



BPW News International

Official Newsletter of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women

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Theme for 2005 – 2008
“New Dimensions of Leadership”
BPW International was
founded in 1930

From the President’s Desk

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Dr. Chonchanok Viravan
International President
2005-2008

The Challenges of International Migration

When I came out of the building where the *Global Forum on Migration and Development* was held in Brussels, Belgium on 9 July 2007, it was raining. Most participants walked in the rain to go to the bus. I was one of the few who brought an umbrella.

At organization level, we have to prepare for the changing conditions and the challenges of 21st century. One of goals of organizations Renew and Reform is for BPW to continue to grow in the world of change. *International Migration* is one of the issues for which BPW definitely has to prepare an “umbrella”.

When we work on strategies to recruit and retain members or conduct activities to enable women to achieve their full capacity, we need to bear in mind the impact of international migration. As of 2006, about half of the migrants (over 95 million) are women. Because of globalization, transnational corporations and demands for skilled labour from developed countries, many migrants today are highly skilled and well educated. Yet, they face obstacles in integrating into the new society and their rights are at risk. Female migrants face double discrimination, as a woman and as a migrant. Migration will only get worse in the twenty first century due to climate changes, natural disasters and water shortage. We need to be well prepared so that our organization will be at the gaining end and not the losing end.

It is interesting that even a new BPW club in Cambodia, a potential new club in Belgium, and a club with the highest growth in New Zealand have many expatriates / migrants as members. International migration is an important issue that will be discussed in the organization review and reform, hearing in Valencia, Spain on 18-19 October 2007 especially in the context of how to retain / grow membership. For more background, please visit www.bpw-international.org to download my talk on this issue at the APEC Women Leaders’ network at Port Douglas, Australia and the findings from *Global Forum on Migration and Development* in Brussels, Belgium.

Even the XXVI BPW International Congress will migrate to Mexico City, Mexico!

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan
International President
27 August 2007

Call for Nomination of BPW Representatives to UNESCO at National Level

UNESCO published, in March 2007, the Sextennial Report that BPW International has to submit to the General Conference every six years. This report must show the contributions made to UNESCO's activities by International Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), 2001-2006 and the results of the cooperation with the organizations that have operational relations with UNESCO.

The report begins with an important reflection on the influence of civil society that has increased in a special manner in the past two decades. These developments suggested to the United Nations system a revision of the international decision-making mechanisms. The base was the June 2004 report of the former President of Brazil, Fernando Henrique Cardoso. In that report he recommended four lines of action to improve relations between the United Nations and civil society: looking outward, working with many stakeholders, connecting the local with the global and helping to bring democracy into the twenty-first century.

UNESCO has historically maintained special links with NGOs and has built strategic partnerships with a number of them. In the discussions on the relations between UNESCO and non-governmental organizations, the report pays attention to current practices in other intergovernmental organizations. UNESCO adopted a Directive in 1995 in order to strengthen the cooperation with non-governmental organizations. Now UNESCO maintains official relations with a total of 335 NGOs: 19 NGOs with formal associate relations; 67 NGOs with formal consultative relations and 249 NGOs with operational relations. - one of which is the International Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW International).

NGOs have appreciated very much the revitalization of the Executive Board's Committee on International Non-Governmental aspects. One agenda for the NGO Committee Meeting of the Executive Board was to enhance the collaboration among UNESCO, NGOs and National Commissions that have the role to improve UNESCO's objectives at regional and country levels.

BPW International now has the opportunity to nominate representatives to UNESCO at country level. There are 46 countries where both BPW affiliates and UNESCO country offices are present, which are:

Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, France, Germany, Ghana, Haiti, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestinian Authority, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, and Zimbabwe.

So for the countries mentioned above, if your federation or associate club is up-to-date with its international dues and is interested in nominating a representative to UNESCO, please kindly send the name, address and profile (curriculum vitae) of your nominee to presidents.office@bpw-international.org no later than 31 October 2007. In this way, BPW International can establish contact between regional and country levels of UNESCO offices, the Regions and the National Federations and coordinating bodies of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations and strengthen BPW influence accordingly.

Annarosa Colangelo
1st Vice-President 2005-2008

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Retention

Although we have been focusing on new membership development with the Triple One Crown. Membership Challenge, I would like to remind everyone that the second part of this important ingredient for successful clubs and federations is **Membership Retention**. What systems do you currently have in place which evaluate, review and maintain your membership?

Here is a 5 step process which highlights points for your review.

