



Zonta International®
Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

Zonta Advocacy Newsletter

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www.zonta.org

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International Advocacy Committee Members

(Regional Representatives)

Kay Meyer
Chairman

Jenny Brash
Rep. for Ds 16, 22-24

Graciela Duce
Rep. for Region S. America

Sigrid Duden
Rep. for Ds 14, 27-30

Segilola Guobadia
Rep for D 18

Yoshiko Misumi
Rep for Ds 26, 32, Mongolia

Terttu Utrianinen
Rep Ds 13, 20, 21

Terri Turi
Rep Ds 1-13

Sonja Honig Schough
ZI Board Advocacy Liaison and Vice President

Lynn McKenzie

Dear Zontians,

On behalf of our whole ZI Advocacy Committee, I want to convey congratulations to you Zonta leaders who have embraced this biennium's goals of credibility and visibility! Well done and thank you for sharing your stories and successes!



Thank you also for your responses to the Quick Questionnaire (QQ) distributed at the beginning of the biennium. I hope you've noticed that our Committee is being responsive to your ideas. Here are three examples of your comments -

- Do projects with other groups (service, public, universities, etc.) to make larger impact and get greater recognition.
- Get more visibility for great advocacy projects at the Convention.
- Share ideas re small projects for small clubs where they can see an accomplishment and get comfortable with advocacy projects like they do with service.

Reminders:

1. Check the [Advocacy Tools](#) page. It is continually being updated.
2. Per the Zonta International Bylaws, there are three committees that are required in each District and each Club: membership, service and advocacy.
3. Some of the advocacy goals of this biennium are:
 - Each District will name its most important issues and create a framework that enables action to address these issues.
 - Each District will host a credible speaker on important issue(s) and publish a summary of that presentation.
 - Each Club will take action on at least one issue or event each year, make such action visible in the local media, and report the results to their Governor and ZI.

So, you see, those Advocacy Committees are going to be pretty busy!

We're taking a new organizational approach with the ZI Advocacy Committee this biennium by asking each committee member to represent a region of the Zonta world. And, our committee members have been very actively engaged. We don't want anyone to feel (or get) lost in figuring out how to best promote safety, equal opportunity and justice for women and girls! For this issue of our newsletter, you are about to hear from these leading Zontians, addressing some of these questions:

- What are some of the best **advocacy projects** or

International President

Maria Jose Landiera
Oestergaard
President-Elect

**The 57th
Commission on
the Status of Women**
<http://www.ngocsw.org/>

Zontians are invited to attend the NGO aspect of the 2013 Convention, 4-9... March 2013 in New York.

Zonta will have two sessions: one on Trafficking & the other on Rwanda in conjunction with UNICEF. There will be a Zonta reception on 2 March, which people are welcome to attend. Please contact Christina Petzke at [Zonta International Headquarters](mailto:cpetzke@zonta.org) for details at cpetzke@zonta.org

[Check out this video](#) on preventing violence against women.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon Message for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women:

"Millions of women and girls around the world are assaulted, beaten, raped, mutilated or even murdered in what constitutes appalling violations of their human rights. [...] We must fundamentally challenge the culture of discrimination that allows violence to continue.

On this International Day, I call on all governments to make good on their pledges to end all forms of violence

initiatives in your region this year?

-What **opportunities and challenges** do you see for Zonta clubs and districts as we emphasize violence against women issues in the coming year?

-What **advice** would you like to pass along to **all Zonta clubs** in regard to advocacy work in this biennium?

We hope that you enjoy and use both columns of this newsletter. Please let us know if we're meeting your needs. If you would like to follow up on a particular project or idea, please don't hesitate to contact any one of us.

Kay Meyer, Chair, ZI Advocacy Committee

From Graciela Duce:

Advocacy projects or initiatives-

Interesting Advocacy Projects in the Region are the Women in Black (Zonta Club Montevideo, Uruguay) and the Postal Stamp Campaign (Zonta Club Rio Gallegos, Argentina).



