taipei Educational and Cultural Office, hosted by the Ambassador during the High Level Political Forum (HLPPF). August: Mini Murthy was invited to moderate a health panel at the annual UNDPI NGO Conference – Intergenerational Dialogues and the youth rep of MWIA was an attendee at the conference. In August, 2017, Murthy also represented MWIA at the executive meeting of DPINGO as a newly elected member and discussed potential opportunities of working with other health NGOs in advancing SDG 3. Mini Murthy attended and presented at the Western Pacific Regional Conference of MWIA in Hong Kong. September: Mini Murthy attended the monthly executive committee meeting and planning committee meeting for CSW 2018. Aishu Narasimhadevara and Mini Murthy represented MWIA by attending the general debate and several events on health, gender equality and advocacy during the 72nd UN General Assembly. In the late summer and fall each year, the various WHO Regions hold their annual regional committee meetings. Due to MWIA's official status with WHO, it is invited to send a representative to each of the meetings.

December

18 September Dr Mini Murthy and Aishu Narasimhadevara represented MWIA at several events at the 72nd United Nations General Assembly in New York. Some of the noteworthy events attended were the following 1. Every women Every child event where Dr Mini Murthy got the opportunity to comment about the work MWIA has been doing in the arena of maternal health during the discussion. 2. Aishu and Dr Murthy met with Priyanka Chopra Indian Bollywood star and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador during the GA. Dr. Murthy was invited to attend the Taiwan National day celebration organized by TECO in New York 5. Dr Murthy was one of the few health NGOs invited to attend the premier of the movie Trafficked held at the United Nations October Drs. Keswani and Murthy and Aishu Narasimhadevara have been participating in the DPI NGO UN briefings regularly Dr Murthy was invited to attend the UN Day concert on October 24th held at the UN General assembly Hall to commemorate the formation of the United Nations Dr Murthy had the privilege of representing MWIA at the Bahai reception organized in New York City and had a discussion with the Panama ambassador to the UN HE Laura Flores and Bani Duggal Bahai Rep to UN



2018 March

Dr. Padmini Murthy has been representing MWIA well at on the executive of the NGO CSW Planning Committee, where she also chaired the Bazaar subcommittee for CSW62. The UN NGO representatives Drs. Keswani and Murthy organized a parallel event on March 14th 2018 during the 62nd Commission on the Status of Women in New York. The event was titled “Women doctors Achieving Gender Equality/Empowerment in the Rural Setting.” The event was co-sponsored by the American Medical Women’s Association and African Views. The event was well attended by members of MWIA, AMWA, Medical Women’s Association of Nigeria, Austrian Medical Women’s Association and other NGO colleagues. The speakers included Dr Christine Bennett, Dean School of Medicine Sydney, University of Note Dame, Ms. Denise Scotto Esq, Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer, President of MWIA, Dr Shelley Ross, Secretary General of MWIA, Dr. Clarissa Fabre President-elect of MWIA and NGO rep to WHO, Dr. Cissy Wu, VP Western Pacific MWIA, Dr. Gabrielle Casper Past President MWIA, Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi, PP Medical Women’s Association of Nigeria (MWAN), Dr. Rosemary Ogu, PP Young MWIA, Dr Eliza Chin, Executive Director AMWA. The panel was co moderated by Dr. Padmini Murthy and Dr Shelley Ross. Dr Joyce Barber, President of MWAN also make remarks from the floor. MWIA also co sponsored parallel events with African Views and the American Bar Association during the CSW. Dr Murthy also presented on three panels during the CSW. 19 MWIA was well represented by the members who were present at several high level panel discussions, the NGO CSW consultation day and the reception and the opening ceremony of the CSW. Dr Gabrielle Casper on behalf of the DAK Foundation presented a portable ultrasound machine to Sierra Leone which was received by Wale Ajibade on behalf of Sierra Leone. The Australian medical students from School of Medicine Sydney, University of Note Dame presented their global health projects during the CSW. The young doctors from Australian Federation of Medical women spoke about their experience working on women’s health issues. The students presented awards for outstanding support and mentorship to Drs. Pfleiderer, Ross, Fabre, Murthy and Keswani during the CSW.

June

Dr. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Padmini Murthy, USA In the month of April 2018 Dr Padmini Murthy attended two Department of Public Information NGO briefings held at the United Nations on behalf of MWIA. She also participated in the DPI NGO Executive committee meetings as a member. A panel discussion held on Human Rights during the members meeting of NGOCSW NY committee at Salvation Army was moderated by Padmini Murthy and had experts on human rights from the NGO community and a senior staff member at the UNHCR liaison office to the UN in New York. The panel was well attended and MWIA was well represented. In the month of May, Murthy participated in the executive committee meetings of the DPI and NGOCSW meetings via the e platform zoom and teleconference and contributed to the challenges being faced by NGO community to having access to the various events at the United Nations. In June Murthy attended the executive retreat of the NGO CSW committee in NY to discuss the theme of the upcoming CSW in March 2019. She was invited to participate as a NGO representative and member of academia to attend the international forum on Freedom and Democracy in Taiwan organized by the World League for Freedom and Democracy and presented on the influence of politics on health care policies globally with a focus on the current situation in the United States.

September

Drs Satty Keswani and Murthy have been attending the DPI briefings and representing MWIA at the United Nations DPI NGO Annual Conference on August 23 rd and 24th at the

United Nations. They were active participants at an event on complementary medicine and met health professionals from Puerto Rico, India and Latin America. Dr Murthy represented MWIA and academia at the 73rd United Nations General Assembly from 24th September to 28th September. She participated in the High-Level Political meetings during the UN General Assembly on TB elimination and Non Communicable Diseases. The high level meeting on TB elimination was historic as it was the first time a whole session was devoted to this major public health challenge was convened at the United Nations with member states signing a declaration. Drs Keswani and Murthy are working with potential partners in planning a session at the United Nations during the upcoming centenary in 2019.



Drs Keswani and Murthy with a colleague during the UNDPINGO conference in August 2018

December

The MWIA NGO reps to the United Nations have been working with potential UN agencies and missions to organize a session for the upcoming MWIA congress in July 2019. Drs Keswani and Murthy have been representing MWIA by regularly attending the NGO briefings being held by the DPI of the United Nations. In October 2018 Dr Murthy attended the planning committee meetings held by the NGOCSW committee of New York as a member of the executive committee about organizing the parallel events for the upcoming CSW in March 2019 at the United Nations. On November 19th Dr Murthy was honoured to represent MWIA at the special event organized at the United Nations headquarters to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women which was presided over by the UN Secretary General HE Antonio Guterres. The event was attended by diplomats, high level UN officials, key members of New York Police Department, NGO community and youth. On November 20th Dr Murthy co-chaired the UN Women Ambassadors' luncheon hosted by the NGOCSW committee at the Armenian Cultural center. This was a well-attended event where 11 women ambassadors and women leaders were honoured for their contribution to women's issues globally. On December 5th MWIA was represented at the one on one conversation with HE Maria Fernanda Espinosa and the NGO community at the United

Nations. MWIA will be continued to be represented by the NGO reps at the various UN year end events and take this opportunity of wishing all our colleagues Happy Holidays.

2019 March

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) was held March 10-22, 2019. The priority theme was Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls; and the review theme was Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development (agreed conclusions of the sixtieth session). MWIA held its parallel event to an overflowing room at the Armenian Convention Centre on Wednesday, March 13th. The topic was "How Women Doctors Provide Infrastructure for Gender Equality." We had a formidable panel of speakers giving their local perspective. Moderated by Dr. Shelley Ross, the speakers included Dr. Gabrielle Casper, a past president of MWIA from Australia, Dr. Clarissa Fabre, president-elect of MWIA, Dr. Gigi Osler, President of the Canadian Medical Association, Dr. Satty Gill Keswani, MWIA's Main representative to the UN, Dr. Ching-Li Lin, legislator-at-large from Taiwan, Dr. Padmini Murthy, MWIA's alternate representative to the UN, Dr. Joyce Barber, President of the Medical Women's Association of Nigeria, Dr. Deb Colville, President of the Australian Federation of Medical Women, Dr. Nahid Azad, past-president of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada, Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi, chair of the Centennial Public Relations Committee from Nigeria, Dr. Roberta Gebhard, president-elect of the American Medical Women's Association, Dr. Charissa Patricelli, board member of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada, and Ms. Vivian Gu, medical student from the University of British Columbia. Dr. Yoshiko Maeda, President of the Japan Medical Women's Association was scheduled to present but was delayed in Tokyo. Following the parallel event, many gathered for a networking lunch. Dr. Gabrielle Casper, a past MWIA President from Australia, has brought an entourage of medical students to get a first hand experience of Global Health.





June

The UN reps Drs Keswani and Murthy have been busy attending the UN briefings. Dr Murthy has been appointed as cochair of the media and press subcommittee of the upcoming United Nations Department of Global Communications NGO conference coming up in August in Utah.

Dr Murthy also represented MWIA at the high level special event on Universal health Coverage at the General Assembly on April 29th. Drs Keswani and Murthy have been working with the various UN missions and UNTAD office NY to organize a event at the United Nations during the upcoming 2019 Centenary Congress in July.



Dr Murthy with the Japanese Ambassador to United Nations HE Koro Bessho at the UN special session on Universal Health Care in April.

WHO LIAISON

Dr. Clarissa Fabre

It has been an honour to represent MWIA at the WHO for the last 7 years. I am delighted that members from several different countries join the core MWIA delegation (Shafika Nasser, Shelley Ross and myself) at the World Health Assembly in Geneva each year.

It is worth noting that young doctors and medical students who are interested in global and public health have found it particularly valuable to join our group. It is possible to apply for **internships** at the WHO, usually around 2-3 months in duration, for which there is a central application process. Some funding is available from the WHO.

In addition to the annual global meeting, WHO has annual meetings in each of its 6 regions - Africa, the Americas, South-East Asia, Europe, Eastern Mediterranean and Western Pacific. The meetings take place between August and October, and the aim is to set policy, approve budgets and outline programmes of work. Many thanks to Professor Shafika Nasser, Dr Cissy Yu and Dr Piyanetr Sukhu who have attended these regional meetings. We plan to advertise the dates and venues well in advance, to encourage MWIA representation in each region.

Dr Claudia Garcia-Moreno, who leads on **Violence against Women and Girls**, remains one of our key contacts at the WHO. Several excellent handbooks on this subject have been published by WHO, including a **Clinical Handbook**, which has been translated into several languages. The latest document is entitled **RESPECT: Preventing Violence against Women**. MWIA commented on the WHO guidance on **Virginity Testing**, which states that testing has no clinical value and is potentially harmful. It is used in Africa as part of post-rape assessment, and in India to check prospective brides.

Another comprehensive and useful WHO document is 'Care of Girls and Women living with **Female Genital Mutilation**'. With our wide networks, MWIA has an important role to play in disseminating these documents (www.who.int).

For several years, we have been involved with the **Safe Childbirth Checklist**, which was initiated by Professor Atul Gwande from the Harvard School of Public Health in conjunction with the WHO. MWIA's Dr Rosemary Ogu was part of the initial pilot study. The results of the Better Birth Trial showed no significant differences in maternal and perinatal mortality between controls, and those groups using the Checklist, together with staff coaching. Professor Gwande is not disheartened however. The trial facilities were predominantly very basic health centres, not hospitals, the birth attendants were often not skilled, the drugs necessary for treating post-partum haemorrhage and pre-eclampsia were not available, and the hospitals where caesarean sections could be done were often many miles away along poor unmade roads. I believe that the Safe Childbirth Checklist, along with regular staff training, has an important role to play. We may now turn our focus on preventing post-partum haemorrhage, which is a major preventable cause of maternal death.

One of the main priorities of the Director-General, Dr Tedros is the **elimination of cervical cancer**. The three key targets are a comprehensive national strategy for HPV vaccination, screening and treatment of pre-cancerous lesions, and effective management of invasive cancer. We spoke with Dr Raymond Hutubessy who works on the HPV vaccination initiative. His department is looking into the efficacy of only one dose of the vaccine. We also discussed the problem of 'vaccine hesitancy' in countries like Japan, but becoming more widespread, and a possible vaccine shortage. The majority of unvaccinated girls are in middle income countries e.g Indonesia, not covered by GAVI (the Global Vaccine Alliance which increases access to immunisation in low income countries, and was founded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation).

Adolescent Health is another WHO priority. MWIA member, Dr Natalie Yap from Australia has done an internship in the WHO Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health, and contributed to the document ‘AA-HA!’ – **Global Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents**. A new initiative ‘Helping Adolescents Thrive’ focuses on promoting mental health, prevention of mental disorders, and reduction of risk behaviours and self-harm. Dr Tedros has taken as his main theme **Universal Health Coverage (UHC)**, or the policy of Leaving No-one Behind. We heard this year that adolescents are the missing population in UHC, and that this deficiency is now being addressed.

Other WHO concerns over the triennium have been the Ebola outbreak, improving the timeliness and effectiveness of the WHO response to health emergencies, antimicrobial resistance, climate change, air pollution, and attacks on health professionals.

European Women’s Lobby Bettina Pfleiderer, MWIA Representative, Germany

The focus at this meeting was on the discussion of the strategic plan for 2019/2018 and also to discuss what EWL should be doing in the next 6 months taking into account the outcome of the European election. I had the honor to facilitate the discussion on European politics. There was also a public event discussing the outcome the EU elections.

Left: EWL President Gwendoline Lefebvre and right: discussion panel at the public event
The major EWL activities June 2018-2018 were presented at shared with you already. EWL was in particular proud that Mary Collins from EWL was elected to the core group of the European-North America Caucus at CSW, which includes: **Europe**: Zarin Hainsworth, Ulla Madsen, Mary Collins and **North America**: Patricia (Trich) Masniuk (Canada), Daniela Chivu (Canada), Nina Smart (USA), Luci Chickowero (USA). EWL has no permanent representative in New York.

Of interest to medical women is the continuous work EWL is doing on violence (more info please see here: <https://womenlobby.org/-Violence-against-Women-451-?lang=en>).

European Women’s Lobby Strategic Aim 2: To put an end to all forms of violence against women and girls and promote a society of peace, human dignity.