- a) What communications are being used to connect your members to the club? If they have not been able to attend the meetings what communications do you have in place for them to feel and stay connected. How often is your newsletter distributed? Is it mailed, emailed or both? Do you have a website? Are there links to www.bpw-international.org or your regional homepage, for example: www.bpw-europe.org, www.bpw-africa.org, www.bpw-northamerica.org, how much international information, UN news and activities is shared with the members?
- b) Have you had interesting, educational and professional programs to attract members to attend the meetings? Do you regularly ask for feedback from your members as to what they would like? Are your members having a wonderful BPW experience?
- c) What makes your club valuable to the members? Do they get a return on their investment of time and money? Also, do they feel that they can contribute and share their skills and expertise in the club and is it appreciated? Does the club truly support and promote each others businesses and professions. Encourage all members to register on the BPW member and business pages. This powerful tool is in 6 languages, English, Spanish, French, Italian, German and Arabic. It is free for members and a fee of only Euro 75 per year for businesses! Check this at www.bpw-business.org or go to the www.bpw-international.org homepage.
- d) What systems are in place to follow up with new members or first timers to make them feel welcome and, for at least the first 6 months, to provide them with an understanding about BPW? Another tool which is available is the new member booklet in our four official languages to download from our website, www.bpw-international.org/services/benefits along with a complete program in Mentoring.
- e) Lastly, what membership renewal methods does your club have to ensure that everyone renews and that no one is left behind? Do you analyze your annual retention and growth rate and is this taken into account when the annual budget is drafted.

I hope that these items help you and the membership committees to address your membership retention status and goals. I welcome any feedback on what has worked or not worked for your club or federation.

It is very exciting to report that BPW International has approved and welcomed (3) new country federations. Spain, Egypt and Sudan. Congratulations to all! In addition we have many new clubs in the process of formalizing. Membership responsibility lies with all our members and I am very happy that it is being evidenced by BPW International's growth in all the regions.

Liz Benham
2nd Vice President
Membership Chair

AFFILIATES NEWS



Members of BPW Japan visited Egypt. (left to right): Nobuko Kurosaki, president of BPW Japan, Dr. Amany Asfour, Africa Regional Coordinator, Hiromi Fujita, member of BPW Japan, Masako Hiramatsu, past president of BPW Japan.

BPW Japan's Women Exchange Program

BPW Japan has collaborated with Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan as one of the main actors for the Women Exchange Program since 1998. In 2006, a delegation led by President of BPW Japan, Nobuko Kurosaki, participated in a visit to Egypt, Jordan and Palestine. In Egypt, they visited Dr. Amany Asfour, BPW Africa Regional Coordinator and a school for Egyptian girls. In Jordan, they discussed how to encourage women to participate in the economy. They also met with young Jordanian ladies from Jordanian Universities to hear their views on being professional women. In Jerusalem, they joined the seminar for young Palestinian women who want to be entrepreneurs. They also met the President of BPW Palestine, who is the Vice President of Coca-Cola Palestine.

Nobuko Kurosaki
President of BPW Japan



(left to right) Young BPW Dream Team: Natasha Monroe (Northern Ireland), Lynette Ametewee (London), Samatha Raggatt (Nottingham).

BPW UK National Conference

Young BPW UK pilot projects were launched at national BPW conference 2007 in Edinburgh, United Kingdom on 12-15 April 2007 with young BPW members from Northern Ireland, London and Nottingham. Young BPW is set to take full flight at conference 2008 and is open to any members aged 35 and under in the UK. Nikki Bennett-Willetts succeeded Ann Wiseall as National President of BPW UK.

Gabriella Canonica
European Regional Coordinator



(Left to Right): Blanca Torres, president of BPW Victoria Ocampo, Mar del Plata; Liz Benham; Cecilia Quadri; Chonchanok Viravan; and Florinda D'Antonio, President of BPW Argentina at Mar de Plata Airport..

BPW Argentina National Conference

BPW Argentina held its national conference at Mar de Plata, Argentina on 13-14 April 2007. Florinda D'Antoinio, President of BPW Argentina, led this successful conference. The conference had additional contributions through the presence of foreign participants, Dr. Chonchanok Viravan, Liz Benham, Maria Inez Bunning and a delegation from Mexico. The activities began with a press conference in the Trade, Industry and Production Union, continuing with a welcome dinner. The first day the international authorities presented the plan to reform BPW International. The second day BPW Argentina talked about their plans and their accomplishments.

Maria Inez Garcia Bunning
Latin America Regional Coordinator



BPW members at the 5th Latin America Regional Conference in Santiago, Chile.

