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BPW International E-News
BPW INTERNATIONAL E-NEWS January 10, 2011, Issue 1



BPW International

Federation of Business and Professional Women

BPW E-NEWS

January 10, 2011 Issue 1

Dear BPW Members worldwide

Message from the President

Happy New year to all! Our 80th anniversary this last year was a significant milestone in our organization. A guiding light for me is always to reflect on the inspirational women from around the world that have gone before us. "The great thing in this world is not so much where you stand, as in what direction you are moving."

This year brings the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day and there will be many exciting BPW activities and events to celebrate this milestone in New York during UN CSW 55. Registrations are still open for the annual BPW International Leader's Summit February 20-21 in New York and for the NGO events – [so be sure to register online now!](#)

Our [International Congress is in Helsinki, June, 17-21](#) and the registration is now open online. Take advantage of the early bird rates and the airline discounts. This is a Congress not to be missed! The decisions we make this year at our Congress must serve our organization and women for the future. Our Constitution which was revised over the years by our collective wisdom has served us well. While we now embark to fulfill a resolution to modernize it, let us all be clear on the impact of the changes that will be made and how it should serve us in today's world. Consider all of the structural and governance changes to be sure that we will not be making changes just for the sake of change. There is a famous saying "if it's not broken, don't fix it". I would like to remind you that the deadline for sending submissions on the draft of the New Constitution has been extended **to January 15th** - please ensure that as a member you are fully

informed and part of this process so take the time to review, listen, [engage and have your say](#).

Wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous 2011!

Liz Benham

President BPW International 2008-2011

News from the Executive

Dear BPW Members and friends around the world. Reflections on the past 'Midnight' letter 2009-2010.

I wrote about the new challenge, the long way we will go together and the wonderful chance to move forward towards reaching our goals.

Unfortunately, I did not have the chance and honour to meet all of you individually, but nevertheless, I had a wonderful opportunity to speak with many of you face to face and to learn from you about your concerns, thoughts, ideas and wishes, as well as your sorrows, which I carry in my heart and pray that you feel better as each day passes...

[More](#)

Gabriella Canonica

1st Vice President BPW International

Happy New Year! Lots of exciting things are in store for members participating in [CSW 55 in New York](#) this year. BPW members will be able to participate in all the planned BPW events, NGO activities and have input into CSW outcomes. The NGO/CSW programme, together with the planned BPW activities, will provide a platform to share and exchange ideas and meet new people sharing similar passions. Access to BPW delegates during morning BPW Caucus Meetings will be held at the President's Suite in the Murray Hills East Suites. Specific efforts are being made to ensure that BPW perspectives are considered in the outcome document and don't miss out on some of our special activities that we have in store! Start planning your itinerary and remember to visit the website as we are updating details regularly. The Equal Pay Day workshop: Closing the Pay Gap has now been confirmed for Wednesday 23rd February 2011 at 1:00pm - 3:00pm. Details are available on the BPW website - Mark the date in your diary now!

Freda Miriklis, 2nd Vice President

Chair United Nations Committee on the Status of Women

BPW News

BPW Brazil: New president BPW Club Curitiba, Brazil , Lylia Vargas.

[More](#)

BPW Valencia, Spain: 'Another Way' was celebrated and organised

by evap/Valencia Business and Professional Women (BPW Valencia) at the Second Congress '[Women in the World Leading the Millennium](#)' on October 25th and 26th and held in the Convention Hall of Valencia.

[BPW Greater Sudbury](#), Canada, hosts monthly events for networking, friendship, personal and professional development and advocacy. BPW hosts monthly events with keynote speakers and workshops.

BPW Durham, Canada and BPW International: The Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club was formed in 1930. [More](#)

BPW Singapore: BPW Federation Annual General Meeting - Welcome to Singapore. Start Date: 15 Jan 2011. [More](#)

United Nations News

Consultations on Guiding Principles for business and human rights, Geneva, 11-12 October 2010

Throughout the process of developing the UN 'Protect, Respect and Remedy' Framework for business and human rights and Guiding Principles, SRSG John Ruggie has consulted comprehensively with a broad range of relevant stakeholders. [More](#)

Two new General Comments: The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) adopted its [General Recommendation No. 27 on "older women and protection of their human rights"](#) and the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW) a [general comment on Migrant Domestic Workers](#).

[Top 10 Maternal Health Highlights in 2010](#): Looking back over the past year, we have much to celebrate. The following list is not exhaustive, but recaps some of the most prominent maternal health-related milestones and events of 2010. As we push forward into 2011, we celebrate both the successes and solutions of the past year, as well as the barriers to success we can learn from in order to streamline our strategies [to best reach Millennium Development Goals 5](#).