This aim has been operationalized into two concrete objectives:

- By 2020, the EU and all MS have ratified the Istanbul Convention, and the monitoring mechanisms have helped to reduce all forms of VAW.
- By 2020, the EU has adopted or is in the process of adopting a directive on prostitution & sexual exploitation, and new member states have adopted the Nordic Model on prostitution while there is a broader awareness of prostitution as an obstacle to equality between women and men.

The European Women’s Lobby produces monitoring publications and lobbying materials on various aspects of violence against women in Europe, with support of the experts of the EWL Observatory on violence against women.

Of further interest for us: They also intend to start doing work on gender medicine with some input from me.

Another interesting point of interest for MWIA- EWL is revising its due structure. A motion was passed accordingly, and the membership committee was asked to work on it and draft recommendations. This committee has of 4 members, one of them is me representing the EWL has currently 16 European-wide association members. EWL has currently 16 European-

wide association members. I have also been chairing the question and answer session at the GA on membership issues.

Next year it is planned to have the GA in France (Paris) close to an UN event on Beijing 25+, since EWL will also be celebrating its 30th anniversary. The exact date and what will be organized will be decided upon in September.

This is a link describing the event Beijing 25+ in France in more detail:

<https://onu.delegfrance.org/France-will-host-conference-Beijing-25-in-a-year-s-time>

This was already shared at this year's CSW and I trust that our UN reps can keep us fully informed on the activities planned. I am wondering if we should not only make noise but also align some of our strategic goals with the SDG's and make also a few statements. A lot of the NGO's having status II are doing this according to EWL- who also plans on doing this.

I will keep you posted in anything of interest. It is an honor representing MWIA in Brussels!

CIOMS (Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences)

Dr. Christine Wieland, Switzerland

CIOMS is an international NGO and non-profit organization established by WHO and UNESCO in 1949. It represents a substantial portion of the biomedical scientific community. MWIA has a seat on the executive.

At the latest meeting held in Geneva, the discussion was centered on 2 issues:

- a) CIOMS's working groups are in part funded by money from the industry
- b) Depending on the agenda experts from pharmaceutical companies are part of working groups

There was a discussion if CIOMS should do without financial contribution and experts from industry?

The outcome can be summarized as follows:

CIOMS is convinced to be independent and unbiased in their reports. Also, it would be impossible to find experts for working groups if they would not receive any financial remuneration. In addition, it was believed that it may be of use hearing the point of view of experts from industry in working groups (e.g. participation of healthy subjects in clinical trials)

Actual working groups:

- Drug Induced Liver Injury (new amendment: inclusion of traditional medicine)
- Clinical Research in Resource Limited Settings
- Implementation of standardized MedDRA Queries-

New Working group

- Patient Involvement in Development and Safe Use of Medicines

Planned working groups:

- Revision of CIOMS IV ("Benefit-risk balance for marketed drugs")
- Severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARS)
- Healthy volunteers in clinical research: ethical and safety concerns
- Quality of Medicines and Ethics

MWIA has brought the topic of sex/gender aspects to the table but there has been no movement in that area to date.

MWIA REPRESENTATION AT INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

2016-2019

United Nations (UN)

Dr. Satty Gill Keswani

Dr. Mini Murthy

Department of Public Information

Dr. Satty Gill Keswani

Dr. Mini Murthy

World Health Organisation (WHO)

WHO General Assemblies

Dr. Shelley Ross

Dr. Clarissa Fabre

Dr. Shafika Nasser

Professor Kyung Ah Park

Dr. Gail Beck

Dr. Christiane Pouliart

Dr. Mercedes Viteri

Dr. Selma Galal

Dr. Allison Hempenstall

World Medical Association (WMA)

Professor Kyung Ah Park

European Women's Lobby (EWL)

Dr. Edith Schratzberger-Vescei

Prof. Bettina Pfliederer

Dr. Tuula Saarela

CIOMS

Dr. Christine Wieland (Switzerland)

REPORTS OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATORS

AUSTRALIA

The **Australian Federation of Medical Women** reports an Australian population of 22 million with 110,000 physicians, 40,000 of whom are women. AFMW's membership numbers 230 with 200 students, 50 residents and 100 under 40.

The President and National Coordinator is Dr. Deb Colville and Treasurer is Dr. Marissa Daniels.

The national governance body meets quarterly by teleconference with an annual face to face general assembly, whereas regional branches meet bi-monthly.

An annual report is published and there is a quarterly e-newsletter.

The association is involved in the WHO reporting centres, and works with the Australian government on health-related matters.

Australia has an active State and Federal organization, see www.afmw.org.au

For our newsletters, see www.afmw.org.au/afmw-newsletters.

Our four active Australian States are

Australian Capital Territory (ACT www.act.afmw.org.au),

Medical Women's Society of New South Wales (NSW www.nsw.afmw.org.au), Queensland

Medical Women's Society (QMWS www.qld.afmw.org.au) &

Victorian Medical Women's Society (VMWS www.vic.afmw.org.au).

Portfolios in the Federal structure include a Rural Representative, a Recent Graduate representative, representatives of each State, newsletter editor, and website development.

Portfolios in the States' committees include newsletter editor, social secretaries, mentoring, social media and membership.

Each State works on a number of projects and events. These included leadership training for medical women, anti-bullying and harassment training, breastfeeding and parental leave, mentoring, anti-suicide and 'welfare of women doctors' programs, gender and curriculum, Curriculum Vitae workshops, women doctors as authors, and oral history projects.

Australian States have actively advocated around violence against women, refugee and asylum seeker health, human rights issues for women in detention and prison, female genital cosmetic surgery, human papilloma virus vaccine, climate change activism, and women's and children's health.

Five Australians attended CSW63 March 2019, three attended World Health Assembly 2019, and forty Australians attended the MWIA Centennial meeting in Brooklyn in July 2019, contributing 20 oral and poster scientific presentations. For the Centennial meeting MWIA Fabric Square display, and for the MWIA historical art collection, Australia has contributed the Aboriginal art work named 'Purple Bush Medicine Leaves', by artist Louise Numina Napanaka, and designer Pia du Pradal.

AUSTRIA

The Austrian Medical Women's Association (Organisation der Ärztinnen Österreichs) reports a country population of 8 million.

The President is Dr. Edith Schratzberger-Vescei, Treasurer is Dr. Edith Raffer, and National Coordinator is Dr. Iris Habitzel.

The triennium started with the completion of the XXX International Congress of MWIA in Vienna, held July 28-31, 2016 at the University of Vienna, with the theme of Generation Y – Challenges of the Future for Female Medical Doctors.

The association provides the LORE ANTOINE PRIZE in the amount of € 1,500 for either a diploma thesis or dissertation.

The Austrian Medical Women's Association celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2019 with a national conference in Vienna.

Dr. Iris Habitzel represents MWIA at the UN in Vienna on the UNODC (UN Office on Drugs and Crime).

BELGIUM

The **Medical Women's Association of Belgium (MWAB)** reports a Belgian population of 11.46 million with 34,834 practicing physicians, of which approximately 30% are women.

MWAB has a membership of 60. Dr. Adèle Hauwel (deceased) was the only honorary member and life member. Prof. Dr Lieve Dams is President, and Agnes Vermeulen and Christiane Pouliart are the National coordinators.

The Executive meets quarterly and there is a yearly General Assembly. In November, 2019, the association will celebrate its 30th anniversary.

The association partners with the International Council of Women as a board member and with Zonta (members Dr. Agnes Vermeulen and Dr. Sabine Maenhout).

BRAZIL

BRAZILIAN WOMEN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: A HISTORY

THE FOUNDATION

The Brazilian Women Medical Association (BWMA) was founded on 16 November, 1960 in Rio de Janeiro, when Rio was the Brazilian Republic Capital. Before that time, Brazilian women doctors only participated in some medical abroad events. So, in 1941, Dr. Alayr Herscher, participated in the Latinoamerican Congress of Medical Women and Dr. Maria de Lourdes Pedroso went to the North American Women Medical Congress in New York in 1942. Dr. Vera Leite Ribeiro had attended the Panamerican Women Medical Association (Alianza Panamericana de Médicas) in 1953.

For the Foundation of the BWMA, Dr. Dolores Vilalobos Wenzel went from Mexico to Brazil, representing the MWIA. Many Brazilian medical women participated in this important

event: Hilda Maip, Hildegard Stoltz, and Maria Brasília Leme Lopes, from Rio de Janeiro City, Elisa Chercchia de Noronha from Paraná State, and Elsa Reggiani de Aguiar, Dorina Barbieri, Verônica Rapp de Eston and Vicentina Spina from São Paulo State. Dr Tiê Kazi Nicioka, from Rio de Janeiro, participated during many years on behalf of BWMA.

THE FIRST DIRETORY was composed of: President: Hilda Maip; Vice- Presidents: Guiomar Gontijo and Elza Chermont Raffé, Secretary-General: Yadjina Mendonça; First and Second Secretary: Abigail Braga and Terezinha Alves Cordeiro; Treasurer and Second Treasurer: Hildegard Stoltz and Ilda Wildman Costa Santos.

The sequential Presidents since the foundation were: Hilda Maip, PR (1960); Carlota Pereira de Queiroz, SP (1961-65); Maria Brasília Leme Lopes, RJ (1966-71); Elisa Chercchia de Noronha, PR (1972-75); Drina Coelho Ungaretti, SP (1976-1979); Hildegard Stoltz, RJ (1980-83); Verônica Rapp de Eston, SP (1984-1987); Saly Moreira, PR (1988-89); Alice Nogueira de Lima, PR (1990-91); Nadir Eunice Barbato de Prates, SP (1992-1995); Solange Gildemeister, PR (1996-2002); Francly Reis da Silva Patrício SP (2003-2008); Ieda Terezinha Verreschi, SP (2009-10); Marilene Rezende Melo, SP (2010-16); Fátima Regina Alves, SP (2015 2017). Dr Bertha Sbrighi participated for several years as the International Correspondent and her attendance and assiduity were a good example for all us.

BWMA is governed by a statute according the general rules of the MWIA, with the necessary adaptations according to our country and with changes for adaptation to Brazilian legislation. The symbol is Hygeia, the Greek goddess of health, as the symbol of MWIA over the Brazilian Map, with the same phrase: *Matris Animo Curant* (they cure in a mother spirit). The seat is in the São Paulo Medical Association, at Avenue Brigadeiro Luiz Antonio 376, where the Directory and Scientific meetings take place. This meetings are listed in the ordinary and scientific calendars of the São Paulo Medical Association.

The present Directory (2016-2018) consists of the following: President: Fátima Regina Abreu Alves, Vice President: Marilene Rezende Melo, General Secretary: Elisa Maria Moreira Garcês, First Secretary: Irene Abramovich, Second Secretary: Elizabeth Regina Giunco Alexandre, Treasurer: Ana Regina Cruz Vlainich, First Treasurer: Maria de Fátima Caetano Pinto, Scientific Department: Ieda Terezinha Verreschi, Professional Department: Vanessa Souza Truda, Public Relations: Nise Yamaguchi; Social Cultural Department: Helena Luíza Stivanin; International Subjects: Anna Maria Martits. Titulars Fiscal Board: Sonia Maria Rolim Rosa Bllm, Francly Reis da Silva Patrício, Chang Yen-Li Chain (PR) and Di Su Ying (PR), Substitute Fiscal Board: Jessica Bistafa Liu, Mariza Helena Kobata and Ana Cristina Ribeiro Zolner.

The aims of the BMWA are the same of MWIA: to improve the conditions of women doctors regarding equality between men and women doctors and improve the scientific conditions for medical women by means of courses, congresses and awarding medical women who have distinguished themselves in scientific or social work. Over the years, the following were awarded:

“Exceptional Honor Merit” to Maria Falce Macedo, from Federal University of Paraná, the first medical woman elect Full Professor in Brazil and Verônica Rapp de Eston, the first medical woman Associate Professorship of the São Paulo University (USP).

“Carlota Pereira de Queiroz Medal” awarded to members for their distinction and merit for work done on behalf of BWMA: Hildegard Stoltz, 1993 (RJ), Elisa Cecchia de Noronha, 1995 (PR) and Drina Coelho Ungaretti, 1997 (SP).

“Encouraging Award for Scientific Works” for the following medical women: Berta Ribeiro da Luz, Lenir Mathias and Luciana Mobile, Vivian Herman et al, Maria Piedade Calmon Vergne, Anete Seviovic Grumach and Magda Carneiro Sampaio, Vera Lucia Ferraro Ferraz Salles et al, and Elia Tiê Kotaka.

“Bik Award to Academical Medical Women”: Ana Teresa Ramos Moreira et al and Luciana Bugman Moreira et al (PR).

REGIONAL SECTIONS OF BWMA.

At moment, there are two Regional Sections of BWMA in operation: in the states of São Paulo and Paraná, both were founded at the same time as the founding of BWMA and both are in full activity.

BWMA SECTION OF SÃO PAULO (BWMA SP): It was founded in 1962 with participation of several medical women including Verônica Rapp de Eston, Elza Reggiani de Aguiar, Dorina Barbieri, Vicentina Spina, Drina Coelho Ungaretti, Ligia Jamra, Bertha Sbrighi and Berta Luz, beyond colleagues from Rio de Janeiro and Paraná. The Presidents since its foundation were Verônica Rapp De Eston, the first President, Dorina Barbieri, Vicentina Spina, Berta Luz, Drina Coelho Ungaretti, Nadir Barbato de Prates, Franci Reis da Silva Patricio, Jocelyne Rozenberg, Helena Stivanin, Ieda Terezinha Verreschi, Mara Gandara e Ivone Minhoto Meinão. The present Diretory until 2017 is: President: Ivone Minhoto Meinão; Vice President: Marta Maite Sevillano; First Secretary: Elisa Moreira Garcez; First Secretary: Marly Allonzo Mazucatto; Treasurer: Maria de Fátima Caetano Pinto; Professional Department: Vera Lucia Allegro; Scientific Department: Vanessa Alvarenga; Public Relations: Magda Carneiro Sampaio; Cultural Department: Evangelina Vortmittag; Academic Diretory: Bárbara Gonçalves. Titula Fiscal Board: Nise Yamaguchi and Leontina da Conceição Margarido; Substitute Fiscal Board: Marilene Rezende Melo and Franci Reis da Silva Patricio. Its symbol is also the Greek goddess of health over the São Paulo State map.

