



## **President's Candle Lighting Message 2020**

### **Wish and Dream**

### **For our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Theme**

### **The BPW We Want**

My very Dear BPW Sisters across the Globe

It is a great honor for me to address you all in this great tradition of our Candle Lighting Ceremony with my message for 2020.

2020 marks not only the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BPW International , but also the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Beijing Conference for Women and the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations which will be under the theme of : 'The Future We Want, the **UN** We Need: Reaffirming our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism'.

So, in our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we are aspiring to have the BPW that **we** want: The Organization that embraces all of us with no woman left behind; the bond that ties us in real sisterhood; the bridge that connects all the cultures together with no discrimination; the body that we all belong to on an equal basis with no centers of power; the democratic organization with freedom of expression and with no fear; the positive energy that fills our souls and not the negative energy that crawls; the light that shines on our path and not the darkness that blinds us; the magnet that attracts members for good and for peace; the sun that spreads its rays of love and friendship; the place for mentorship not battleships.

**Our BPW** should be the tool that really empowers all women, the channel for business opportunities; the advocacy platform for better legislation; the Society that unites rather than divides; the Association that strengthens its members in every field.

Throughout all of your lives you will find people who try to pull you down.

Please move away from this culture of fear that controls some of us some of the time.  
Leadership is not about pleasing some people who put you under pressure but is about doing the right thing – the thing that you believe in.

Don't have people with negative energy around you; don't allow people to destroy relationships rather than build them; don't be party to conspiracies that are aimed at creating conflict but rather spread peace and love,

We only have one life so don't waste it - take the opportunity of enjoying its treasures of love and friendship.

Don't listen to people who try to fill your soul with hatred and division.

Let us dream together and wish, while we are lighting our candles and remembering our sisters across the world for the BPW **We** want; for the BPW that we all aspire to and for **Sustainability** for **our BPW**.

Lots of love to all of you

Dr Amany Asfour  
International President  
BPW International