Latin America Regional Conference

The 5th Latin America Regional Conference was held in Santiago, Chile on 16-18 April 2007. The conference was attended by BPW members from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and Uruguay. Several International Executive Board Members, including President Chonchanok Viravan, Vice President Liz Benham, and Past International President Antoinette Ruegg also gave talks at this conference. Several topics were discussed, including Violence Against Women, Environment, New Dimension of Leadership, BPW International Reform, BPW International Congress, etc. There are many interesting projects presented by BPW affiliates in this region. For example:

AFFILIATES NEWS

Brazil: Beatriz Fett, President of BPW Brazil, talked about Maria Da Penha Law which addressed violence against women in Brazil and the Projects of BPW Brazil with Special Politics for Women Minister (SPM) and Brazilian Service of Support to small and medium enterprises.

- **Ecuador:** Past president of BPW Ecuador, Majura Guvara, talked about the work that BPW Ecuador has done to help women to help themselves.
- **Panama:** President Albertina reported the progress of the Credit Mujer project, which won an award at Luzern Congress.
- **Chile:** Several speakers, including President Carmen Ojeda Caceres, gave talks about projects in Chile related to Education, Health, Agriculture, Environment, Art and Culture.

The Gala dinner with candle lighting ceremony was also enjoyed by all the participants.

Maria Inez Garcia Bunning
Latin America Regional Coordinator



BPW executives at International, regional and national levels in Latin America.



(Left) Chonchanok Viravan and Carmen Ojeda Caceres, President of BPW Chile; (Right) Beatriz Fett, President of BPW Brazil and Maria Inez Bunning, Latin America Regional Coordinator.

The 6th Pan Afro Congress of Business & Professional Women.

BPW Cairo, BPW Guiza and BPW Pyramids in Egypt organized this event on 28-30 May 2007. It was attended by members of BPW and potential members from Bahrain, U.A.E., Libya, Swaziland, Kuwait, Senegal, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Mozambique, and Morocco. H.R.H. Nomsa, Queen of Swaziland was the guest of honour. There was also representation from African Union, Arab League and African and Arab Diplomatic.

Dr. Amany Asfour
Africa Regional Coordinator



(Left to Right): Mrs. Khairia Al Dashty, Secretary General Arab Business Women Council; H.E. Dr. Zeinab Safar, National Council of Women; Dr. Amany Asfour, Africa Regional Coordinator; H.R.H. Nomsa, Queen of Swaziland.

Project TREE IS LIFE is growing like a seed in Brazil

The project "Tree is Life" was launched at CONFAM 2006 Conference in Cuiabá, Brazil. The objective is that each BPW member plants a tree and with this simple action, worldwide, we will have a better quality of life. The number of trees donated and planted was 4000. President Chonchanok Viravan planted the first tree with other BPW members.

On 5 June 2007 "International Environment Day", the project was also implemented in Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil. The International RS Governor Yeda Crusius planted trees launching the project "Tree is Life" in the Marinha do Brazil Park. The event was promoted by the Chair of the BPW-International Environment Committee, Yara Blochtein, and Ligia Barata Brasil, President of BPW Porto Alegre. The ceremony was attended by President of BPW Brazil, Beatriz Fett, BPW members and government representatives. The Environment and Sustainable Development Committee is working hard to launch this project nationally and internationally to show the world that we care for the environment and with these simple actions we can build a better life on Earth, fighting against the Climate Change

Yara Blochtein
Chair of Environment and Sustainable Development Committee



Planting the first tree in Cuiaba, Brazil (Left to Right) Sandra Queiroz, Chair of Agriculture Committee; Yara Blochtein, Chair of Environment and Sustainable Development Committee; Chonchanok Viravan, Liz Benham and Maria Inez G. Bunning.

AFFILIATES NEWS



(left to right): Ann Galiger, new president of BPW Sligo; Chonchanok Viravan, BPW International President; Deidre McGrath, BPW Ireland past president; Moyra McMahon, BPW Ireland new president.

BPW Ireland Annual General Meeting

BPW Ireland AGM was held in Sligo, Ireland on 21 April 2007. Deidre McGrath, past National President of BPW Ireland passed on the presidency to Moyra McMahon. The most notable project presented at this meeting was the “Speaking Competition for Senior School Girls”, which is held every year to encourage and foster good public speaking skills in young girls who are at senior level in secondary schools. In 2006 BPW Galway coordinated the event. (For more information, please visit www.bpw-international.org/activities/bpw-activities-project-bpw-ireland-speaking-competition-senior-schoolgirl.htm). President Chonchanok Viravan gave the after dinner talk on “Take the Lead: The Challenges in Reforming BPW”, which was very well received by members.