PRESENT ACTIVITIES of the BWMA:

The present activities are: Seminars and Forums about **“Violence Against Woman,”** (Domestic and Sexual), because Brazil has a high level of violence, with debates with Lawyers, Psychologists, and Doctors and Sociologists. Campaign to reduce the use of tobacco among Medical Students, organized by Dr. Nise Yamaguchi, with participation of Dr.

Marilene Melo and Academic Members of São Paulo Medical Association. This campaign was approved by the Health Ministry.

Another important project, that was supported by the Health Secretary of São Paulo State, was the elaboration of a pocket book about “**The appropriate use of salt.**” This Project was done by Dr. Ivone Minhoto Meinão and the book was delivered to Public Schools in São Paulo City.

BWMA also participated in the Public Audience about **Deficit in Breast Cancer treatment in the Public System of Health in São Paulo**, and in the Debate about Work Market for Medical Women.

In March, 2016, the present Diretory of BWMA SP created a **Homage to Distinguished Women** of several areas as such: Janaína Paschoal (Brilliant Lawyer), Miriam Sotto (Full Professor of Pathology), Irma Seixas Duarte (Full Professor of Pathology), Claudia Colucci (Journalist) and Luiza Trajano (Entrepreneur).

Course on “Clinical Research” for Medical Students in August 2016

The BWMA SP participated in the Section of Medical Register for the new doctors by invitation of the Regional Federal Council of Medicine of São Paulo State.

BWMA SP have the website: www.spabmm.com.br

The Gender question, at the moment is one of the most important subjects and is the major target of our Association. With this aim, the Gender Department of BWMA was created in 2013, constituted by Drs Marilene Rezende Melo, Anna Maria Martits, Elizabeth Giunco Alexandre e Maria de Fátima Caetano Pinto. This group has the mandate to study and spread the Manual of Gender Medicine compiled by MWIA and earlier translated to the Portuguese language by Dr. Anna Maria Martits. This Manual is on the site of BWMA www.abmmnacional.com. The Gender Department also has the objective to propagate and spread the subject among the medical population and include the theme in future in the *curriculum* in Brazilian Medical Schools. The spreading of information in the medical community and in students is necessary to encourage the application of new knowledge of specific gender differences to improve women’s health. Protocols need to be created to target gender in each medical specialty. This group was also invited to participate in the Brazilian Congress of Endocrinology and Metabolism last September at Bahia with lectures about: Gender Difference in Osteoporosis, by Dr Marize Lazaretti; Gender Differences in Metabolic Syndrome, by Dr Elaine Maria Frade Costa; Gender Differences in Cardiovascular Risk, Dr. Elizabeth Regina Giunco Alexandre.

On August 11, 2016, we promoted the Zika Virus Forum with the following teachers: Dr. Aluisio Cotrim Segurado, Dr. Fernando Kok, Dr. Joelma Queiroz Andrade, with a large number of participants that promoted a rich debate about this important disease.

BWMA SECTION OF PARANÁ (BWMA PR)

The BWMA PR was founded in 1960 by Dr Elisa Cherchia de Noronha who was the first President. She was the great stimulus for the medical women in Paraná State.

The Director, since the Foundation was: Elisa Cherchia de Noronha, Tazir Leprevost, Antonieta Azavedo, Saly Maria Bugmann Moreira, Therezinha Izabel Camargo de Campos, Enny Arlete Pioli Bassetyi, Ieda Aimone França, Alice Nogueira de Lima, Solange Borba Gildemeister, Vera Maria Araújo Garcia e Boza, Maria da Salete Grube, Ewalda Von Rosen Seeling Stahlke, Virginia Merlin, Ilvia Justen Tristão, Carmen Letícia Barbosa de Azevedo, Du Su Ying, Chang Yen-Li Chain, Wilma Brunetti, Claudia Paola Carrasco Aguilar.

In 1966 occurred the IV Journey of Brazilian Women Medical Association in Curitiba PR

In 1968-9, when Dr. Tazir Leprevost was the President, the Idea of the House of the Elder Medical Woman was developed and in 1967 the Campaign for the building of the house was launched, when Dr. Antonieta was the president. In 1971 the BWMA PR was declared by the Govern, one Entity of Public Utility. In September, 1973, Jaime Lerner, the Mayor of Curitiba, donated one urban area of 1960 square meters in Pilarzinho Bourogh, by intervention of the councilman Dr. Ezequias Losso and in 1975, the President, Dr. Saly Bugman Moreira negotiated a change in the location to another area in the central region of Curitiba to build the House of Medical Woman and to be the seat of BWMA PR (because of the urban legislation of the city). The house will be the lodge for Ambulatorial Assistance for the poor population. This deal was achieved during the administration of Dr. Terezinha and in 1977 the Foundation Stone was launched. For fundraising, there was a raffle of an auto donated by the Berlimed Lab. After two years, the contract was made to construct the building “Dr. Elisa Cherchia de Noronha” with the seat of the Association on the ground floor. At the moment this office is rented, but the plan for the House of Medical Woman is to gather medical women, colleagues and their families.

Actions: since 1999 the BWMA PR began a program for to stimulate breastfeeding, named “Mammy, I want to suck.”. This program represent a continuous effort over 17 years and it is a complement to another courses called “Pregnant Couples.” Another action is the “Campaign of the Shaken Baby” which is propagated in Public Maternity Hospital to prevent cerebral trauma of babies and infants.

BWMA MEDICAL CONGRESSES

Medical Congresses and Meetings have been organized by BWMA for a long time. In 1974, a most successful International Congress of MWIA was held in Rio de Janeiro, organized by Dr. Ilda Maip and Hildergard Stoltz, gathering 500 medical foreign women, with simultaneous translation for 6 idioms, an extraordinary feat for that time in Brazil.

In 1998, Brazil hosted another International Congress of MWIA. It was held in São Paulo and was combined with the XIX Brazilian Congress of the Medical Women and the XIV Congress of Panamerican Women Association (Alianza Panamericana de Médicas). These Congresses were organized by Dr. Nadir Barbato de Prates, who was also the Congress

President. The President of BWMA at that time was Dr. Solange Gildemeister and the BWMA SP was Dr. Helena Stivanin. The theme of the Congress was “Woman’s Health in XXI Century.” Attendees at the Congress included: Dr. Florence Manguyu, from Kenya, President of the MWIA, Dr. Rebeca Kuniyoshi, from Peru, Vice President of MWIA for Latin America and Dr. Lila Kroser, the President-elect. The opening of the Congress happened in the Legislative Assembly of São Paulo State. Many dignitaries from São Paulo attended including Dr. José da Silva Guedes, Health Secretary of São Paulo State, Mr. Milton Flavio, State Deputy, representing the Governor of São Paulo State and Dr. Eleuses Paiva, President of the São Paulo Medical Association, among others. During the planning of the congress, Dr. Dorothy Ward, UK, Past President of MWIA, and Dr. Rebeca Kuniyoshi, the VP of MWIA for Latin America visited Sao Paulo twice.

Colleagues of Brazil have always attended International Congresses of MWIA for a long time. In the XXVIII International of MWIA, in Seoul, South Korea, in 2010, our colleague, Dr. Marta Maite Sevillano was awarded “The Best Presented Work.”

Several Brazilian medical women went to Vienna in July, 2016, to the XXIX International Congress of MWIA, representing the BWMA, including Dr. Marilene Melo, the Vice President of BWMA, and Dr. Anna Maria Martits, the International Corresponding Executive of BWMA. At that Congress, Dr. Marta Maite Sevillano became the Vice President of MWIA for Latin America for the period 2016-2019. Dr. Marta Maite Sevillano, was the second Brazilian medical woman to occupy that important position. The first was Dr. Francys Reis da Silva Patrício, who was VP of MWIA for Latin America from 2004 to 2007.

The XX Brazilian Congress of Medical Women was organized by ABMM Section SP, in October 2012. Dr. Ivone Minhoto Meinão, President of BWMA SP, was the Congress President and Dr. Marilene de Rezende Melo, at that time, was the President of BWMA. The opening of the Congress was a lecture about “Intestinal Cancer in Woman” by the Professor Angelita Gama, Full Professor of the Gastrointestinal Surgery Department of USP and Emerita Member of our Association. Several medical students attended and participated, presenting scientific works. “Dermatologic Diseases in Women,” “Nutrition of the woman,” and “Life Quality” were some themes of debates.

By solidarity of Latin American colleagues, the BWMA SP organized in March (4 to 7) 2015, at São Paulo, the XXXII Panamerican Congress of Medical Women (Alianza Panamericana de Médicas), in conjunction with the XXII Brazilian Congress of Medical Women and the IV FENAM Meeting (National Federation of Doctors). These Congresses were presided over by Dr. Ivone Minhoto Meinão. Dr. Marta Maite Sevillano was the General Secretary of the Congresses, that took place at São Paulo Medical Association. At that time, the President of BWMA was Dr. Marilene Melo. Opening the Congress was Dr. David Uip, the Secretary of Health of São Paulo State with a lecture about “Health Politician for the Women in São Paulo State.” Several dignitaries attended the Congress such as Dr. Florival Meinão, the President of São Paulo Medical Association, and the Presidents of the Brazilian Medical Association, and the National Medical Federation. The theme of this Congress was “Objectives of Millennium

and the Medical Woman.” Several themes, were debated such as ”Violence Against Woman,” “Gender Differences in Several Specialities,” “Sexuality and Auto Esteem,” “Avoided Cancer in Woman,” “Infectious Diseases in the XXI Century,” “Mental Health of Doctors,” “Drug addiction between Doctors,” “Healthy Life: Diet, Physical Activity and Over Weight,” and “ Work Market for Medical Women.”

Latin American colleagues attended this Congress in exceptional numbers, including Dr. Brigida Alvarez, the President of the Pan American Women Association (PAMWA). At this time, Dr Ivone Meinão was elected the President of PAMWA to assume office at the next Congress of PAMWA in May 2017, in Panamá. One beautiful Latin American Party closed the Congress in a friendly and pleasant atmosphere.

The next Brazilian Congress will be in Curitiba-PR.



Some of the present directors of BWMA



CANADA

The **Federation of Medical Women of Canada** reports a Canadian population of 37 million with 80,260 physicians, 34,000 of whom are women. There are 148 members with 145 students, 22 residents, and 4 honorary members.

The President is **Dr. Kathee Andrews**, Treasurer **Dr. Kathleen Gartke** and **Dr. Susan Wilkinson** and National Coordinator **Dr. Vivien Brown**. The executive director at the office is **Ms. Anna Raffard**– fmwcmain@fmwc.ca

The newsletter is published two times per year. The executive meets monthly via teleconference and the board quarterly by teleconference and there is an annual meeting. Branches vary in how often they meet, usually annually or semi-annually.

Annual meetings held this triennium were:

Enhancing leadership and collaborative skills for women in medicine. The conference theme echoed the old African Proverb: “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”

**2016: Pride and Prejudice: Setting the Agenda for Women’s Health
September 23-25, 2016 Hamilton, Ontario**

Explore topics of importance in today’s health care environment, with specific attention paid to mentorship, women’s health research, immunization and aging, reproductive health and, gender and health issues.

**2017: Women’s Health and Wellbeing: Connected Compassionate and Courageous
September 15-17, 2017 Ottawa, Ontario**

**2018: Women Physicians: Making a World of Difference
Taking care of ourselves, those close to home and the world around us
September 21-23, 2018, Toronto, Ontario**

Projects and areas of interest include unsafe abortion, HPV Prevention Week held October 1-7 annually, Vaccination and Leadership for Medical Women.

Our members hold many other positions such as Dr. Gail Beck, Treasurer (MWIA) and Dr. Shelley Ross, Secretary General (MWIA),

Narrative Report

In lieu of our narrative report, we direct organizers to <https://fmwc.ca/newsletters/> where all of our recent Newsletters, including all substantive updates, may be found.

FINLAND

Suomen Naislääkäriyhdistys.. (Finnish Medical Women Association) reports a country population of 5,522,000 people. There are 20,970 physicians, 12,507 of whom are women.

The association has 214 members, 2 of whom are students. The President is Paula Pihlaja Hallainvuorentie, Vice President is Eva Abonen, Secretary Leena Penttinen, Treasurer Ulla Aarnio, Webmaster, Kirsi Kelhä, National Coordinator Tuula Saarela, and Regional meeting coordinator Eeva Leppävuori. The general assembly meets once per year with the executive meeting four times per year.

Scientific meetings were:

5.3.18. Dr. Hannele Kotilainen: Actual epidemiology

9.10.18. Dr. Ari Aimolahti: Endocrinological challenges

14.11. 18 Minna Maijala, PhD: Reflections of humanity on mental health as expressed in the literary work of Minna Canth during the 18th century.

12.5.2018 MWIA President, Professor Bettina Pfliederer visited Finland and met our members at a lunch meeting.

Suomen Naislääkärit (Finnish Medical Women Association) is a member of The National Council of Women of Finland and via this council membership associated to ICW.

Projects include:

a) To sponsor a medical student to the Centennial 2018-2019

b) Continuous membership at the Women's Bank. Women's Bank is a volunteer network which raises funds to support women's sustainable entrepreneurship and livelihood in developing countries

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Dr. Tuula Saarela is the Vice President for Northern Europe for this triennium.

GERMANY

The German Medical Women's Association reports a population of 83,000,000 with 378,607 physicians, 176,052 being women. The association has 1619 members with 150 students, 3 honorary members, and 422 under the age of 40. The President is Dr. med. Christiane Gross from Wuppertal, Treasurer is Dr. med. Heike Raestrup, Linburg a. d. Lahn, and National Coordinator is Dr. med. Gudrun Gunther from Darmstadt.

The association produces a journal which is produced monthly and can be accessed at:

http://www.aerztinnenbund.de/Heft_12019_der_aerzt.3045.0.2.html

The executive meets five times per year and local branches vary in their meeting schedule. There is an annual general membership meeting and education session.

Work includes a statement on the law which regulates safety at work during pregnancy, and reconciliation of work and family both locally and nationally. Gender and health is a priority both nationally and locally with comments made to the press and much public relations work and at the scientific meeting. There are local projects on female genital mutilation and primary care research. There is a national project entitled "Medical Women on Top," geared toward women physician leadership. Other projects are: teaching gender medicine at medical schools, a national mentoring network, a motion on the treatment of refugees, and care of refugees.

