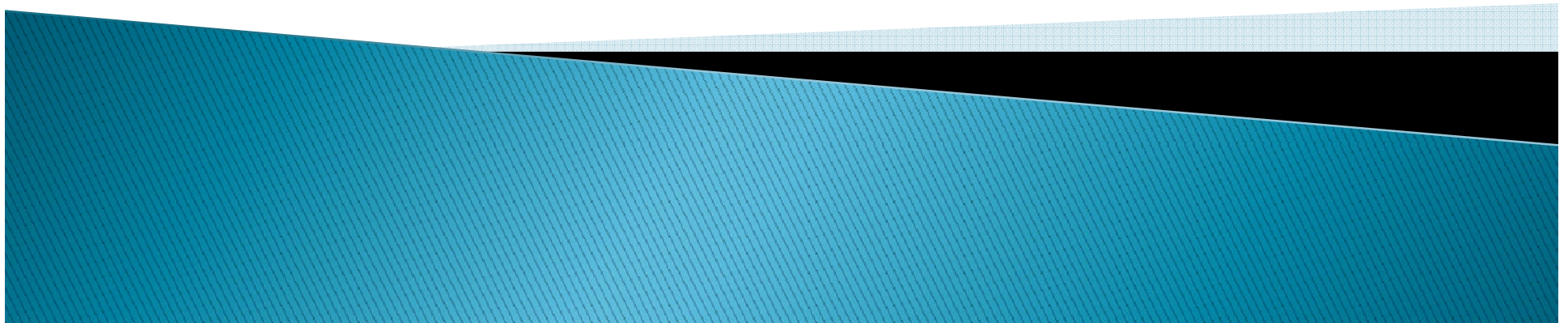




ZONTA AND THE UNITED NATIONS



ZI UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE



THE COMMITTEE

- ▶ In New York City:

- ▶ Mary Ann Tarantula, Chairman

- ▶ Patricia Latona, Susan Westerberg, Staci Alziebler-Perkins

- ▶ In Europe:

- ▶ Simone Overt, Vice Chairman Geneva

- ▶ Regula Dannecker

- ▶ Eva-Maria Kodek-Webra, Vice Chairman, Vienna

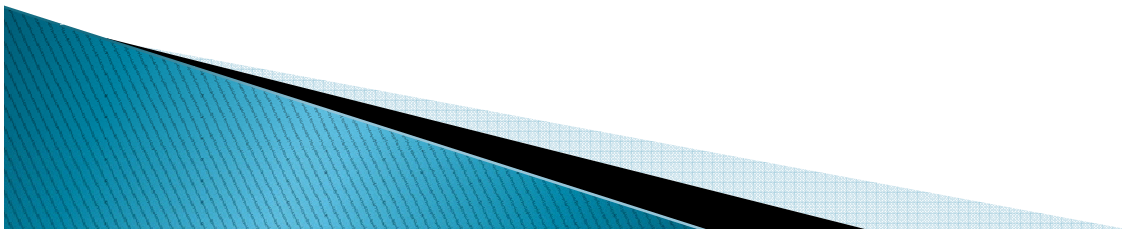
- ▶ Ingeborg Geyer, Eveline Hejlek, Monika Klenovec

- ▶ Janine N'Diaye, Vice Chairman, Paris(UNESCO)

- ▶ Monique Vernet, Jacqueline Basnard

- ▶ At large members: Lynn McKenzie,

Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard



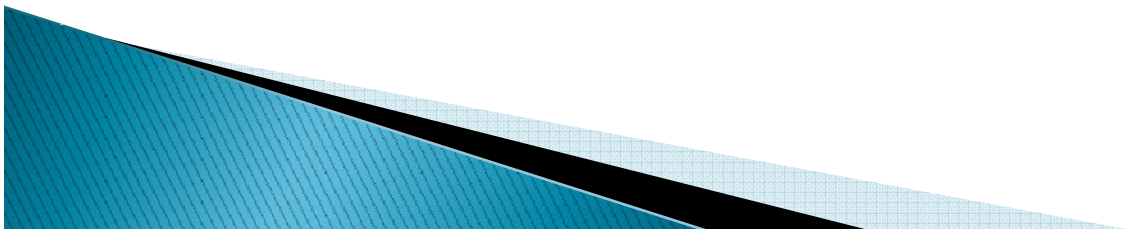


WHAT ARE OUR GOALS?