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan,
BPW International President



(left to right): Kate Bekasiak, Amélie Lecrelcq, Enrichetta Bellini, Yves Ceresa, Gabriella Canonica

European Coordinating Committee Meeting (ECC)

ECC meeting was held in Le Thillot, France on 26-30 April 2007. A press conference with local newspapers was held. ECC members also met with Mayor of Le Thillot, Mr. Yves Ceresa. They also put the first stone to open a new BPW Club in Le Thillot.

Gabriella Canonica
European Regional Coordinator



Past and current presidents of BPW New Zealand. (left to right) Front row] Audrey Harris, Joan Bielby, [Second row] Anita Devcich, Maureen Eardley Wilmot, Faye Gardiner, Anne-Todd Lambie, Dianne Glenn and Jean Park

The 43rd BPW New Zealand National Conference

BPW New Zealand held its National Conference on 3-6 May 2007 at Invercargil. International President Chonchanok Viravan and BPW New Zealand President Faye Gardiner had a television interview prior to the conference. BPW New Zealand currently has 30 clubs with total of 735 members. BPW Auckland won the award as the club with highest increase in membership. It is interesting to note that 75% of BPW Auckland members are migrants. BPW New Zealand passed several resolutions to lobby to address health issues for women. To get a full picture of the work and the fun, visit www.bpw-international.org/activities/activities-conference-bpw-new-zealand-may2007.htm for a report from Executive Secretary, Freda Miriklis.

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan
BPW International President



BPW members at the Senate of the Czech Republic

BPW Prague and Equal opportunities for women : Past and Present

During 27-29 May 2007, BPW Prague organized the “Equal opportunities for women in the Czech Republic” and the Memoir of the founding President of BPW Czechoslovakia, Frantiska F. Plaminkova. She served as a senator of Czechoslovakia, 1925-1942 and Vice President of BPW International, 1930-1942. *She advocated for women’s rights at a dangerous time*, and became a victim of World War II in 1942. This event was attended by 2nd Vice President Liz Benham and European Regional Coordinator Gabriella Canonica

Gabriella Canonica
European Regional Coordinator

AFFILIATES NEWS

Asia Pacific Regional Conference

The Asia Pacific Regional Conference was held in Seoul, Korea on 13-15 May 2007, immediately after the 4th Young BPW International Meeting from 10-13 May 2007. Both events received good press coverage. Several national newspapers highlighted the quote from International President Chonchanok Viravan that the alternative solution for a woman who hits a glass ceiling is to *change the building*.

The event started with a dinner which was a farewell to Young BPW and a welcome for the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference. The Mayor of Seoul, hosted the event. President of BPW Korea, Hyang Sook Kim presented a Gold Award to Yoon Seok-Keum, Chair of Woongjin Group for his outstanding support in creating jobs for women and improving their status.

The opening ceremony on 14 May 2007 was inaugurated by Prime Minister Dr. Han Duck-Soo of Korea. The keynote speech was by Vice Minister of Gender Equality and Family, Dr. Chang Soon Kim "Government Gender Policy and Capacity Building for Women Leaders" and by Dr. Chonchanok Viravan on "Take the Lead: The Challenges in Reforming BPW"

This was followed by "New Dimensions of Leadership" session with Past International President Antoinette Ruegg, Kobkarn Wattanavarangkul, President of Toshiba (Thailand), the winner of the Leading Women Entrepreneur of the World 2004. Other sessions included Organization Review and Reform sessions on BPW Financial Strategy, BPW Management and BPW Network. Committee chairs presented their reports on Friends and Fellows, Mentoring, Young BPW and Health. Country reports were presented by Presidents of BPW Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, Korea, New Zealand, Nepal, Singapore, Thailand, Cook Island., and Uzbekistan. Ambica Shrestha, Asia-Pacific Regional Coordinator presented the reports from the other countries that were not present. BPW Korea's survey result on Prospects of Jobs for Women was also presented. BPW partner, Asia-Pacific Women Information Network Center presented the work on E-Business Training.

The Conference was a great success. Thank you Korean BPW President Dr. Hyang Sook Kim and your team for exemplary work!

Ambica Shrestha
Asia-Pacific Regional Coordinator

President Chonchanok visited BPW Germany

President Chonchanok Viravan took the opportunity to meet members of BPW Frankfurt and BPW Berlin when she attended the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Brussels. She had opportunity to learn of BPW Germany's activities and briefed members on progress of the Organization Review and Reform. She was also warmly welcomed at a reception organized by President of BPW Germany, Dr. Bettina Schleicher and the Executive of BPW Germany.