The association interacts with government around the topics of safety at work during pregnancy, laws around sexual violence and advising on guidelines and laws pertaining to medical education and ethics.

The association works with WHO and UNICEF, and interacts with Zonta and Soroptomists on the local level.

Prof. Dr. Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer is President of MWIA and also the representative to the European Women's Lobby.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES (overview of activities taken from our journal)

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES (overview of activities taken from our journal)

2016

Female migrant doctors meeting female German doctors on a professional base
German MWA (DÄB), is asking their colleagues to get ready for being elected into different medical committees and bodies

In Germany pregnant doctors are not allowed to conduct surgery during their pregnancy.

German MWA states: stop this law which is overdue.

German MWA states: stress at workplace is hampering young female doctors. German MWA demands reasonable working conditions for the next generation.

2017

For the German MWA (DÄB), health policy stands above all for the structural change in the health system, in which the number of female doctors is continuously increasing. The DÄB keeps an eye on the gender-specific aspects of medicine. In this field, the DÄB wants to help shape the future, to contribute expertise, to be heard by the politicians in discussions whether women doctors should increasingly practice in rural regions in the future and what incentives there are for doing so. The DÄB is constantly concerned with questions relating to public health, an application-oriented field that deals with the health of the population.

2018

Professional policy is important to the DÄB in order to advance the medical women profession. This means improving the working conditions of female doctors in terms of work-life balance and thus keeping work and private life in balance. To achieve this, the DÄB demands flexible working hours, additional daycare places and changes towards a modern role model in which fathers also assume responsibility for their children.

SELECTED TOPICS OF PRESS RELEASES

2016

In medicine, gender-specific medicine refers to the special attention paid to the biological differences between men and women. It implies gender-specific research and treatment of diseases. Gender-specific differences are also particularly relevant in the prescription of drugs.

The integration of gender-specific medicine into medical curricula is still in its infancy in Germany. Unfortunately, gender-specific research results have so far rarely found their way into medical teaching. According to the German MWA (DÄB), gender-specific aspects should be a binding part of diagnosis and treatment.

2017

In statements and reports, the DÄB Ethics Committee presents the views of female doctors in the association on current issues. Female physician health is important for the DÄB in a profession with special requirements.

Background: In health policy, the health system is planned, organised, controlled and financed - so that it works. Associations and bodies of joint self-administration are important partners here, as are health insurance funds, the Kassenärztliche Vereinigungen (KV) and the hospital associations. The Joint Federal Committee (G-BA) is the statutory body in which these associations and bodies are to come to jointly supported solutions.

2018

The MentorinnenNetzwerk (MNW) of the German MWA (DÄB), since 2000 promotes the careers of female doctors. About one third of the mentees are female students, more than half are female doctors in continuing education. The female mentors currently work as doctors and dentists in doctor's offices, clinics, hospitals, universities and science institutions. They are active in professional political committees and have international contacts. The international

networking of the DÄB's network of mentors also enables internships abroad. The MNW of the DÄB is a member of the association Forum Mentoring e.V., whose goal is equal opportunities for men and women in science and research. The association serves to network and support gender- and diversity-based mentoring measures at all levels of education and qualification, with particular emphasis on women.

<https://www.aerztinnenbund.de/MentorinnenNetzwerk.0.176.1.html>

The DÄB actual project is ÄRZTIN „medical woman“2020, for which many colleagues from the DÄB have already developed numerous perspectives for the year 2020 in 2011. By 2020 there are only a few years left. The countdown has begun.

GHANA

The Medical Women's Association of Ghana (MWAG) reports a country population of 27 million with 5500 physicians, of which 1700 are women. Paid-up membership is 85 but 150 participate in activities.

The President is Dr. Marion Okoh-Owusu, the Treasurer Dr. Salamatu Mohammed, and the National Coordinator Dr. May Amoakoh-Coleman.

The executive meets monthly either on line or in person, the general assembly is held triennially and the local branches meet monthly and annually.

At the local level, projects include participation in Child Health Week, education on adolescent sexuality, HPV screening and education, leadership for female physicians and menstrual hygiene. On the national level, there is screening and education for HPV and cervical cancer, and 16 days of activism led by the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection, where the association collaborates in planning and implementation of activities.

There is cooperation with Zonta for medical outreach in remote areas.

Dr. Mary Amoakoh-Coleman is the treasurer of the Commonwealth Medical Association as of October 2016 to the present.

Scientific meetings were:

November, 2016: “Recognizing Mental Health Disorders in health care”.

November, 2018: “Achieving Wellness in Health Professionals”.

Narrative report of : **MEDICAL WOMEN ASSOCIATION OF GHANA (MWAG)**

Report:

1. National (Meetings)

- Annual General: Over the period under review, the MWAG organized 2 AGMs. The first was in November, 2016, under the theme “Recognizing Mental Health Disorders in health care”. The second was in November 2018

under the theme “Achieving Wellness in Health Professionals”. For each AGM, there was a scientific session on the theme, which was attended by various health professionals (including males) with experts invited to make presentations on different aspects of the theme. This was followed by a business meeting for members of MWAG where we reviewed our activities and finances, planned the way forward in terms of activities and existing and potential projects and then we had elections and handing over to new national executives.

- Executive meetings: Most monthly executive meetings were held on WhatsApp platform as it was the convenient way of getting members who are located in different parts of the country.
2. National (Projects): The Cervical cancer project, which is spearheaded by the Greater Accra branch, was expanded to cover the Central, Western and Volta regions, The project entails education on cervical cancer prevention amongst women groups (churches, market women and police officers’ wives) and senior high students. We also conduct cervical cancer screening amongst the women groups. This program is supported financially by Lexta Ghana Limited, a private business as part of its corporate social responsibility.
The Well woman clinic is also a national project hosted in the Greater Accra region and run by its members. We offer wellness services to women on appointment basis once a month. The women receive free services for primary health care, screened for various health conditions including cervical cancer, and get appropriate referrals where necessary.
 3. National (Collaborations): We collaborate with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection in many of its programs and policy development. Key amongst these is the 16 (sixteen) days of activism against Gender-Based Violence in November every year.
 4. Local (branches): We currently have three active branches, Greater Accra, Western and Ashanti.
 - Greater Accra: The branch has regular monthly meetings. Although attendance is rather not always encouraging, there are discussions on ongoing activities and how to get more people interested and involved. The branch had one AGM over the period under the theme “Child Abuse – Recognition and management”. There was a scientific session followed by a business meeting. There was a medical outreach program where an average of 400 adults and children received free medical and dental services, including medication, cervical cancer screening, screening for HIV/AIDS etc. This was done in conjunction with the member of Parliament for the constituency. The branch continues to spearhead the Cervical cancer and Well woman Clinic projects described above. It is currently working on starting a new project on Menstrual Hygiene among school children and other vulnerable groups.

Finally, the branch worked with the National Blood Service in 2018 to drive a Blood Donation Campaign in the University of Ghana.

- Ashanti: The Ashanti branch conducted a Well woman fair in November 2017 at which they provided health education, screening and medical consultation to a large number of participants. Other events organized include a talk on investment opportunities for its members, corporate wellbeing and health event with a local company meeting with newly qualified medical officers to introduce MWAG to them as well as an end of year ball in December 2017.

- Western: The branch organized monthly online meetings and quarterly face-to-face meetings.

They organized a medical outreach at market square where about 300 women, men and children received free medical care for various conditions. They organized one AGM which was well attended. They marked different international health days at identified work places, districts or localities. These included World TB Day, Child Health Week, Mental health week, World Menstrual Hygiene day, amongst others.

Lastly the branch contributed to the Cervical cancer campaign through talks to varied audience.

5. Near East and Africa: Ghana participated in the Regional conference of the Near East and Africa region which took place in Nairobi, Kenya in November 2018. The Conference was under the theme “Accelerating women’s Health Agenda: Priorities and opportunities through UN SDGs and AU Agenda 2063”. Six (6) members of MWAG, including the current Vice President for the region, Dr. Mabel Aboah attended the 3-day conference which was also attended by some executives of MWIA, including the President, Dr. Betinna Pflieiderer. Dr. Christine Sadia was elected as the incoming regional Vice President.
6. The Ghana National Group of the yMWIA: The Young Medical Women International Association in Ghana comprises all doctors age 40 years and below as well as female medical students. The young forum represents approximately 50 percent of the total membership. The main topics discussed and supported by members during the period 2016 to 2018 included Adolescent reproductive health, Cervical Cancer, domestic violence, gender-based violence, leadership and women empowerment.
 - Individual members of the group actively campaigned in Sexual and Gender-based violence during the period 2016 to 2018. Activities included focused group discussions on sexual violence and how physicians can support affected persons, especially fellow women.
 - Dr Marion Okoh-Owusu, who is the yMWIA secretary general has spearheaded adolescent health services in yMWIA, most significantly, on Adolescent Reproductive Health matters. Services included reaching out-of-school and in-school adolescents and young people with information on contraception, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI’s), through outreaches to schools, churches, youth groups and via social media campaigns. She participated in the development of the Ghana National Adolescent Health service policy and strategy and has since used her position to organize young

- female medical doctors to advocate for the rights of adolescents. This strong advocacy role has sustained the interest of young doctors in adolescent health issues.
- In 2018, the yMWIA in Ghana celebrated the World Menstrual Health Hygiene Day in style in Ellembele district of Ghana where the first president of Ghana, Dr Nkrumah hails from. Health consultations and counseling sessions as well as free supplies of sanitary towels were provided for girls between the ages of 10 and 19 years.
 - The World prematurity day was celebrated by young female lady doctors in the child health unit of the western regional hospital in Ghana. They distributed the safe childbirth messages to mothers, and the general population.
 - An important event spearheaded by the yMWIA is the leadership and women empowerment campaign for lady doctors. Female doctors were encouraged to participate in national policy development seminars and stay up-to-date on the policy processes in order to positively influence policy decisions.
 - Success Story: Following the call for women into leadership, Dr Marion Okoh-Owusu mentored a young female professional and supported her to take up a position as head of a health facility overseeing the health and well-being of approximately 40,000 inhabitants. This young lady doctor excelled in her role and was loved by all.
 - In summary, yMWIA in Ghana have been very active. Despite their heavy clinical schedule, they made time as a group and on individual basis to keep the MWAG torch burning.

HONG KONG, SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF CHINA

The Hong Kong Medical Women's Association reports a national population of 7.48 million, with 14,775 physicians with 4727 women physicians.

The association has 230 members as of March 1, 2016, with 200 life members and 57 under the age of 40. The President is Dr. Cissy Yu, the Treasurer is Dr. Victoria Wong, and National Coordinators are Dr. Wing Yuk Ip and Dr. Amy Keung. There is a newsletter published every six months.

The executive meets quarterly and there is a yearly general assembly. The Western Pacific Regional Congress was held in Hong Kong in August 2017 and the program can be access through the following link.

MWIA Western Pacific Regional Conference from 25 – 27 August 2017. The program is attached.



MWIA 2017
Program.docx

Projects include:

Adolescent sexuality – Provide antenatal screening at a reduced price to teenage pregnant girls referred by social workers (collaboration with HK Playground Association Kwai Chung Centre).

HPV and cervical cancer – Provide free cervical screening and referrals for abnormal cases to low-income local women in Hong Kong as well as ethnic minorities including domestic helpers in Hong Kong (Ripples Action, Rainlily WE STAND health day).

Primary Health Care – Provide health talks on the themes of metabolic syndrome and healthy eating, health screening by blood pressure / BMI measurement / finger prick for blood glucose and cholesterol as well as individual health consultation for abnormal cases to ethnic minorities men and women in Hong Kong (collaboration with ISSHK HOPE Centre and HKSKH Lady Macle hose Centre).

Vaccination – Provide free HPV vaccination to girls aged 9-16 from low-income families in Hong Kong (collaboration with ISSHK and HKSKH Lady Macle hose Centre).

The association has liaisons with:

a. Zonta Club of Kowloon supported the charitable activity of Hong Kong Women Doctors Association by sponsoring the HPV vaccination program

b. Hong Kong Women Doctors Association collaborate with ISS (International Social Service HK branch) in Ripples Action to provide health care screening and education to underprivileged females in Hong Kong.

The association works with the government as one of the signatories of organ donation chapter of HKSAR government, we promote organ donation at our community services and annual dinners through the setting up of promotion booths, distribution of donor registration forms and answer clients' enquiries on organ donation.

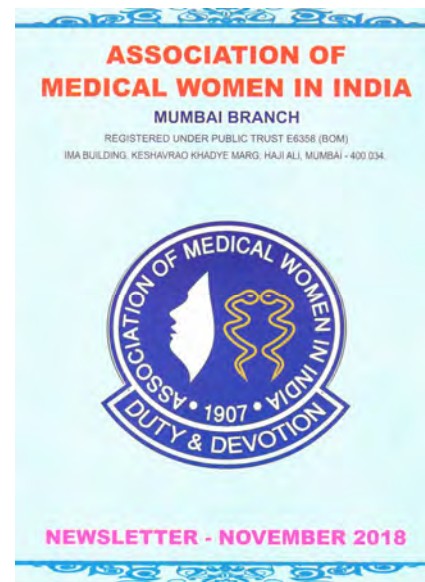
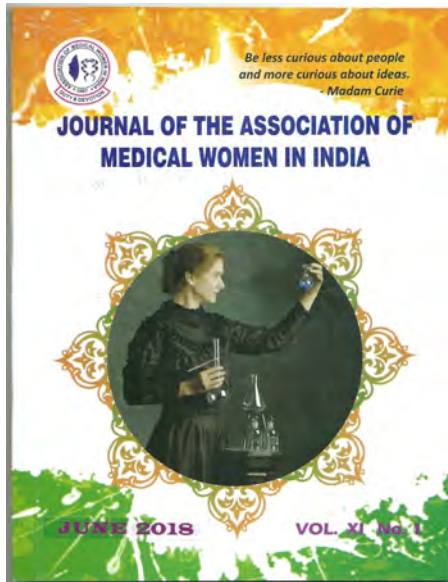
Dr. Cissy Yu is the Vice President for the Western Pacific Region of MWIA.