I have already reported on the Women in Black campaign but while last year we joined late, this time we were among the organizers and we had the time to buy black T-shirts and to have them embroidered with the Zonta yellow rose. A large number of women paraded commemorating those women who died as victims of domestic violence.

The Parade took place on November 25, as part of the 10 days to say NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, thus, it centered on Zonta Mission, it is quite innovative, the participation was extremely good(it united many women's organizations), and the objective was to increase awareness about the problem, among the population as a whole.

On 23 September 2012, The Zonta Club of Rio Gallegos launched a campaign of signatures to have a Postal Stamp against the Trafficking of Women.

[Read More](#)

From Pauline Ng

Advocacy projects or initiatives-

District 17's Forum "UNITE Against Domestic Violence Now"



In a sea of orange, 300 Zontians came from all 6 Areas of District 17 to join hands to say "No!" to domestic violence against women & children at the Advocacy Forum. Speakers from the Philippines, Hong Kong & Thailand shared their experiences with participants on the way to stop violence against women in four areas: awareness, education, solutions & legislation. These speakers included Congresswoman the Honourable Bernadette Herrera-Dy

against women & girls in all parts of the world, and I urge all people to support this important goal."

25 November 2012

CEDAW Information

The campaign for the US Senate to ratify CEDAW is revived once again. View the petition to the 2013th Congress where Zonta International is a signer and [keep up on progress.](#)



Zontians on Capitol Hill: Bobbee + Sara + Sonja (Sara is with Senator Udall's office.)

Council of Europe: Istanbul Convention

On 18 December 2012, Poland became the 25th member state of the Council of Europe to sign the [Convention on Preventing & Combating Violence Against Women & Domestic Violence.](#)

On the 6th of December 2012, The Council of European Union delivered its long awaited [Conclusions on Combating Violence against Women, and the Provision of Support Services for Victims of Domestic Violence](#)

Attorney Ray Paolo J Santiago (*the Philippines*), Founding Chairperson of the Women's Commission Sophie Leung (*Hong Kong*) & University Research Director Dr Niyada Kiatyingangsulee (*Thailand*). At the conclusion of the Forum, a resolution was passed to call for legislative initiatives & government measures for the elimination of all forms of violence against women in all territories under District 17, namely the Philippines, Thailand, Hong Kong, Malaysia & Singapore. [Photo shown in ZI E-newsletter.]

[Read More](#)

From Terri Turi

Advocacy projects or initiatives-

As we end the first six months of this biennium, I'd like to share some outstanding Advocacy projects:

District 4 -'Look in Your Own Back Yard' project is designed to meet Zonta's goals of increasing visibility & credibility by becoming the "Go To" organization for Advocacy in two ways--

- Implementing the 'Hello' program to help refugee women in the US learn English and begin acculturation into their new home community through the tutorials with a Pictorial Dictionary
- Creating a venue to facilitate discussions & introduce varying concerns of women's issues, take inventory of local needs, assure attention to the needs. Follow through by partnering with like-minded organizations.



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From Sigrid Duden

Advocacy projects or initiatives-

District 14 is mainly focusing on health. So far there has been a successful campaign "Zonta Golden Heart" started by ZC Vienna in cooperation with governmental and health authorities and organizations. The plan is to implement this project in all areas by using the same information though translated into the languages of the district. An activity on the same day will be suggested to all clubs of the district.

District 27 will support the subject violence against women, also related to "Zonta Says No". This will also be the main subject for the District Conference. The intent is to combine the activities with increasing the visibility of Zonta. The French areas in all the districts they are part of (also 29 and 30) are joining forces to fight violence against women by means of the white ribbon campaign.

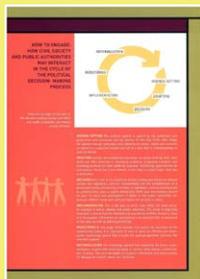
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From Yoshiko Misumi

Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe

'Civil Participation in the
Decision-Making Process:
The Code of Good Practice'
is available in many
languages...



