

# Minutes from the European Meeting 2017

## 11<sup>th</sup> Inner Wheel European Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017

34 Members were participating from 17 Countries.

### 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017 Business Sessions

#### Minutes.

#### 1. Welcome to Aalborg, by EM Organizer Lene Schade

Lene: I would like to welcome everyone (Inner Wheel and Outer Wheel) to Aalborg for the 11th European meeting. I have been looking forward to this meeting for a long time, I have tried to prepare myself as well as possible. I hope we will have a good and constructive meeting the next 2 days and will enjoy the social activities. Thanks to Annalise Larsen who has said yes to being a secretary these days. We have tried to create the frame for this meeting, but the content is up to you.

I am happy that our Outer Wheelers like to participate in our social meetings.

There will be one more item from Marian Tellegen.

The meeting will be recorded, because of the minutes, so it becomes easier for our secretary. I hope it is ok for you. OK.

I quickly review our agenda, after which we will proceed to the presentation of participants under item 2.

#### 2. Introduction of Delegates - Number of Clubs and Members by all.

Country, name and office in EM	Districts	Clubs	Members
GB&I IIW Cont. Chairman Phyllis charter	29	611	15300
GB&I NR 2017-18 Zena Coles			
FAMAT NR/NP 2017-18 Elisabeth Haye	10	451	3966
Bel. & Luxemb NR 2016-18 Bambi de Ceuninck Leunckens	3	76	1968
Bel. & Luxemb VNR 2016-18 Edith Van Molhem-Swinnen			
Bel. & Luxemb IIW PBD Corinne Dalleur-Van der Drift			
The Netherlands NR 2017-18 Marian Tellegen	3	67	2300
The Netherlands VNR 2017-18 Ria Heijens			
Italy NR 2017-18 Gemma Pirondini	6	220	6000
Italy DNR 2017-18 Cinzia Tomatis			
Greece IIW BD 2017-18 Sissy Avgerinou	2		390
Greece NR 2016-2018 Mania Falida			
Croatia D191 NR 2017-18 Meri Suman Tolic	1	13	200
Croatia D191 PNR 2017-18 Sandra Neretljakovic			
Croatia D191 DNR 2017-18 Diana Percac			
Croatia D191 DC 2017-18 Snjezana Petrovic TKalcec			
Bulgaria NR 2017-18 Yaniaslava Ilievva	1	25	?
Austria & Cz-Rep D192 NR 2017-18 Gertie Munro	1	7	288

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Austria & CZ-Rep D192 IIW BD 2017-18 Gabrielle Schrumpf			
Switzerland DNR 2017-18 Angelika Walde	1	44	1807
Switzerland PBD 2015-17 Lisbeth Speich			
Germany NR 2017-18 Ute Peithmann-Koch	7	228	8627
Germany PNR 2017-18 Margareta Momkvist			
Iceland DPC 2017-18 Kristjana E. Gudlaugsdottir	1	7	195
Finland NR/NP 2016-18 Kaija Keijola	4	34	993
Finland DNR 2016-18 Tuula Kareinen			
Sweden NR 2017-18 Margareta Wesslau	9	95	4000
Norway IIW BD 2017-18 Helene Torkildson	5	58	1366
Norway NR 2017-19 Liv Elin Broberg Lewin			
Norway IIW PBD Sissel Michelsen			
Denmark NR 2017-19 Birgitte Mühel	5	106	3000
Denmark PNR 2017-19 Lena Pedersen			
Denmark EM Organizer/IIW BD Lene Krüger Schade			
Denmark EM Secretary Annalise Larsen			

Many countries told about problems with disbandment of clubs and loss of members. Several years EM-participants have heard of these problems. Many clubs have made debates and developing projects to get new members but without results. Some countries notice in the last years, that the number of members have been status quo. There is hope for turning into positive development.

Some countries told about their country's IW-history. Others have very good projects and donate a lot of money both for local as well as national and international projects.

All projects are focused on doing the world a better place to live mostly for women and children.

Germany told about a donation collected in all clubs in Germany. She would like to discuss the item later in the agenda on item 14.

### **3. Minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> 2016 European Meeting in Italy, by Gemma Pirondini (Italy)**

Gemma Pirondini went through the Minutes from the EM in Italy in 2016. There were no comments on them.

### **4. Convention 2018 in Melbourne.**

Lene Schade had received a letter from International Inner Wheel with greetings from International president Kapila Gupta who wishes us all well and would like to promote the Convention 2018 in Melbourne and from the Convention Committee in Melbourne.

Lene read some lines from the letter to all Inner Wheel friends. The whole letter will be sent with the

Minutes:

“As we celebrate 2017-18 as a year of Golden Jubilee year of International Inner Wheel Formation,

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all of us have another reason also to celebrate. 2017-18 is a year of 17th IIW Convention at Melbourne -11th -14th April, 2018.

To meet at the Convention, is your unique opportunity to connect with old friends, make new ones, and share stories about your club's current and future projects.

See you all at Melbourne April-11th ,2018"

Lene also had a greeting from Val in Australia and the Convention Committee.

"I send our best wishes to all the wonderful Inner Wheel women attending the European Meeting in Denmark and look forward to their help in promoting this event to their members and even more importantly, to meeting and welcoming IIW friends from Europe to Melbourne"

A small presentation from Melbourne was shown to the participants of the EM.

**Powerpoint slides from Melbourne and a script from HQ's are attached the Minutes.**

### **5. Proposals for the Constitution - Presentation and discussion by IIW CC Phyllis Charter (GB&I)**

Phyllis Charter went through all the proposals and the participants commented on them. There was made a kind of intimation about if the countries were for or against the proposal.