INDIA

The Association of Medical Women in India (AMWI) reports a national population of 1.32 billion. There are 988,922 physicians with 200,000 being women. In the last five years India has produced 4500 more women than male physicians.

AMWI has 750 members with 100 international members. The president is Dr. Vandana Walyekar, the Treasurer Dr. Survarna Khadilkar and the National Coordinators are Dr. Nalini Kurey and Dr. Radhika Joshi.

The association produces a journal and a newsletter that include scientific papers and information about events. The journal is produced annually by the Kolkata Branch and the newsletter annually by the Mumbai branch.



The executive meetings of the Mumbai, Kolkata and Nagpur branches are held every two months. There is a yearly general assembly.

We organise **scientific sessions** in the form of CMEs, Workshops, Panel Discussions all throughout the year at our all branches. The topics discussed are- Anaemia, Antenatal care, Diabetes, Hypertension, Heart Disease in women, Menopause and AUB, Family Planning, contraception, HIV/AIDS, Adolescent sexuality, HPV and cervical cancer, Domestic Violence, Primary Health Care, Vaccination, Osteoporosis, Malignancies in women, Leadership for female physicians.

Theme of the Triennium is “**AMWI Ambassadors of Women’s Health**,” adopted from MWIA. We work along with MWIA’s theme as well as the Theme of our AMWI for this Triennium “**Wellness beyond 45.**”

Association Of Medical Women In India (AMWI)- Every year , Golden Jubilee research Award is presented to the member below 50 years age, submitting her thesis on the research done.

AMWI Mumbai Branch conducts every year “three days course in cytology.” Around 30-35 trainees attend the course, for which they get certificates.

Cytology clinic is run by Mumbai branch every week at CAMA Hospital. Colposcopy is done after screening whenever needed.

Shirin Mehtaji Paper presentation competition is conducted every year for post graduate students.

News letter is published every year by Mumbai branch and circulated to all members.

Kolkata Branch of AMWI runs a Hospital, AMWI Mission Hospital, for women and children at Kolkata, founded by the efforts of Late Dr. Mary Catchatoor, catering the underprivileged with minimum cost both for Indoor and Outdoor patients.

Cancer detection clinic and mobile clinic in van twice a week in slum areas is ongoing project
Training in Nursing for underprivileged girls is regularly carried out.

Journal is published by Kolkata branch of AMWI.

Nagpur Branch conducts scientific activities very regularly. Diagnostic and awareness camps are organised very frequently in urban as well as rural areas.

Pap smears and colposcopy are done every week in collaboration with Indian Cancer Society. Association Of Medical Women In India (AMWI) celebrates festivals and social events like Saraswati puja, Christmas day, Diwali & Idd, Holi with great fervour.

We celebrate International Women's day with lot of scientific and social activities every year.

National Conferences

Central Asia Regional Congress of MWIA was held in Kolkata on 5th & 6th December 2015, which was attended by International delegates Dr K.A. Park and others from South Korea. National Conference of AMWI was held in Nagpur on 15th & 16th December 2016. Two days multidisciplinary medical specialities Orations, lectures, paper presentations, panel discussions, symposia, debates & quiz sessions were held. Very active and interesting participation from audience took place. Cultural night on 15th December was relaxing and entertaining.

National Conference of AMWI for 2017 was held at Mumbai on 16th & 17 December 2017 at Krishna Palace Hotel, Mumbai. MWIA International President, Dr. Bettina Pfloderer from Germany and International Vice President, Dr. Padmini Murthy from USA attended the conference. For two days, 5 Orations, 4 Plenary sessions, 3 Guest lectures, were delivered by 10 guest speakers. All subjects were covered, including Yoga, Bones & Us, Violence against women, Palliative care, Ovarian tumours, Diabetes, Disorders of Sexual development, Vaccination in women, awareness of Cancer Cervix, antenatal care and Diet in gut dysfunction. 27 papers were presented by post graduate students.

AMWI National conference was held on 16-17th November 2018 at Kolkata. Theme of the conference was “ Women's Health – Everyone Everywhere.” Scientific program included - Free Papers, Mixed bag of lectures on various disciplines of medicine, guest lectures, symposia, Orations, Panel discussion on Male Infertility, Symposia on Breast cancer, Panel discussion on menopause and various topics. Cultural evening was well crafted and enjoyed by all.

Our Achievers-

Dr. Usha Saraiya was conferred with Prestigious Zur Hausen Oration award At Cuttack in March 2018.

Dr. Usha Saraiya and Dr. Radhika Joshi were part of the MWIA delegation to attend the WHO's General assembly in Geneva in May 2018.

Dr Mandakini Megh is elected to the Prestigious post of “ Vice president elect MWIA central Asia” 2019-2022 .

Dr Sarita Bhalerao was elected to Governing Council of ICOG. She participated in FIGO at Rio De Janerio as Faculty.

Dr. Usha Saraiya was awarded with Life Time Achievement Award by AOGIN at 8th Annual AIGIN conference at Lukhnow.

Dr. Usha Saraiya and Dr. Mandakini Megh attended 8th MWIA regional “Central Asia” conference in Bangkok from September 6 to 8, 2018.

Dr Nandita Palshetkar is - President of Federation Of Obstetrician & Gynaecology Society Of India (FOGSI)

Dr. Smita Mahalle is Director of National Institute of Research in Reproductive Health (NIRRH).

Dr. Vandana Walvekar received "woman Achiever" award by Dr Devi Dayal Foundation (DDF) : 2018.

Arnavaz Havewala attended MWIA CSW conference on International Women's day in New York.

Dr. Laxmi Shrikhande from Nagpur branch –is Vice Chairperson – Indian College of Obstetrician and Gynaecologists (ICOG).She is also Corresponding Editor – Journal of Obstetrician and Gynaecologists .

Dr. Prachi Mahajan received Golden Jubilee Award for her research in 2016.

Dr. Abha Bang received Golden Jubilee Award for her research paper in 2018.

Dr. Neelam Mishra is Pro- Vice Chancellor of Datta Meghe Medical Institute Sawangi.

Projects include work on the topics given below.. Every branch of AMWI organises workshops, CMEs , Symposia on these topics --

Anaemia, Antenatal care, Diabetes, Hypertension, Heart Disease in women, Menopause and AUB, Family Planning, contraception, HIV/AIDS, , Adolescent sexuality, HPV and cervical cancer, Domestic Violence, Primary Health Care , Vaccination ,Osteoporosis, Malignancies in women, Leadership for female physicians.

The Indian Government works on 24 National Programs which includes Antenatal care, Family Planning, HIV & AIDs, Vaccination programs and AMWI participates in all.

AMWI works with Federation Of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Society Of India (FOGSI), Indian Medical Association (IMA), and Menopause Society. We work with WHO and UNICEF. **We work with International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).**

Dr. Usha Saraiya was “ Vice president of MWIA central Asia” 2010-2013.

MWIA is doing great work at International level, which is appreciated by all. We should have projects to involve more people, especially the young doctors.

ITALY

The **Italian Women Doctors Association (AIDM: Associazione Italiana Donne Medico)** is a non-political, non confessional, non profit organization. Founded on October 14, 1921 at Salsomaggiore Terme and recognized in 1922 in Geneva by the International Bureau, it is a member of the Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) and adopts its the symbol the figure of Igea, daughter of Esculapio and the goddess of Health who holds in her hand the cup from which the serpent drinks with the motto “ *Matris animo curant*”.

The association began with the name of “Association of Italian Women Doctors in Medicine” through the actions of Clelia Lollini who was present in New York on October 25, 1919 at the foundation of MWIA and of Myra Corcupino-Ferrari who remained President until 1947.

At that time there were approximately 200 women doctors in all Italy, among them Maria Montessori, member of AIDM since 1928 who introduced her educative method worldwide. Unfortunately from 1929 until 1947 we must register an interruption in relations with the AIDM for political and martial reasons although relations had always gone well. Only in 1947 AIDM was founded in Milan in a General Assembly and Giuseppina Pastori of the Catholic University was elected President. Members in Italy were then 350.

In 1949 AIDM was reintegrated into the MWIA in Helsinki. Currently the association has about 500 members distributed in 56 sections spread throughout the national territory. The

registered office is at Organizing Secretariat, Via Val Passiria, 23, Roma; the tax office is at the address of the current president, at this time **Antonella Vezzani** of Parma, specialist in Anesthesiology and Critical Care.

The association is organized in provincial sections.

AIDM has become part of **Federation of Medical and Scientific Societies** (FISM) in May 2003 with protocol number A017 and in developing its scientific and training activities it adopts the quality verification system.

Since January 2011 it has been accredited as a Standard Provider with the n° 558 by the National Commission for Continuing Education and is therefore qualified to carry out training activities recognized as suitable for Continuing Medical Education. On the entire national territory the sections organize conventions, seminaries, study groups and participation on scientific projects and collaboration with other scientific societies. Every year the National Congress is organized, followed by the National Assembly.

AIDM is part of CNDI (National Council of Italian Women): one of the its objectives is to build a network of women doctors, researchers and journalists. It is part of the network “Women and Science” of the DCXII European Commission.

As per Statute the aim of the Association is: enhance the work of women doctors in a health sector; promote collaboration between women doctors; collaborate with other associations both Italian and international for the study of health and socio-sanitary issues that involve the community and in particular women; promote scientific-cultural training in the health field by collaborating with public organizations and institutions; develop study trials and guidelines.

With this mission the attention of AIDM was turned in recent years to the issues of work-life balance, career difficulties, violence against women and minors, the advent of new technologies and lifestyles, emergence o re-emergence of pathologies with great impact on the population and, in particular, to the diffusion of Sex-Gender Medicine in areas of training, information and scientific studies.

JAPAN

The **Japan Medical Women’s Association** reports a population of 126,493,000 with 319,480 physicians of which only 67,493 are women.

The association has 900 members with 9 students and 40 members under 40. The President and National Coordinator is Dr. Yoshiko Maeda, and the Treasurer is Dr. Michiko Suwa. A journal is published three times a year. The executive council meets seven times a year with an annual general assembly. There are regular regional meetings.

There is an annual lecture and ongoing educational activities.

2016: The Japan Medical Women’s Association (JMWA) held a General Assembly in Tokyo on May 15th. A President Election was held and Professor Hiroko Yamamoto took office as the second term chairman. In September, after the MWIA Congress in Vienna, former MWIA President, Professor Atsuko Heshiki died suddenly.

2017: President of JMA, Hiroko Yamamoto, died of pancreatic cancer in January. Dr. Yoshiko Maeda was elected chairman in March. JMWA held a general assembly in Saitama Prefecture on May 14th. Saitama Prefecture is the birth place of Ginko Ogino, who was the first female doctor in Japan.

2018: JMWA held a general assembly in Tokyo on May 20. President Election was held and Dr. Yoshiko Maeda took office as the second term chairman. In August, it was discovered

that Tokyo Medical University had manipulated the entrance exams results of women since about 2011 to keep the female student population low. After that, according to a survey by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, it was found that 81 universities were cheating on medical school examinations. JMWA issued a statement on discrimination of female students that was taken up by the media.

KOREA

1. KMWA won the '17th Hanmi True Medical Care Provider Award'

KMWA accomplished a splendid achievement of winning the '17th Hanmi True Medical Care Provider Award', which was founded for the public announcement of a medical personnel or association devoted to medical services for the underprivileged. The award is supported by Hanmi Pharmaceutical Corporation and supervised by Seoul Medical Association. The award was a result of our continuous devotion for the last 37 years to caring for the vulnerable and underprivileged neighbors including grandparent-grandchild families, multicultural families, foreign laborers, and North Korean defectors. The award ceremony was held at Hotel Lotte on December 3, 2018.



CEO of Hanmi Pharmaceutical Corporation (left), Hyang Aie Lee President of the KMWA (center), President of Seoul Medical Association (right).

2. KMWA held the '12th Health Symposium for Women' and the 'Year-End Celebration'

At the end of the '12th Health Symposium for Women' held at Hotel Koreana on December 8th, 2018, we had a year-end celebration and said goodbye to the year 2018. We positively reviewed our efforts throughout the year in that we, as an important party of the Korean Medical Association (KMA), strived to break through the current crisis of 'Moon Healthcare' issues, and also in that we fulfilled our due responsibilities of public service and professionalism to the fullest capacity. At the year-end celebration, a fashion gala was held to support single mothers and to raise funds for medical care services. Added to the fun were an excellent dance

performance and a fashion show. A charity bazaar on the side delivered love and warmth to the isolated and underprivileged neighbours.



Hong Jun Park President of the Seoul Medical Association (left), Hyang Aie Lee President of the KMWA (center), Dae Jib Choi President of the KMA (right)

3. The 63rd Annual Meeting of the KMWA was held on April 13, 2019, at Koreana Hotel, where the members pledged to take full responsibility as influential leaders of the Korean medical society.

The year 2019 is the centennial for March 1st Independence Movement and also for the Provisional Government of the Republic of Korea. In celebration of this centennial, diverse memorial activities and projects are carried on in order to awaken nationwide historical awareness. Next year, the KMWA will be celebrating its 120th anniversary, and as such, the KMWA is planning on a historical project of commemorating the great women doctors in history who had contributed to our society as learned leaders. The KMWA will research and document their specific activities and achievements to mark them in history.

MALI

The Réseau des Femmes Médecins du Mali (RFM) Network of Women Doctors of Mali reports a country population of 19,496,808 with 5192 physicians, of which only 741 are women.

The association has 45 members, 12 of whom are life members. The President is Dr Aissata DOLO, Treasurer is Dr Rakki M'BAYE, and National Coordinator Dr Tenin

SANOGO. The executive meets twice a month. A general assembly is held once every four years.

Projects include family planning, HPV and cervical cancer, and leadership for female physicians.

The document is well informed, but the association must take into account that we Francophone countries in Africa are not good in English. If there is information to provide we are given the document in word in order to translate.

NEW ZEALAND 2019 - New Zealand Medical Women - Statistics - notes by Dr Robyn Hewland, for MWIA

Reference - 2017 NZ Medical Council Workforce Report - (emailed to me, 2019, on request)

Female doctors made up majority of doctors in Vocational training (54%) and most widely represented in Obstetrics & Gynaecology (85.5%), and, Paediatrics (77.2%). They exceeded 50% in General Practice (63.3%), Rural Hosp Medicine (63.2%), Pathology (63%), Emergency Medicine (54%). In Psychiatry they were 45.5%. In surgery males were 81.9%. Several in NZ (and Australia) have disclosed ongoing sexual harassment and discrimination in surgery.