UNESCO Mourns [the Loss of Art Patron and Goodwill Ambassador](#). "Lily Marinho was deeply committed to education and culture, working to bring closer together people of all ages, nationalities and social backgrounds," said UNESCO chief Irina Bokova.

Worldwide News

The **European Commission** has launched a new website designed to

help provide additional support for [victims of human trafficking](#).

Latin America: Women Ascend in Latin America. Women currently serve as the presidents of Brazil, Argentina and Costa Rica and three others have served in Chile, Panama and Nicaragua.

Afghanistan: Kabul: [Women in Afghanistan are being recruited](#) as front line police officers for the first time.

Afghanistan: A new Afghan television program is hoping to provide [a forum for local women to speak](#) out against widespread abuse, rape and other issues.

Africa: Nairobi: We, African women feminists, activists including young women leaders drawn from diverse women's rights organizations and networks operating in different countries, sub- regions and across the continent, meeting at the Third African Feminist Forum (AFF) held in Dakar, Senegal in October 2010. Read the [Africa Feminist Forum Statement](#).

Australia: Paid Parental Leave Means a Happy New Year for New Parents. [More](#)

Australia: Parents who qualify for Labor's parental leave scheme could be forced to use long service or annual leave while accessing the payments. [More](#)

Australia: Backflip defuses Equal Pay Row. The Federal Government has bowed to union and community sector anger and signed back on to support equal pay for women. The Age [Backflip defuses equal pay row](#).

Australia: Pink deluge a lesson in inequality. [More](#)

Canada: The growing number of women - particularly those with children - entering the workforce in Canada is a social "trend" that has been occurring for 30 years. In many ways, though, society has yet to catch up with the phenomenon. [More](#)

India: Too many lacunae. Finally we have a law that addresses sexual harassment at the workplace. But some controversial clauses need to be debated. [The Hindu](#)

India: Campaign to Train Women in Taxi Driving. The women's wing of the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena will soon launch a drive to train women from the lower income group as taxi drivers. [Indian Express](#)

India: Panaji: If the state government keeps its promise, then Goa will be the first state in western India to recruit women fire fighters in the

fire and emergency services. [The Times of India](#)

Iran: Tehran hosts Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) women ministers meeting. [More](#)

The meeting focuses on promotion of women's participation in the economic area, reducing impacts of financial crises and economic developments on women, convergence of Islamic countries, lifting economic siege on some Islamic states, the problems faced by Palestinian women and delivering aid to them, as well as the crises in Pakistan and Indonesia. Tehran Times Political Desk

Pacific Islands: Community Radio Provides Forum for Women to Voice Issues, a Platform for Rights & Equality Networking. Economic security including the availability of safe and secure employment, health security, personal security through access to justice and law and order, and community security through access to land, topped the Women, Peace and Human Security agenda at a consultation convened by Femlinkpacific in Labasa to commemorate World Human Rights Day. [More](#)

Pakistan: Karachi: The Women Wing of PPP led by its chief Ms. Faryal Talpur, took out a rally from the mausoleum of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah in Karachi to Larkana on December 26 to observe the third death anniversary of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto on December 27. [The Nation](#)

UK: London: When Helena Morrissey, chief executive of the money manager Newton, brought home an industry award for "Most Influential Woman in Asset Management" in October, her 5-year-old son asked whether there was a similar category for men. There was not. "It showed we're just not there yet when it comes to gender equality," Mrs. Morrissey said. [More](#)

USA: Alaska Businesswoman Competes for Extreme Huntress Title. An Alaska business woman is a finalist in the search for the world's most hard core woman hunter. Anchorage bow hunter Stacey Frost and nine other women are competing for the title of Most Extreme Huntress. The contest is sponsored by Tahoe Films, the television show Primal Adventures and Prois Hunting Apparel. [More](#)

USA: The Military Leadership Diversity Commission, a blue-ribbon panel created by Congress, says the Defense Department should eliminate restrictions on women serving in combat units and end all "gender restrictive policies, the [Air Force Times](#) reported.

USA: Women's History Museum in San Diego Changes Its Name. The Women's History Museum and Education Center announced a name change to The Women's Museum of California. [More](#)

USA: Vancouver Sun Brooke Chaffin has joined Disney Interactive Media Group (DIMG) as Senior Vice President of Women and Family.

[More](#)

USA: East Oregonian Ted Kulongoski announced he has appointed two new judges to Circuit Court for Morrow and Umatilla counties, and both are women. [More](#)

USA: Supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment should give U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia a standing ovation. [More](#)

BPW International Congress, Helsinki, Finland, June 17-21, 2011

[Programm and Registration](#)

BPW INTERNATIONAL 1930 - 2010
Business and Professional Women



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