Christine Heinze
Member, BPW Frankfurt



(left to right) Hyang Sook Kim, Ambica Shrestha, Chonchanok Viravan, Mayor Oh Se-hoon, Thitinan Wattanavekin, Hwa-Joong Kim-President of the Korean National Council of Women, Yoon Seok-Keum, and Hyun-Ja Kim



(Top left) Mayor Oh Se-hoon and Ambica Shrestha
(Top right) Pat Harrison and Hyang Sook Kim
(Bottom left) Kobkarn Wattanavarangkul
(Bottom right) Liz Benham and Eunmee Wong



BPW International Executive Board members and BPW members from Asia-Pacific.



President Chonchanok and BPW Frankfurt members



President Chonchanok Viravan congratulate Vaira Vike-Freiberga, President of Latvia for receiving the Global Women's Leadership Award



(Left to Right) BPW Germany at Global Summit of Women: Isiney Kemmler; Dr. Bettina Schleicher, President of BPW Germany President ; Chonchanok Viravan; Christine Heinze



BPW members at BPW Kick Off meeting prior to Global Summit of Women in Berlin.



(Left to Right) Dr. Kio Chung Kim, organizer of APEC DEW; Janet Stodulka, Office of Women, Australia; Dr. Pat Rice Braun, Research Fellow, Centre for Regional Innovation & Competitiveness; Dr. Chonchanok Viravan, International President

BPW at Global Summit of Women, Berlin

The Global Summit of Women was held in Berlin on 14-16 June 2007. It was a gathering of over 1,000 strong-minded women from 95 countries with lots of high calibre participants. Fifty government ministers attended the conference and came together at the ministerial roundtable. BPW was present with a delegation of 22 members from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Egypt, Russia India and Thailand. They all met to a Kick Off before the Summit started, among them Dr. Chonchanok Viravan, BPW International President and Dr. Bettina Schleicher, President BPW Germany.

BPW was also involved in organizing the Global Summit. Dr. Chonchanok Viravan, BPW International President joined the Planning Committee and Katrin Grass, Board Member BPW Berlin was a member of the National Host Committee of the Global Summit. BPW successfully nominated six speakers for the Breakout Sessions at the Summit. They shared with Summit participants their experiences: how to develop win-win negotiating skills, to use technology to build a brand, to market yourself internally within a corporation or how to learn from business downturns.

President Chonchanok Viravan gave a talk on Win-Win Negotiation Strategy, which was very well received by participants. She also gave a speech at the closing ceremony, announcing that BPW International is one of the first three organizations to join Global Summit of Women's initiative on "Global Consortium of Women to End Cervical Cancer".

President Chonchanok Viravan also took the opportunity to meet members of BPW Frankfurt and BPW Berlin when she attended the Global Summit of Women in Berlin. She learnt about BPW Germany's activities and briefed members on the progress of Organization Review and Reform. She was also warmly welcomed at a reception organized by President of BPW Germany, Dr. Bettina Schleicher and the BPW Germany Executive.

For more information, speeches and presentations of BPW members and the photo gallery of this event, visit www.bpw-international.org/activities/global-summit-women-2007.htm.

Katrin Grass
Board member of BPW Berlin

APEC Digital Economy Forum for Women 2007

APEC Forum on Digital Economy for Women (APEC DEW): Building Sustainable e-Future was held at Port Douglas, Australia on 22-23 June 2007. Dr. Chonchanok Viravan chaired the session on "Lessons Learned and Best Practices around APEC" and co-chaired APEC Digital Economy Forum for Women 2007: Summit Meeting on 23 June 2007. An outcome of this meeting is an agreement to form *APEC Women Leaders Network in ICT* (Information and Communication Technology), which later was welcomed as a key collaborative partner of APEC Women Leaders' Network

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan
BPW International President

AFFILIATES NEWS

BPW at the 12th APEC Women Leaders' Network Meeting

The 12th APEC Women Leaders' Network was held at Sheraton Mirage Hotel, Port Douglas, Australia during 25-27 June 2007. Participants included over 300 women from 21 economies of APEC which also included BPW members from Australia, Japan, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, and Thailand.

President Chonchanok Viravan gave a plenary session talk on "*International Migration and Business Challenges to Build Sustainable Future*". This talk was well received. She was delighted that one of the 12 recommendations from this meeting addressed migration issues.

President Chonchanok also met with women leaders who are interested in helping form new BPW Associate Clubs in Philippines, Russia and Vietnam. Many Australian women expressed their interest to join BPW Australia to Kay Morrison, President of BPW Australia.

For presentations and photo gallery from this event, please visit bpw-international.org/activities/12th-APEC-WLN.