Articles of Interest

[BRIDGE Cutting Edge
Packs Gender and Climate
Change](#)

[Gathering Storm - the
humanitarian impact of
climate change](#)

Recommended Online Journals and Publications

[WUNRN](#)

[Health & Human Rights
Journal](#)

From Christine Gerberding

Zonta PR Committee:

"I'd like to take the
opportunity to thank you
for all your support for
"Zonta says NO" - I think
we managed quite a good
start for the campaign. It
would be very helpful, if
you could encourage all the
clubs to tell their stories
about opposing violence
against women & girls on

Advocacy projects or initiatives-

*Positive Action Promotion Project: The
Realization of 202030*

In Japan, the government declares the goal
that women leaders achieve 30% occupancy
in all areas by 2020. Under this objective, co-
organizing with the Cabinet Office (Japanese government) on March
17, 2012, District 26 held a symposium, entitled 'Active Roles of
Women Leaders Who Create the Future' and discussed the current
situations, challenges, & future directions in politics, employment,
public administration, & regions. Before the symposium, each Area
conducted the survey on the current situations of each Club, and the
survey results were reported in the symposium. This report was
broadly delivered to the government & local governments, and the
proposal has been implemented.



[Read More](#)

From Jenny Brash

Advocacy projects or initiatives-

Zonta District 16 made written submissions
to the New Zealand Parliamentary Select
Committee in support of the Parental Leave and
Employment Protection (Six Months' Paid
Leave) Amendment Bill.



The Zonta Club of Auckland West hosted a New Migrant forum
where women from many ethnic & cultural backgrounds were invited
to share their own experiences & listen to speakers Later, Ruth De
Souza presented her findings on migrant women, their health issues,
and assimilation into a new country.

The Electoral Commission produced a paper "Have your Say on
MMP". Under the MMP system more women have got into
Parliament, and
Zonta District 16 had been in favour of its continuation. The
paper proposed 6 questions relating to the reshaping of MMP (its
continuation had been supported in the 2011 election). The
submission was sent in May 2012. The Electoral Commission
reported that 4,698 written submissions were received resulting in
recommendations from the Commission - which largely coincided
with ours.

[Read More](#)

From Terttu Utrainen

Advocacy projects or initiatives-

Nordic women's movement has pointed out the
need to examine the realization of the
documents adapted by the UN in 1995 at the
world Congress of Women's Rights in Beijing.
The initiative for the new Peking + Congress
has been presented, but the state officials have
not yet recognized it's actual need.



www.zontasaysno.org in order to keep the site lively & attractive. There still is a ways to go for all of us, and I'm sure we will succeed in the end.

Statements by Michele Bachelet on Violence Against Women

[Speech One](#)

[Speech Two](#)

Please read Zontian [Simone Ovar's statement](#) from the United Nations General Assembly in Geneva this month

In some Zonta clubs, we have had for several years support for women prisoner mothers, who have a child with them in prison. Once they start to educate themselves, participate in anti-violent behavior programmes, & sensitive training etc. during their time in prison, we get them a tiny support stipendium.

Advocacy committees have been very active in corresponding with authorities on the local level. For example, the initiatives have concerned shelter houses for the victims of violence, support for witnesses on trials & code of conducts.

[Read More](#)

From Segilola Guobadia

Advocacy projects or initiatives-

All Clubs in District 18 made plans for the 16 days of activism in November. I do not have a complete report on all the activities but I am able to report on the Nigerian Clubs for now.



The Ibadan Clubs took part in a 3 hour walk with other Women's clubs and NGOs. This long march of about 60 women spearheaded by Zonta saw them covering nearly 10 kilometres, both young and old. They had over 60 banners and went round the city ending up at the Governor's wife's office. The march was broadcast on the BOS television every hour from 3 pm to 7 pm. The march was in support of a bill in the State Assembly on violence against women.

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