In 2017, in the medical workforce, women were 44.8%. Females in work roles were Hospital House Officers (after graduation, 56.7%), Registrars (5 years specialty training, 52.6%), GP's (50.1%), as Specialists (43.2%). Their numbers will increase as Registrars complete training. Average hours worked was 44.2/week, similar for females and males till aged 30, with an increase for females since 2005. Males of 35-39 worked over 50 hours /week. Females over 40 averaged 40 hours, average of ten hours less than males, citing family commitments.

Reference - 1971- 2014 - Medical Schools in Auckland and Otago (received on request)

Male and female medical students were 60 % in 1972, 0% in 1975, 60% in 1976, and have varied as 30-45% to 1995, and mostly over 50% till 2017, and rising since. In NZ in 2025, females will outnumber all male doctors.

I graduated in 1962. It was after one year Medical Intermediate taking 1st year Science Units in Chemistry, Zoology, Physics, and, Organic Chemistry and Botany Certificates, at one of four City Universities. In Christchurch, 70 started and twelve gained the most marks and were admitted to Medical School, joined by those from the others for five years, in our class of 120 in Otago, the only Medical School in NZ then. Our ten females were told we took a man's place, and, would waste it. Our O & G Professor said that females who had menstrual pains had not adapted to their proper role in society. In New Zealand then, only 12% of married women worked outside their home. Oral contraceptives were introduced in 1961 for married women. All alcohol licensing was to 6pm, nil on Sundays. We lived in single-sex Hostels and flats. There was no maternal leave nor Child Care Centres before mid-1970s. That was despite our women gaining the Vote in 1893, and female country leaders.

New Zealand Medical Women's affiliated with MWIA soon after they both existed.

Thank you MWIA and all who provided role models, encouragement and support to all.

NZMWA folded in 2003 as all were so busy, and are so far away from overseas conferences.

Thousands of NZ Women Doctors are on an invitation only confidential Facebook site.

Despite many improvements since, most Drs graduate with large debts, seek work-family-life

balance, childcare, less stress, as many needs continue. Female hospital specialists when answering a telephone call still are asked if "can I speak to the specialist Dr", or even to "the proper Dr". We all have hopes from our young Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, but has so many demands and budget limits in "Health & Wellbeing", with free Public Hospitals, new costly medications, an ageing population, and universal Superannuation for all over aged 65.

NIGERIA

The association under the leadership of the National president Dr Joyce Barber was able to carry out the following activities.

1) OUTREACHES.

Many states branches had several of these. Edo had a school health program at Negbengbor group of schools on the 29th of Jan 2019. The children were taught on proper hand washing techniques amongst other things.

Edo also collaborated with the wife of the Governor of the State and other stake holders to protest the increasing rate of violence against women in Nigeria. Many MWAN states are making efforts in eliminating this menace. Rivers MWAN in collaboration with Civil Centre for peace justice and development supported by the United States of America held a 2- Day workshop on Gender Based Violence, prevention and Response to 9 secondary schools in Rivers state.

This was well commemorated by many states branches. Delta took to the media to give health talks, Imo branch gave health talks, breast and cervical examinations to the women of Uratta community.

3)The National president Elect Dr M. Oseji was sponsored by KNCV TB Care Foundation to participate at a one Day proposal meeting for a follow up on Tuberculosis project on the 20th of Feb 2019 at the Centre for Clinical Research , Abuja. It is hoped that selected MWAN states will be beneficiaries of the USAID grants for this project if approved.

All MWAN active states took deliveries of three pocket sized fetal Dopplers donated by an Australian organization, The DAK foundation. It is hoped that data generated from its use will be put to securing more donations to MWAN.

MWAN also joined the Medicaid Cancer foundation CEO, Dr Zainab Bagudu (Wife of the Executive Governor of Kebbi state at the highest level to advocate for Gynecological cancers patient.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS.

MWAN had her parallel session at the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women on Friday, 15th March at 12.30pm.

Venue was The Armenian Convention Center, Vartan Hall. (630, 2nd Ave. at 35th St. New York). The topic was Social and Economic Consequences of Teenage Pregnancy: Enhancing Our Social and Economic System.

Many international speakers graced the occasion.

We collaborated with the Health care Business Support System Ltd, to hold a Women and Health care Symposium on the 14th of May, 2019 at Shehu Musa Yar Adua Centre, Abuja. The symposium had participants from all sectors of the health care sector in Nigeria to provide a platform for deliberation for women on the opportunity to access quality health care at all levels.

MWAN held 4 NEC meetings so far. Our Biennial conference comes up in September 2019 at Asaba Delta state.

MWAN had offers of collaborations from many organisations including the Federal Government.

We are at the verge of signing an MOU with the National primary Health care Development Agency as the preferred NGO for its advocacy on Women and Children's health in Nigeria

The National President of MWAN, Dr. Joyce Barber addressed the newly inducted foreign female doctors in Abuja.

It was a beautiful outing with the new house officers of ABUTH.

The Session included:

- Briefings by MWAN Representatives, Dr Tanko (O&G Dept)
Dr. Margaret Afam (Ophthalmology Dept) and the YDF Coordinator (Dr. Bilqis Muhammad).

-Question and Answer /Interactive Sessions with the Female House Officers after which they were inducted into MWAN.

It was time well spent and we look forward to a wonderful journey with our newest members.

Thank you to all those who attended and those who supported from behind the scenes.

Long live MWAN Kaduna.

19/06/2019, 01:41 - Stella Kokoricha Essiet: Sash decorations for the

CELEBRATIONS

We also had reasons to rejoice with many of us; they include

- 1) Prof. Dorothy Esangbedo. Past president MWAN for her award as the 2019 most distinguished pediatrician by PANCOF. --Lagos
- 2) Dr Ajani. Appointed as a perm sec. State House---FCT.
- 3) Dr Oluwabunmi Fatungashe-- Appointed as C-MAC. The very first female to occupy that position at the OOUTH. ---Ogun
- 4) Dr Batulu--Chairperson PHCDA Adamawa.

MWAN was well represented at the MWIA regional conference held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 11 to 15th of November 2018.

We are actively involved in our Nigeria Medical Association's activities in Nigeria.

Signed by

Dr Joyce Barber.
National president.

Dr Stella Kokoricha Essiet.
National coordinator/ Sec. Gen
19/06/2019, 01:49 - Stella Kokoricha Essiet: IMG-20190227-WA0028.jpg (file attached)
Dr Stella Kokoricha Essiet. MWAN National Coordinator 2017- 2019 Biennium.

PERU

The MWIA Filial Peru reports a country population of 32 million. Of the 19,889 medical students, 55% or 19,889 are women.

ALIANZA PANAMERICANA DE MEDICAS (ALPAME)
PAMWA PERU (PAN AMERICAN MEDICAL WOMEN'S ALLIANCE)
MWIA (MEDICAL WOMEN INTERNATIONAL ASOCIATION) FILIAL PERU



When was the association founded?	1955
Key founded members	Dra. Juana Maria Solano, Dra. Tula Barrionuevo, Dra. Laura Camet Dickman, Dra. Imelda Soriano,
In 1919	1% female medical student
In 2016	Female medical students 50.5% Male medical students 49.5%

Inspirational role models



Dra. Rebeca Kuniyoshi Kiyan (1937). Pediatrician
She was President of the Pan American medical Women s Alliance and vice president of the Medical Women International Association (Latinoamerican representant).
She was distinguished by PAMWA with the medallion with ruby stone, highlighting its professional and human quality.



Dra. Tula Barrionuevo de Vilchez (1925).
Obstetrician and gynecologist.
She was President of the PAMWA PERU (1960-1961) and was a representative leader in the beginning of the association,



Dra. Angelica Chamorro Pimentel (1930)
Obstetrician and Gynecologist
She was President PAMWA Peru (1986-1987) and worked in the defense of the labor rights of the medical women in Peru.



Dra. Rosa Elvira Jimenez (1928). Pediatrician
She was President of the PAMWA PERU (1980-1981) and a representative lider among peruvian doctors. She worked as an advisor to the Ministry of Health for the promotion of breastfeeding in Peru.



Dra. Victorina Prieto de Manrique.(+) Pediatrician.
She was President PAMWA PERU (1968-1970)
She contributed to the development of the X International congress of PAMWA.

Dra. Rosa Quiroz Battistini (+)
She was President PAMWA PERU (1964-1967)
She was the chairperson of the organizing committee of the X International Congress of the PAMWA, developed in Peru in 1967.

Dra. Emma Reyes (1934).Pathologist.
She did research work on “Verruga Peruana” and made important contributions about the disease.

Dra. Consuelo Donayre Valle (1931)
She was the first woman head and neck surgeon in Perú.
She was a recognized surgeon and professor of Medicine at the National University of San Marcos .

PHILIPPINES

The **Medical Women’s Association of the Philippines** reports a population of 106 million with 70,000 of the recorded 130,000 physician actively practicing, but the proportion of women physicians unknown.

The association has 600 members. Dr. Teresita N. Agda is the President and Dr. Vivina Chiu is the National coordinator.

The Philippine Medical Womens' Association was founded by Dr. Fe del Mundo in 1949. Now in its seventieth year, it has fifteen chapters throughout the archipelago with about 600 members. The strong advocacies of the association include Cervical Cancer Screening by VIA, Children's Nutrition, Mental Health Education in the Young and Environmental Protection, Personal and professional growth are also addressed with scientific meetings and meaningful celebrations.

The PMWA National Office operates a pre-school and elementary school which provides education to the neighboring communities at a subsidized cost. It also manages a Mutual Fund/ Cooperative that provides financial assistance to members.

The officers of the national association visit one or two chapters a year. It is called a Travelling Seminar because the host chapter prepares case presentations and lectures of interesting topics that are important to the community.

In June, PMWA conducts a Leadership Seminar that serves as a venue to revisit its vision, mission and objectives as well as to generate ideas for activities of the upcoming year.

In November of each year, PMWA holds its annual convention in Manila. Awards are handed out to chapters which are outstanding in the different categories. Authorities of interesting topics are invited to give lectures. The members also enjoy a very warm fellowship with cultural presentations and dancing. The success of these gatherings is a credit to the inspiring presence and active participation of both officers and members.

Through the years, the PMWA has evolved into the vibrant organization that it is today and looks forward to more fruitful years of doing its share in nation building.

RUSSIA

The Russian Medical Women's Association (RMWA) reports a country population of 144 million. The country reports 700,000 physicians, 70% of whom are women.

The President of the association is Dr. Olga Goncharova.

The RMWA hosted a most successful Central European Regional congress November 23-25, 2016. The theme was "The possibilities of international cooperation in the field of solving medical and social problems of health care for women and children." A round table was held at the Doma with a resultant output document.

Projects include the development of organizational and methodical support of "motherhood schools" and "healthy child rooms" in the polyclinics, also, implementation of existing scientific and methodical manuals. The websites of the "Far East" region of Russia were created and provide the platform for their medical and social programs. Other projects include

School of future parents.

Internet projects for parents on children's health

Publishing Project "National Book childcare"

Safe Motherhood

Mother and Child

Decreased Maternal mortality/morbidity

Gender and Health

HIV/AIDS

Children

Violence/Abuse

Leadership for female physicians

Further details can be found in the report of the Vice President for Central Europe.

SWITZERLAND

The Medical Women's Association of Switzerland reports a country population of 8.5 million. Switzerland has 37,525 physicians, 15,982 of whom are women.

We have in MWS now 2019 973 members, from them are 165 students and 8 honorary members; 2016 there were 900; we had 10 deaths since 2016; we don't have a young forum. Since 2017 our president is Adelheid Schneider, she has also the function of Treasurer und NC (since 2011).

The annual conference of MWS (medical women Switzerland) in March 2016 and other events including a stamp (designed by Swiss Post) were dedicated to the first Swiss female physician Marie Heim-Vögtlin, whose 100th anniversary we celebrated in 2016. The motto of the annual conference in March 2017 was "openness". In workshops we gained insight into the work of a general practitioner, a chief physician, a researcher and a medical director. We also opened mws to female dentists. The annual conference in April 2018 was devoted to the question of whether modern medicine is women-friendly or women-hostile, with discussions on ethical challenges, digitisation and new practice and work structures. We also dealt with the issues of equal opportunities and equality. We have expressed our concern that women/medical professionals in management positions and within academic careers are still underrepresented and undersuccessful compared to male counterparts. We organized a symposium on this topic and gave interviews for various newspapers.

In the last 3 years, we have also made increased efforts to reach out to the younger generation. We presented our organization at first semester days and the "Docday" (a fair for medical students) and organized an under-40 get-together with tailored topics. In addition, we have set up a programme called „Steigbügel“ (stirrup) for women returning to work - for the purpose of final specialist training after a family break. Moreover, with the aim of an individual exchange of ideas, we organized network excursions that have to do with women and/or medicine in the broadest sense and are very well attended.

We have in MWS now (2019) 973 members, 165 of which are students and 8 are honorary members. 2016 there were 900. We had 10 deaths since 2016. We don't have a young forum. In Switzerland there are about 37'525 physicians, 15'982 of them are women. Since 2017 our president is Adelheid Schneider-Gilg, she has also (due to temporary personnel constraints) the function of treasurer und NC (since 2011).

TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA

The **Taiwan Medical Women's Association** reported a country population of 23,603,121. Taiwan in July 2019. There are 51,128 physicians, 10,130 of whom are women.

The association has a membership of 659. The President is Dr. Happy Kuy-lok Tan, the National Coordinator is Dr. Li-Jung Fang, and the Manager is Dr. Winnie Yang.

A Newsletter is published annually. The executive meets quarterly and there is an annual general assembly.

TANZANIA

The Medical Women's Association of Tanzania (MEWATA) reports a country population of 56 million. According to the Medical Council of Tanganyika (MCT), the number of female doctors is estimated at 3,450 Female Medical Doctors in Tanzania. Few are members of MEWATA. The overall number of all Doctors is 12,000.