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan
BPW International President



Panel Session on "Business Challenges to Build Sustainable Future" with (left to right): Ka Shi Lau, Dr. Chonchanok Viravan; Irina Gorbulina, and Julian Broadbent



(Left to Right): Kay Morrison, President of BPW Australia; Heather Ridout, Chair of WLN 2007 and Chief Executive of Australian Industry Group and Chonchanok Viravan, International President

Global Forum on Migration and Development, Brussel, Belgium

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan represented BPW International, which was one of 180 NGOs chosen out of over 500 NGOs to attend the Civil Society Day of the Global Forum on Migration (GFMD) in Brussels, Belgium on 9 July 2007. This forum derived recommendations for governments attending Global Forum on Migration on 10-11 July 2007.

The sessions were highly interactive. Dr. Chonchanok's key recommendation was to reduce undocumented (illegal) migration by making the borders more open. She pointed out that climate changes have potential to cause over a billion of people to migrate in 21st Century. Increasing the restrictions for migrants would not stop the flow of people, but would only increase undocumented migrants – who are more prone to 4-D jobs (Dirty, Difficult, Dangerous and Demeaning).

GFMD was initiated from the recommendation from the United Nations High Level Dialogue on International Migration in 2006. It was fully sponsored by King Baudouin Foundation, Belgium.

After GFMD, President Chonchanok was also warmly welcomed by BPW Belgium. Annarosa Colangelo, First Vice President, organized her visit. President Chonchanok enjoyed having lunch at the house of Mariette Debou in Knokke, a boat ride in the beautiful town of Bruges and dinner with over 22% of BPW Belgium's members of Belgium, hosted by BPW Belgium President Caroline Couvreur. President Chonchanok and Annarosa also met with potential new BPW members who want to form a new club from French business and professional women living in Brussels.

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan
BPW International President



(Left) Chonchanok Viravan International President and Ann Pawlizcko, UNFPA
(Right) Chonchanok Viravan, International President and Ndioro Ndiaye, Director of International Organization on Migration (IOM).



(Front row) Mariette Debou, President of BPW Knokke; Dr. Chonchanok Viravan, International President; Annarosa Colangelo, 1st Vice President
(Back row) Caroline Couvreur, President of BPW Belgium (2nd from left), Past presidents of BPW Belgium and presidents of BPW clubs in Belgium.



4th Young BPW International Meeting

The 4th Young BPW International meeting was held in Seoul, South Korea from 10–13 May 2007 on the theme “Preparing Young Leaders for the 21st Century”. Young BPW members’ world-wide participated.

10 May 2007 Field Trip - Young BPW members experienced the advance high-tech side of Korea on their field trip to Ubiquitous Exhibition Center, Ministry of Information & Communication, and Innovation Hall, Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs.

11 May 2007 Young BPW Meeting: Young BPW members attended several fruitful sessions, including the talks on the Benefits of BPW for Young Business and Professional Women, New Dimensions of Leadership, Capacity building for Young Women, BPW Mentoring programs, experience from attending United Nations meetings, E-Business training experience, IDP training the trainers experience. They also participated in brain storming sessions on the organization review and reform, and got to present their ideas and suggestions for BPW and Young BPW network.

12 May 2007 BPW – Sookmyung Women University “Global Leadership Workshop”: For the first time professional university training was organized just for Young BPW members to enhance their careers by giving them an international certification from a well recognized university. This one day workshop (which based on a 2 years program that educated over 15,000 women in past years), included topics like *Global Women Leadership* by President of Sookmyung Women University, *Building strong and competitive corporate culture* by former CEO of General Electric (GE) Korea. Other topics, including sympathetic communication, conflict management, creativity, and planning, were presented by experts in the field.

13 May 2007 Young BPW Awards Presentation - International President, Chonchanok Viravan presented Young BPW awards (which were initiated by Rooma Para, Chair of Young BPW Committee on the occasion of International Youth Day) at the Grand Reception and Award Presentation Event.

1. **Empower the Youth Award** – This award was for the best BPW initiative for the development of Young BPW members and / or Young women in the community. BPW Australia won this award for implementing the idea of operating a Young BPW program through *Young BPW Board*. This project became a reality due to hard work, joint efforts and effective partnership between Young BPW and BPW members of Australia.
2. **Young BPW at Work Award** – This award was given to the best community project initiated by the Young BPW member working for the betterment of the community and bringing a good name to the network. This award was won by Young BPW of Cayman Islands.

It has been a learning experience accompanied by a lot of fun activities like shopping, cultural shows; music and dance which allowed our members to enjoy, network and learn more about the city of Seoul.