- Increase the credibility and visibility of Zonta at the UN
- Effectively advocate at the UN on all issues that pertain to the rights of women and girls
- Monitor progress toward reaching the Millennium Development goals and prepare to affect decisions for what lies beyond 2015
- Full collaboration with the ZI Advocacy Committee and the Council of Europe Committee
- Advocate for equal rights of women and girls through petitioning Commissions, Councils and Committees of the UN as well as member states, through their missions at the UN
- Continue to monitor and report progress toward the goal of equity for all women and girls

Critical Areas of Concern

- ▶ Women and poverty
- ▶ Education and Training for Women & Girls
- ▶ Women & health (HIV/AIDS – Maternal health)
- ▶ Violence against women
- ▶ Women & Armed Conflict
- ▶ Women & the Economy
- ▶ Women in Power and Decision Making
- ▶ Trafficking of Persons
- ▶ Climate Change
- ▶ Women and Sustainability





ZONTA SAYS NO

Zonta International
Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

▶ SOME FACTS WE SHOULD ALL KNOW:

- Women and girls between the ages of 15 and 44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, car accidents, war and malaria combined.
- More than 600 million women live in countries where domestic violence is not considered a crime.
- More than 3 million girls are facing female genital mutilation.
- Women in all social, economic, ethnic and religious groups are affected.

The United Nations defines violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.”

What can you do?

What can your club or district do?

▶ Information

Read & share all communications from ZI and the UN Chair and the District UN Chair.

Become conversant with the issues so that you can speak to them.

Plan programs that will inform your community

▶ Advocacy

Find out where your state/provincial government stands on women's issues.

Contact members of your legislature by email, phone, visits to his/her office.

What issues do you want to address?

Why are NGOs doing the work that should be done by government?

ZONTA SAYS **NO**

Get involved and make
your voice heard

Annual CSW

Why is it important to Zonta?

- ▶ The Commission on the Status of Women meets every year. It is the principle United Nations policy-making body dedicated *exclusively to gender equality and the advancement of women.* It is not an agency.
- ▶ The UN Committee in New York works closely with UN Women to help coordinate the work of NGOs from all over the world who come to New York to share best practices and to make member states hear their concerns.
- ▶ Attendants are able to attend sessions, called parallel events, sponsored by various NGOs, and find out how they are improving the lives of women all over the world. They take these ideas back to their countries in order to enhance the work they do.
- ▶ Attendants are able to meet with missions to explain what it is they hope to see as an outcome of the session. Zonta sponsored two parallel events, one on our program in Rwanda and one on Trafficking. We also co-sponsored one on maternal health.
- ▶ The agreed conclusions from the 2013 session will be available on the Zonta website.

VIDEO OF UN MEETINGS

<http://webtv.un.org/>

WHAT WILL THE ZONTA UN COMMITTEE DO?



WE WILL CONTINUE TO:

- Monitor women's issues and make Zonta's voice heard while continuing, as well, to make sure that human rights violations, such as violence against women in conflict and post-conflict zones is punished.
- Monitor the countries that have agreed to CEDAW
- Increase Zonta's credibility and visibility at that UN so that it is understood that we will not be ignored.
- To work through NGO committees such as the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (in New York, Geneva and Vienna), the Human Rights Committee, the NGO Committee on UNICEF, and the NGO Committee on Trafficking.
- Support the creation of regional NGO/CSWs – Africa, Latin America, Pacific South East, Europe and the Americas, and the Arab States.



Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Do tradition, culture or religion negate human rights?

- All states are obligated to protect women's human rights.
- Justifications based on religion, culture and tradition are being used to block the progress of laws at all levels, including in the sphere of international law. These justifications must be challenged. The violence against women they cause is unacceptable and cannot ever be condoned or tolerated.
- When powerful anti-rights forces claim ownership over an authentic interpretation of religion, culture or tradition, individuals are denied their fundamental rights.



EMERGING ISSUES

As we move forward, there are issues that are now being discussed and debated. What are they?:

- Will there be a celebration(campaign) of Beijing + 20 which will occur in 2015?
- What key gender equality issues will be reflected in the post-2015 development framework?
- What is the next phase after the MDGs expire in 2015?
- Will women's issues be left to languish?
- Are the conclusions reached by the CSW be put into action by governments, intergovernmental bodies, civil society and other stakeholders?
- Will we, once and for all, eliminate violence against women and girls?
- Will we recognize that girls face all the discrimination that women face as well as others such as forced, early marriage and the refusal to allow them to be educated.



**What issues are you, your club or your District passionate about?
How can you go about advocating for those issues?
Will you join the Zonta says NO campaign?**

When we advocate for an issue, we express our concerns and press for recognition of women's rights.

- We begin by becoming informed about the issue and deciding on our target audience.
- It can include a media campaign to raise public awareness.
- Use social media
- It can include partners that are advocating for the same issues
- Reach out to the ZI Advocacy Committee and the ZI UN Committee for advice and assistance
- Start planning now for the 16 Days of Activism – What will you do on November 25, 2013?
- Advocacy is part of our mission—it can be local or global.
- Get the Zonta juices flowing – have a brainstorming session with your club or district members.