Narrative Report

Since the 28-31 July 2016 meeting in Vienna, which MEWATA was represented, the association continued to perform its duties as stipulated in its strategic plan. The major activities were as follows:

a) Development and Official Launch of the New MEWATA Strategic Plan 2018-2020. Dr. Faustine Ndagulile, The Deputy Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, officially launched the new Strategic Plan in December 2018. The plan includes three major areas of concentration:

- 1) Service delivery mostly in maternal health particularly in breast and cervical cancers,
- 2) MEWATA sustainability activities and 3) MEWATA Institutional Capacity Building activities.

b) Project Implementations: MEWATA was involved in the implementation of various projects including one with Bristol Meyer Squibb Foundation that funded MEWATA to conduct community awareness on major Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD's), including, High Blood Pressure, Diabetes, Breast and Cervical Cancers and Communicable Diseases (CD's) including Tuberculosis. Through this fund, MEWATA was able to conduct mass screening for cervical and breast cancers as well as identification of common risk factors of NCD's (Blood Pressure, Blood Glucose, Height and weight) and TB case findings among men and women within Lindi and Njombe regions of Tanzania mainland. In the two regions more than 6,000 women were reached as beneficiaries from these screening activities.

c) Local Association Meetings: In November 17th 2016, MEWATA conducted its 16th Annual General Meetings (AGM) with a theme of "*Impact Of Domestic And Sexual Violence In Tanzania*". The 17th Annual General Meeting was held on 28th October 2017 with a theme of "*MEWATA @ 30, Be Bold For Change*". The MEWATA 17th AGM was a special one as the Association also celebrated its 30th Anniversary since when it was founded in 1987.

In this auspicious occasion, MEWATA celebrated and honored its founder members of the Association; Professor Esther Mwaikambo and Dr Petronila Ngilloi.

Additionally during the 17th AGM, new Association leaders were elected for a three year term from 2017 to 2020:

- President: Dr. Mary Charles
- President Elect: Dr. Zaitun Bokhary

- Executive Secretary: Dr. Furaha Kyesi
- Honorary Treasurer: Dr. Mariam Malliwah
- Assistant Treasurer: Dr. Lilian Mnabwiru
- Publicity Secretary: Dr. Maryam Amour
- Council Members: Dr. Mwanaidi Amiri
Dr. Marina Njelekela
Dr. Matilda Ngarina
Dr. Koku Irene Mukurasi
Dr. Amida Kalombola
Dr. Magdalena Lyimo

MWIA Regional Conference for Near East and Africa.

This meeting was organized by the Kenya Medical Women Association (KMWA) and was held in Nairobi, from 11th -14th November 2018. MEWATA participated in this meeting which had a theme of *“Accelerating Women’s Health Agenda: Priorities and opportunities Through UN SDGs and AU Agenda 2023”*.

UGANDA

THE ASSOCIATION OF UGANDA WOMEN MEDICAL DOCTORS (AUWMD)



The Association was launched in March 1987 as a follow-up to the United Nations End of the Women Decade (1975-1985) Conference held in July in Nairobi, Kenya.

The Co-founders were strongly supported by **Dr. Carolyn Motzel** of USA, the then Secretary General of the Medical Women International Association.

The **Co-founders** included:

1. Dr. Jane Kavuma-Kayonga



2. Dr. Josephine Kasolo



3. Dr. Florence Mirembe
4. Dr. Jane Bosa
5. Dr. Christine Mugwanya- Kadama
6. Dr. Elizabeth Madraa
7. Dr. Winnifred. T. Byambabazi

The first Ugandan woman doctor was **Dr. Josephine Nambooze** who graduated from, the then, Makerere College in 1959. She is a Professor Emeritus of Public Health at the Makerere School of Public Health. We are now extremely proud to have more female doctors from a number of Universities in Uganda. We also have a number of women Professors in the Medical profession.

The association has registered other milestones in the area of leadership, for instance several Department Headship positions in the oldest medical school in the country at Makerere University are being steered by women doctors, e.g. Anaesthesia, ENT, Psychiatry, Family Medicine, Ophthalmology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

The first President of the Association of Uganda Women Medical Doctors (AUWMD) was **Prof. Florence Mirembe** (Uganda's first woman Gynaecologist) (1987-1992), she was followed by;

1. Dr. Madraa Elizabeth (1993-1997),
2. Dr. Olive Sentumbwe (1998-2002)



3. Dr. Sarah Kiguli (2003-2007),



4. Dr. Jennifer Mugisha (2008-2012),
5. Dr. Hanifa Namaala-Ssengendo (2013-2017).

The current President (2018 to date) is **Professor Sarah Kiguli**, a Professor in the Department of Paediatrics at Makerere University College of Health Sciences.

The slogan on the Association logo is: ***'A HEALTHY WOMAN, A HEALTHY NATION'***.

Benchmarking from the education sector, when you educate a man you educate an individual but when you educate a woman, you educate a nation. When women, who are the primary care providers of the nation are healthy, then their families and communities will be healthy. If the people are healthy, then they can participate fully in their own development and that of the nation. A country's greatest asset is a healthy population.

The women doctors of Uganda have a great responsibility to reach out to the ordinary women and children and the whole population in general and help them live better lives. We need women to change women's poor status in society.

The Association's **Vision** is; *to promote the wellbeing of women and children through appropriate health interventions*

The **Mission** is; *to build a strong professional Association of Uganda Women Medical Doctors, whose growing expertise will contribute to improvement of the quality of life of disadvantaged groups, especially women, children, adolescents and elderly, through advocacy, promotion of health rights and provision of quality health services*

The Association **Objectives** include;

- To contribute towards a reduction in the mortality and morbidity rates of children as well as females due to cancers, STIs and pregnancy related complications
- To promote adolescent sexual and reproductive health
- To promote institutional sustainability in the long term resource mobilization
- To improve quality of life among the elderly

Achievements since the Association's inception;

- Training and sensitization of women and community leaders in HIV prevention, other communicable and non-communicable diseases
- Career guidance and mentorship in schools and Universities respectively
- Life skills training for out of school youths
- Advocacy for gender issues and reproductive health rights for women and adolescents

Challenges;

- We are still struggling with high maternal and neonatal mortality rates
- New emerging infectious diseases e.g. Ebola
- An increase in non-communicable diseases due to lifestyle changes
- A growing population of the Elderly
- Ensuring quality and equitable primary care services

UNITED KINGDOM

2016: MWF Achievements

The Spring Conference was held in Edinburgh on the theme of "*Medicine at the Margins: Creative Solutions to Healthcare Challenges*" and was attended by 100 delegates and guests. The Dame Hilda Rose Lecture titled "*The Importance of Women*" was presented by Dr Catherine Calderwood, Chief Medical Officer of Scotland. The Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Prize for the best oral presentation was awarded to Dr Jacqueline Andrews with '*The Leeds Female Leaders Network - Partnership Working in Action*' and the best poster presentation to

Dr Alice Howe for - *'Together We Can End Female Genital Mutilation; Our New Statutory Obligations Under The Amended Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (Sections 70-75 of The Serious Crime Act 2015) Explained'*.

The Autumn Conference was held in London on the theme of *"Women Doctors: Equity or Equality"* and was attended by around 105 delegates and guests. The Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Prize for the best oral presentation was awarded to Dr Sarah Needham & Dr Irene Garfson for *'What Women Perceive Makes a Good Leader'*. The poster presentation prize went to Dr Laura Jefferson for her poster *'Gender Differences in Doctors Working Lives'*.

The Dame Rosemary Rue Lecture was given by Professor Maureen Baker, CBE and titled *"My Reflections of General Practice and its Future"*.

The 2016 Katherine Branson Student Essay Competition was held. The first winner was Helena Fawdry for *'How do we persuade people to look after their own health'*. The second title winner was Karthika Velusamy for *'Doctors are considered professionals, but the term "professionalism" is interpreted differently by different groups e.g. the UK Government v. BMA. What does "professionalism" mean to you?'*

Junior Doctors throughout the UK were invited to submit their entries in any art form for the 2016 Junior Doctor Prize. The 2016 prize was awarded to Anindita Hom-Choudhury for her poem titled *'Advances in Surgery (2016 Issue)'* on the subject *'The Face of a Doctor Today'*.

2017: MWF Achievements

After more than a year of planning and preparing, the Medical Women's Federation held its centenary celebrations during spring of 2017 in London. The centenary celebrations were a landmark occasion involving varying educational and social events based on the theme of *"100 Years of Medical Women: The Past, Present and Future"*. The celebrations spanned four days and were attended by over 300 delegates and guests. The first event commemorated Elizabeth Garrett Anderson and focused on what women have achieved in medicine. Poster abstracts were requested for the award of the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Prize, and several prizes were awarded for the best poster presentations: Dr. Geetha Nagasubramanian for *'My Challenging Journey with Survivors of Female Genital Mutilation'*; Dr Carol Sullivan for

‘The Care of Preterm and Sick Infants in the UK: A 100 Year History to Current Day with Emphasis on the Contribution of Past and Present Women Doctors’; Dr Frances Brooke for ‘Returning to Work: Easing the Transition’; Mr Priyesh Patel for ‘Quality Improvement Audit of a Clinic for Survivors of FGM’; and Dr Sonia Adesara for ‘Breaking the Silence: Mental Health and Taboo within South Asian Communities Living in Britain’.

The Autumn Conference for 2017 was unfortunately cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances; however, a symposium was held in conjunction with the council meeting in order to discuss the future of the Medical Women’s Federation.

The 2017 Katherine Branson Student Essay Competition was held. The first winner was Philippa Walker-Smith for ‘Family or career? Is it possible to do both well? If so, how?’. The second title winner was Calisha Allen for ‘Should GPs be able to prescribe gym membership? What should they do if a patient is non-compliant?’.

Junior doctors throughout the UK were invited to submit their entries in any art form for the 2017 Junior Doctor Prize. The 2017 prize was awarded to Dr Maham Stanyon for her photographic representation on the topic ‘The Role of Virtual Reality in Medicine: a Vision for the Future’.

2018: MWF Achievements

The Spring Conference was held in Cardiff on the 11th May 2018 on the theme of “Women and Health: Aiming for the Wellbeing of Female Doctors and their Patients” and was attended by 112 delegates and guests. The Dame Hilda Rose Lecture titled ‘The Importance of Stories’ was presented by Dr Sally Davies. The Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Prize for the best oral presentation was awarded to Kinda Al-Hourani and Rosemary Roberts for ‘Responding to sexual violence in primary and emergency care: implementing a teaching programme for clinical medical students. The poster presentation prize went to Baryab Zahra for ‘Lack of access to sanitary products and the various challenges this presents for women worldwide’. The Autumn Conference was held in London on the 16th November 2018 on the theme of “Making Change Happen within Medicine and Beyond” and was attended by around 108 delegates and guests. The Dame Rosemary Rue Lecture titled ‘Reflecting on the gender pay gap in medicine’ was presented by Professor Dame Jane Dacre. The Elizabeth Garrett

Anderson Prize for the best oral presentation was awarded to Dr Sally Davies for ‘Wales Asylum seeking and Refugee Doctors (WARD) Group’. The poster presentation prize went to Stephanie Hasselder and Kristina Grundy for their poster ‘Staff Knowledge and Understanding of Intimate Partner Violence’.

The 2018 Katherine Branson Student Essay Competition was held. The first title winner was Catherine Crooks for ‘Is the glass ceiling in medicine broken? If so, how’. The second title winner was Alice Day for ‘If you were Health Minister, what are your priorities to distribute the budget?’.

Junior doctors throughout the UK were invited to submit their artistic and prose entries on the topic of ‘A world without social media – for better or worse’ for the 2018 Junior Doctor Prize. The first winner was Dr Kate Dear for her prose entry on the topic. The second winner was Dr Arielle Midgen for her two-part picture series using watercolours and acrylics, to display a world both with and without social media.

2019: MWF Achievements

MWF President Dr Henrietta Bowden-Jones OBE, Director of the National Problem Gambling Clinic has tirelessly and successfully campaigned for the first NHS Gambling Clinic directed at children. It is to be opened in London this year, and 13 more will follow throughout the country. This is part of the NHS Long Term Plan and is a major breakthrough. MWF are very proud of her continuing efforts for our organisation.

The Spring Conference was held in Bristol on the 17th May 2019 on the theme of “Celebrating Success and Preparing for the Future” and was attended by 116 delegates and guests. The Dame Hilda Rose Lecture titled ‘Reflections: progress and challenges for medical women’ was presented by Professor Selena Gray.

This July, an event for medical students and junior doctors is being held in London to promote gender equality.

The MWF Twitter account, run by our ground-breaking Central Office team, makes an invaluable contribution to widening awareness of MWF and spreading relevant information on our activities and wider issues of public interest. The President has a high-profile media presence and has encouraged wider interaction through her Twitter account and also heightened our profile nationally.

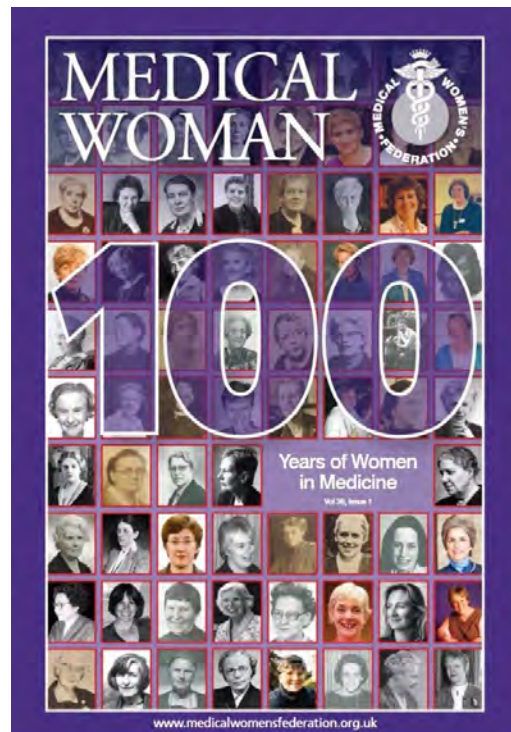
Medical Woman Magazine:

All members receive our journal, 'Medical Woman' twice a year. Medical Woman has been published and distributed to members of the MWF since the charity was first set up and during that time Medical Woman has taken many different forms; a newsletter, bulletin, journal and now a magazine and online e-zine. The Editor, Dr Fizzah Ali, Officers and staff have worked hard to create a fresh new look for the magazine relevant to both practising and



retired female medical doctors.