Rooma Para
Young BPW International Committee Chair

AWARDS

BPW Power to Make A Difference Competition

BPW Power to Make a Difference Competition is designed to document and give recognition to the value of leadership, influence and work of BPW Affiliates worldwide. The winners will receive the trophies at XXVI BPW International Congress, Mexico City, Mexico in October 2008 and will be invited as speakers for the Congress. There are 3 categories of awards as follows:

I. BPW Power to Make a Difference through Leadership Awards

- Excellent Business Leader: A trophy will be given to the best business woman candidate.
- Excellent Professional Leader: A trophy will be given to the best professional woman candidate.
- Excellent Young Leader: A trophy will be given to the best leader who is aged 40 years or younger.

These trophies will be given to the top 3 BPW members who are leaders in business and professions whose work has a significant positive impact on the world, her country, her society and/or a corporation. Examples of positive impacts include dramatically improved business performance, major recovery from crisis, restoration of peace, scientific discovery that benefits a lot of people, outstanding professional contribution to a country, etc. Political leaders would be in the professional leader category.

II. BPW Power to Make a Difference through Advocacy Awards

- Excellent Advocacy for Women: 1st Place, 2nd Place, 3rd Place trophies

These trophies will be given to BPW Affiliates that successfully lobby for legislation, national policy or promote endeavors that improve the status of women, eliminate discrimination against women (especially working women) and/or lobby to improve conditions to enable women to achieve their full potential (such as in women's health, women's employment opportunities or combating violence against women). Advocacy for special groups of women such as indigenous women or migrant women would also count. All advocacy work must have been done in the name of BPW during 1997-2007.

III. BPW Power to Make a Difference through Advocacy Awards

- Excellent Projects: 1st Place, 2nd Place, 3rd Place trophies

These trophies will be given to top 3 outstanding BPW projects conducted by BPW Club and/or BPW Federation to help women to help themselves by developing their professional and leadership potential, by providing opportunities within BPW to help them achieve their full potential. Examples include skill training, mentoring, micro-credit, career guidance, scholarships, etc. An international project, involving several BPW Affiliates (such as twinning projects) can also compete. The top 10 projects will be recognized as "**BPW International Listed Projects**", which BPW International will help publicize through various media and give special recognition to on the web site in order to help fundraise to support the projects. Project leaders / representatives from the teams of the top 10 projects will be invited to be speakers at XXVI BPW International Congress, Mexico City, Mexico.

Please visit www.bpw-international.org/awards/BPW-power-to-make-a-difference.htm to download nomination forms, find out more details about rules, evaluation, terms and conditions, etc. Nomination should be submitted to presidents.office@bpw-international.org. **Deadline for nomination is 31 December 2007.**

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan
BPW International President & Chair of Adjudicators
BPW Power to Make A Difference Competition

ORGANIZATION REVIEW AND REFORM

Digital Archives for Continuity

Archives are important, not only because they preserve BPW History but also because they are critical to the continuity in an organization. To promote accessibility to archives, BPW International's president office in Bangkok has been working on developing various *Digital Archives*, such as:

A) Archives of Proceedings from Past Congress and Board of Directors Meetings

Over 60 books have already been scanned into PDF files. This archive will be available in a CD format.

B) Archives on the web site

The newly revised BPW International web site www.bpw-international.org presents archives of newsletters, projects, history books, reports to the United Nations, photographs etc. Many more archives are under development. These include archives of past BPW International resolutions from previous Congresses since 1930, archives of old BPW newsletters which were called "Widening Horizons".

C) Archives of BPW International's Offices

Digital archive of files from President's Office in Bangkok during 2005-2008 will be added to the electronic files from President's office in Zurich during 2002-2005 and files from Member Service from UK during 2001-2006. We also aim to add to this digital archive: the scan copies of selected important official documents from the archive of the former BPW International Headquarters in Battersea, UK.

D) Archives of Communication:

Official e-mail communication to BPW member countries and official Executive Board votes via e-mails have been digitally archived in Google Group since in year 2006. These archives will be available for future reference for future management of BPW International.

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan
BPW International President

Partnerships for Growth

One of my key strategies to reform BPW International is expanding its influence and benefits for members through partnerships. Some of the partnerships I initiated are as follows:

- Asia-Pacific Women Information Network (APWINC): This partnership enables BPW members to attend E-Business training in Seoul, Korea with airfare subsidy. BPW experts in e-Business/ICT have also been invited as speakers to several *APEC Forum on Digital Economy for Women* conferences which were organized by APWINC. I initiated this partnership since 1994 when I was 1st Vice President.
- Global Consortium of Women to end Cervical Cancer: BPW International was one the first 3 organizations to join this consortium, which was initiated at the Global Summit of Women in June 2007. The aim is to raise awareness that Cervical Cancer, the second most common cancers among women and one of the leading causes of death among women around the world, is now preventable through the combination of screening and vaccination. This partnership was initiated in June 2007.
- Women International Network (W.I.N): This international network focuses on holding an annual conference (typically in Europe) to offer leadership / business training and networking opportunities. With this partnership, each BPW member would get 100 Euros discount on the registration fee if they attend the W.I.N. Conference. The next W.I.N. conference will be held on 27-29 September 2007 in Oslo, Norway. This partnership was initiated in August 2007.

For more details about BPW International Partnerships, visit CONNECTION section of BPW International web site www.bpw-international.org.

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan
BPW International President



The XXVI BPW International Congress, Mexico City, Mexico

Change of City:

The XXVI BPW International Congress will be held in Mexico City, Mexico in October 2008. BPW International Executive Board decided to change the city for the benefit and safety of the members in order to encourage more participation with the potential of lower airfares for members as well as mitigating danger of hurricanes.

BPW International Executive Board would like to thank BPW affiliates who officially expressed their understanding and support of this move, including Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Nepal, New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland, Sudan, Turkey, Thailand and United Kingdom.

Entertainment from the Future

The Gala dinner at XXVIII BPW International Congress will feature some amazing shows from the future. The future Congress – that is!

For decades, promotion of each country bidding for Congress was limited to a very short presentation during business session. For the XXVI BPW International Congress in Mexico City, Mexico, the bidders of FUTURE Congress in 2014 will have an additional opportunity to entice BPW members with a show from their countries at the Gala dinner. So they can “WOW” BPW members globally before the votes are cast on which country will host the XXVIII BPW International Congress.

More details on how to submit the bid for 2014 Congress will be available in the last quarter of 2007 on www.bpw-international.org.

The Sound of BPW International Anthem

The competition for BPW International Anthem is expanding to allow BPW Affiliates to propose either (a) new lyric for the old rhythm of BPW International Anthem OR (b) the new rhythm and the new lyrics for BPW International Anthem. Countries that expressed interest may download the current rhythm and its music notes from BPW International’s web site: www.bpw-international.org.

The musical score, the lyric in English, and the CD of the proposed BPW International Anthem in two versions: rhythm only version and rhythm and lyric version should be submitted to BPW International’s President Office no later than **31 December 2007**.

The top 3 finalists of BPW International Anthem will be played and voted on during the XXVI BPW International Congress in Mexico City, Mexico.

Calendar of Events

BPW EVENTS

DATES	CITY/COUNTRY	EVENTS
2-4 September 2007	Brasilia, Brazil	BPW Brazil National Conference
7-9 September 2007	Berlin, Germany	European Symposium “Career – Future – Family”
14-16 September 2007	St. Petersburg Russia	BPW Neva, 10 th Anniversary
18-19 October 2007	Valencia, Spain	✚ BPW Hearing on Organization Review & Reform
19-21 October 2007	Valencia, Spain	✚ The 6 th European Presidents Meeting
22-23 October 2007	Valencia, Spain	✚ “Women in the World Leading the Millennium” Conference (organized by BPW Valencia).
27 October 2007	Tours, France	✚ BPW France National Conference
2-4 November 2007	Sydney, Australia	✚ BPW Australia National Conference
16-18 November 2007	Pula, Croatia	✚ The 2 nd BPW Danube Net Forum
12 March 2008	California, USA	BPW Violence Against Women Conference

OTHER EVENTS

DATES	CITY/COUNTRY	EVENTS
23 July – 10 August 2007	New York, USA	CEDAW 39 th Session
5-7 September 2007	New York, USA	The 60 th Annual DPI/NGO Conference on “Climate Changes: How It Impact Us All”
18-20 September 2007	Düsseldorf, Germany	ILO Conference on Making Decent work a Global Goal and a National Reality
27-29 September 2007	Oslo, Norway	Women’s International Networking Conference
4 October 2007	Seoul, Korea	UN ESCAP Asia-Pacific Business Forum
16 Oct – 3 November 2007	Paris, France	The 34 th Session of UNESCO General Conference

✚ President’s Travel

BPW News International

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To get a copy, please download the newsletter from BPW International website (www.bpw-international.org). If BPW Federations or Associate Clubs prefer to receive a hard copy, please inform Member services at members@bpw-international.org.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE:

31 December 2007 : No. 3 / 2007
30 April 2008 : No. 1 / 2008
31 August 2008 : No. 2 / 2008

Articles for the newsletters must be submitted to presidents.office@bpw-international.org No later than 1 month prior to the release date of the newsletter.

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