Centenary Edition of Medical Woman:



MWF Newsletter:

MWF members also receive our monthly e-newsletter, which contains important and up to the minute news as well as information on future events, advice and tips on careers.

Examples include:

May 2017: <https://mailchi.mp/568e778b5ba2/mwf-april-newsletter-1349137>

December 2018: <https://mailchi.mp/13b6dedfff0d/mwf-december-newsletter>

June 2019: <https://mailchi.mp/cd584226e521/mwf-june-newsletter>

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The American Medical Women's Association reports a country population of 327 million as of 2018. At that time, there were 985,026 physicians, of which 346,005 or 35.1% were women.

AMWA's membership as of July 2019 was 8729, with 6595 students, 474 residents and 7420 under 40. The President was Dr. Roberta Gebhard and the National Coordinator was Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirschgrber.

Dr. Padmini Murthy was the Vice President for North America for MWIA. Dr. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Padmini Murthy represented MWIA at the United Nations Economic and Social Council and at the Department of Public Information.

The list of activities is well documented under the report of the Vice President for North America earlier in the report.

REPORT ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES 2016

The report on the General Assemblies held at the 30th MWIA Congress 2016 in Vienna, Austria, was printed in the Vienna Congress Report.

REPORT ON THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM OF THE CENTENNIAL MWIA INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

The Scientific Committee was co-chaired by **Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, Dr. Shelley Ross and Dr. Antonella Vezzani**. Thank you to Dr. Rohr-Kirchgraber for the following summary of the scientific sessions.

The many panels and presentations were well attended and met with excellent reviews. From the opening session on the history of MWIA we learned not only where we have been, but where we are going. The Fireside chat with prominent leaders allowed us to epidemic explore the professional dissatisfaction and how it particularly affects women physicians and other underrepresented physician groups. The conversation continued with feminist Gloria Steinem.

In the Global Health track we learned how MWIA interacts with the United Nations and the impact of global projects for health in India, Africa and Europe.

Gender equity affects us all and this primer included a panel discussion that reviewed the disparities that exist in leadership, medical specialties, and how the impact of women physicians has humanized medical practice.

Many participants struggle with the juggling of career, home life and how best to thrive and in the track on Work-Life Balance, one learned the power of positive thinking and resiliency.

Sexual abuse injury syndrome (SAIS) while new terminology, is not a new condition. The discussion on violence against women included reports on prostitution, trafficking, intimate partner violence and female genital cutting/mutilation. It was recognized that violence victimization can have long term health effects and that violence against women occurs in the workplace as well. Easy access to firearms increase the risk of violence especially intimate partner violence. A study done in Nigeria looked at the experience of insurgency on the ability of students to continue their medical education.

Human Papilloma Virus and its impact in disease was one of the topics in the Women's Health track which included discussion of educational efforts to eradicate HPV globally. The role of MWIA in the elimination of HPV related cervical cancers was described. Management of menopause, osteoporosis, heart disease and breast cancer rounded out the session.

Leadership and professional development was fascinating as discussion on overcoming bullying and harassment were presented along with how medical education has been in the past and what we can expect for

the future. How to lead, encourage diversity, while being the only woman in the room, motivated the participants.

Starting with a review of perineal injury after vaginal delivery, the Maternal Health track reviewed gestational diabetes, the impact of anxiety and stress on health consequences for mother and child and early detection of a screening scale for anxiety. The session ended with a discussion of OBGYN problems for women victims of violence.

Digital health, innovation and genomics outlined how artificial intelligence is moving into health care and how technology changes the patient physician relationship. Our genomic health was reviewed as part of a current research project and digital health around the world included new models of health care.

Body composition, sex differences in obesity, and treatment of obesity started off the Obesity track and concluded with the panel discussion on the special challenges for women and children.

Workshops reviewed the online MWIA module on violence and aimed to assist MWIA in formulating strategies to prevent and respond to sexual harassment in the medical workplace. Leading directly into the Sexual Harassment track, the effect on careers of women, the impact of the “Me Too” movement in medicine were further delineated in the panel on “Me Too Medicine Around the World”.

How to define sex and gender and the need to integrate it into global health was one of the topics in the Sex and Gender Specific Medicine track. It included the sex differences in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, female oral physiopathology, the gut-brain axis and neurodegeneration, colonic polyps, as well as inflammatory bowel diseases. The epidemiology of diverticular disease as related to sex and gender was also pursued as was the aging process. Participants were encouraged to learn further by going to sites such as the Sex and Gender Health Collaborative (SGHC).

Medical women are indeed the ambassadors of change and the track of the same name explored the medical women whose names grace the craters on planet Venus and learned about the Nigerian legacy of women in medicine. The pioneers in the Medical Women’s Federation in the UK were celebrated as well as Hygeia’s daughters who advocated for women’s rights through MWIA. Social media plays an important role for the 21st century professional and with hands on direction, many reviewed their own digital footprint as the discussion continued into the next day session. Leading gender innovation, we explored the design elements such as programs, policies and protocols that impact every aspect of our lives. Communication occurs in many ways and shared decision making can prove challenging so traditional Indian dance was performed to narrate stories, while using art as a way to help veterans heal improves lives.

Being able to “Do it all” is a myth but one that many of us take on and challenging that myth while imparting wisdom to be successful was the focus of the workshop. It was a good segue into the workshop on “thriving while female” and the development of mental health programs for women in the military.

Best practices in lesbian, bisexual and transwomen health encouraged us to recognize and manage conditions in unique patients. Discussions on other unique groups included the American Indian and Alaska native populations.

Concluding sessions focused on the imposter syndrome, MWIA’s role in global health, burnout among physicians, and breaking barriers.

Overall, numerous sessions were presented and enjoyed by all.

Summary Report Of the Centennial (XXXIst) International Congress of the Medical Women’s International Association

Thank you to Dr. Eliza Chin, Executive Director of AMWA,
for the following **highlights of the Centennial Congress**. To see the links for the
underscored items, go to www.amwa-doc.org/mwia100/ and click on **Meeting Highlights**.

The American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) was honored to host the [Centennial Congress of the Medical Women’s International Association](#) at the Brooklyn Bridge Marriott. Over 1200 delegates and attendees from more than 50 countries were represented, with more than 140 speakers and more than 270 scientific posters.

The energy, camaraderie, and friendship within this international gathering of medical women was visibly palpable.

UN EVENT AND OPENING RECEPTION

The Congress launched on Thursday, July 25, 2019 with a special United Nations side event, [“Women’s Health: Building Blocks for Sustainable Development Goals”](#) in sponsorship with the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, and The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Distinguished speakers included H.E. Penelope A. Beckles, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations; Mr. Satya Rodrigo, Charge’d’affaires a.i. Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations; Dr. Chantal Line Carpentier, head of UNCTAD, Dr. Jillian Farmer, Director of the Division of Healthcare Management and Occupational Safety at the UN; Dr. Vanessa Kerry, CEO of Seed Global Health; NASA Scientist [Dr. Camille Wardrop Alleyne](#); Carlos Garcia Former Ambassador of El Salvador to the UN; Simone Monesabian, head of UNODC; activist and writer [Ruchira Gupta](#), and author and philanthropist [David Roosevelt](#) (grandson of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt). The event was organized by Dr. Padmini Murthy, MWIA Vice President of North America. View the [video recording](#).



Credit: Africa Photo Communications

Regional meetings and dinner were held at St. Francis College as colleagues from the eight MWIA regions gathered to reconnect and plan for the upcoming triennium.

The Opening Reception featured beautiful performances by Dr. Mary Rorro, who composed the [MWIA Centennial Theme Song](#), and singer, guitarist Tessany Azizi as well as an amazing story slam hosted by [Elizabeth Métraux, Founder of Women Writers in Medicine](#) and featuring [Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber](#), [Dr. Heather Furnas](#), [Dr. Oneeka Williams](#), and [Dr. Arghavan Salles](#).

Music gave way to dancing, and later in the evening, attendees tapped into their creative selves through AMWA's annually hosted paint night.

OPENING CEREMONY AND PLENARIES

The opening ceremony opened with welcomes from MWIA President [Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer](#) and AMWA President [Dr. Roberta Gebhard](#). A history panel with MWIA Presidents [Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer](#), [Dr. Afua Hesse](#), and [Dr. Kyung Ah Park](#) summarized MWIA's legacy over the past century and recognized on stage over 40 national association leaders from across 6 continents, a powerful display of unity among women physicians from diverse cultural backgrounds.



Credit: Mary Ellen Morrow Photography

Following this presentation was an inspiring fireside chat with prominent leaders in healthcare within the U.S.-- [Dr. Danielle Ofri](#), award-winning physician author; [Dr. Darilyn Moyer](#), EVP and CEO of the American College of Physicians; and [Dr. Helen Burstin](#), EVP and CEO of the Council of Medical Specialty Societies -- moderated by [Laurie Cooke](#), CEO of the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association.



Credit: Mary Ellen Morrow Photography



Credit: Mary Ellen Morrow Photography

The Linda Brodsky Memorial Lecture was delivered by TIME’S UP Healthcare founding members [Dr. Esther Choo](#) and [Dr. Dara Kass](#) who spoke on the need to end gender discrimination and harassment within the healthcare sector. They were joined on-stage by the larger group of founding members, all wearing signature black to represent the TIME’S UP movement in a statement of solidarity. The morning session culminated with an unforgettable conversation with renowned activist, author, and feminist, [Ms. Gloria Steinem](#), hosted by AMWA Past President [Dr. Gayatri Devi](#). The privilege of learning “life lessons from Gloria” and hearing firsthand her perspectives on gender, equity, and women’s leadership were a highlight of the conference.



Credit: Mary Ellen Morrow Photography

BREAKOUT TRACKS

Three breakout tracks included scientific sessions on global health, gender equity, work-life balance, violence against women, women’s health, leadership and professional development, maternal health, healthcare innovation, obesity, sexual harassment, sex and gender specific medicine, and women physicians as ambassadors of change. Workshops and special sessions allowed a deeper dive into topics on graduate medical education, lesbian and transgender health, professional development, gender bias, presentation skills, social media, Native American healthcare, burnout, work-life balance, and mental health. MWIA was also honored to welcome [Dr. Gigi Osler](#), President of the Canadian Medical Association and great-great grandniece of [Sir William Osler](#).



Credit: Digital Film Work

CENTENNIAL GALA

The Centennial Gala honored women physicians in uniformed service from around the world as well as newly inducted AMWA fellows. Performances included global premieres of [Barbara Callandar’s](#) play *Women Doctors: Unite to Heal the World!* and [Sarah Partridge’s](#) song “[Courage is a Woman](#),” both of whom told the inspiring story of MWIA’s first president, [Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy](#). A mesmerizing sand art show by Ha Jun Kim from Korea and dance performances by member associations from around the world concluded a truly remarkable evening.



Credit: Mary Ellen Morrow Photography

CLOSING PLENARIES, AWARDS, AND CLOSING CEREMONY

Closing plenary speakers included [Dr. Kate Prior](#) on imposter syndrome, [Dr. Florence Manguyu](#) on MWIA’s role in global health, [Dr. Suzy Feigofsky](#) on physician burnout, and [Rebekah Apple](#) on trust and communication in healthcare. The closing Awards Ceremony honored the following luminaries in healthcare (read details about the [MWIA](#) and [AMWA](#) Awardees).

CONCLUSION

MWIA President [Dr. Bettina Pleiderer](#) (Germany) concluded her presidential term, and incoming President [Dr. Clarissa Fabre](#) (United Kingdom) delivered her inaugural speech, outlining her goals and areas of focus for the next triennium. Dr. Shelley Ross concluded 12 years of exemplary service as MWIA Secretary General and AMWA leader, Dr. Padmini Murthy assumed the position as new Secretary General. The next MWIA Congress will be held in Taiwan in 2022.

The MWIA Centennial Congress was a wonderful opportunity for women physicians across the globe to come together, reflect on shared history, exchange medical knowledge, and build collegial relationships. This Congress also marks the beginning of yet another century of collaboration among medical women around the world.

SPECIAL MEETING EXHIBITS



Map showing countries participating in the Centennial



MWIA Centennial Quilt with contributions from national associations



Photos credit: Mary Ellen Morrow Photography

International Teddy Bear Exhibit representing over 12 countries from around the world.

Art display inspired by Judy Chicago's *The Dinner Party* exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum (not pictured).

MWIA RECOGNIZED IN THE U.S. CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

On Friday, August 2, 2019, just after the close of the Congress, [United States Congresswoman Dr. Kim Schrier](#) entered the following remarks in the [United States Congressional Record](#).

“Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Medical Women’s International Association (MWIA), one of the oldest international professional organizations, representing women doctors worldwide.

In 1919 New York City, American physician, Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy, along with international colleagues from 16 nations, founded MWIA and became its first President. Over the century, MWIA has grown to encompass over 80 countries as either national associations, like the American Medical Women’s Association, or as individual members.

One hundred years ago, there were very few women in the medical field. Organizations like MWIA provided support for women in medicine and more importantly provided a community for them to share medical knowledge as well as promote collegiality around the world. At the time of MWIA’s founding, a major challenge for women was the accessibility of medical education. Fortunately, this obstacle has been overcome in many nations. The sacrifice of these earlier trailblazing doctors helped pave the way for future ones like me.

Yet the number of women in senior leadership positions shows that the work of MWIA is far from over. By investing in women physicians, MWIA provides the network and support system to mentor and advocate for future leaders in the medical field. In addition, MWIA works to improve the health of women worldwide, advocating for gender specific healthcare, promoting equity, and addressing social determinants of health.

Congratulations again to the MWIA for their 100 years of important work. Their tireless work to open doors for women in medicine has improved the health of generations of women, men and children around the world, and for that, we all are grateful.”

View Dr. Schrier’s remarks in the [United States Congressional Record](#).

THE 2022 CONGRESS WILL BE THE XXXII CONGRESS OF MWIA

The XXXII Congress of the Medical Women’s International Association will be organized by the Taiwan Medical Women’s Association.

GROUP PICTURE



Credit: Digital Film Work