Most of the proposals all members agreed, but the vote was elected by a simple majority.

The understanding of the words in the proposals showed up to be different from the very meaning and resulted in good debates about the meanings.

**A scheme with all the proposals is attached to the Minutes.**

#### **A.PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL INNER WHEEL GOVERNING BODY**

**PROPOSAL 1 --- Page 6:**

**THE INTERNATIONAL GOVERNING BODY**

*All agreed with this.*

**PROPOSAL 2--- Page 14: COMMITTEES**

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 3--- Page 9 d) Constitution Chairman**

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 4--- Page 18 NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 5.-- Page 19 Nominations:**

*The proposal was agreed by a majority*

**Only Clubs without a National Governing Body can vote on Proposal 6**

**PROPOSAL 6 - STANDARD RULES for Districts with NO NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY Page 34,**

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 7-- Page 16 FINANCE**

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 8-- Page 5 Naming a Club**

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*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 9---** Proposed by Inner Wheel Club Tours District 72 France Seconded by Inner Wheel District 920 Reunion Island and Madagascar

*The proposal was agreed by a majority*

### **B OTHER PROPOSALS MEMBERSHIP**

**PROPOSAL 10---** Proposed by Inner Wheel Club Bordeaux-Medoc District 69 France Seconded by Inner Wheel District 69 France

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 11--** Proposed by Inner Wheel Club Trieste District 206 Italy Seconded by Inner Wheel Club Firenze Iris District 209 Italy

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 12-----** Proposed by Inner Wheel Club Bangalore Orchards District 319 India Seconded by Inner Wheel District 319 India

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

### **B OTHER PROPOSALS Page | 8 INTERNATIONAL GOVERNING BODY**

**PROPOSAL 13----** Proposed by Inner Wheel Club Tours District 72 France Seconded by Inner Wheel Club Torino Europea District 204 Italy W Qqqqq9@

*The delegates did not agree with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 14---** Proposed by Inner Wheel District 24 Greece Seconded by National Governing Body Denmark

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 15--** Proposed by Inner Wheel Club Pune District 313 India Seconded by Inner Wheel District 313 India

*The delegates did not agree with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 16----** Proposed by the Inner Wheel Club of Bruxelles Renaissance D217 Belgium and Luxembourg Seconded by National Governing Body Belgium and Luxembourg

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 17---** Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Bruxelles Renaissance District 217 Belgium Seconded by District 62 Belgium & Luxembourg

*The delegates agreed with this proposal.*

**PROPOSAL 18--** Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Bruxelles Renaissance District 217 Belgium Seconded by District 62 Belgium & Luxembourg

*The proposal was agreed by a majority*

**PROPOSAL 19---** Proposed by Inner Wheel Club Tours District 72 France Seconded by Inner Wheel Club Torino Europea District 204 Italy

*The proposal was agreed by a majority*

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**GENERAL MOTION----- 20 Proposed by Inner Wheel Club Bayonne Biarritz- Cote Basque District 69 France  
Seconded by Inner Wheel District 69 France**

***The proposal was agreed by a majority***

### **6. Handling (practically) clubs that cannot find board members and therefore consider solving the club. What do other countries do? Do they have a strategy? By NR Margareta Wesslau (Sweden)**

Margareta Wesslau told that the worst thing that could happen to an organization is that a club disband. It affects the members by negative impressions, loss of money and disillusioned members. Margareta told the story of IW in Sweden and described a huge loss of members.

IW in Sweden made a Vision 2017 in order to recruit and keep members in IW - to make members to the best ambassadors.

The project succeeded. The loss of members has fallen but there are still clubs that have disbanded.

Margareta was asking for ideas to a strategy. What can be done? Sweden has tried with resuscitation = bringing new life to the organization by helping each other, intensive guiding coaching and attention from the district and neighbor clubs, fewer officials involved, help to the economy for a time.

Margareta asked the delegates for ideas to a strategy. There were few comments but nobody had exact items for a strategy.

Later in the Business sessions the case was debated again and 2 groups were formed in order to work with the problems about disbandment of clubs and how to keep the members in the clubs.

The groups present their work at the next European Meeting in Stavanger.

The commission for the groups and members of the groups are:

#### **1) Finding a Strategy to avoid disbandment (for member countries participating in EM)**

Members in group: Margareta Wesslau, Sissel Michelsen, Ria Heijens and Kristjana Gudlaugsdottir

Time limit: Presentation of schemes/ recommendations on next EM in Stavanger 2018.

#### **2) Guide lines and ideas for recruiting and keeping new members**

Members: Liv Elin Broberg Lewin, Meri Suman Tolic, Marian Tellegen, Sandra Neretljakovic and Bambi de Ceuninck Leunckens

Time limit: Next EM in Stavanger 2018.

**PowerPoint slides from Margareta are attached to the Minutes.**

### **7. "The European Meeting - a Source of Information Only or a Source for Cooperation? From Tampere to Aalborg – the Future", by Sissel Michelsen, Norway.**

Sissel lead us through a couple of years with European meetings. From Tampere in 2008 and till Aalborg in 2017. Sissel has been a participant in all the meetings. She described a development in information and cooperation and what it had meant to all the participating countries and to Inner

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Wheel. Information is good but cooperation is necessary in order to become strong and powerful in Inner Wheel Worldwide. In India there are some strong and intelligent members in IW. We have to be just as strong and cooperate with the Indian Inner Wheelers in order to develop Inner Wheel also with a European influence.

She ended her speech with a wish not to give presents to each other but instead use the time professional with debates and conclusions.

**Sissels script is attached to the Minutes. It is only for internal use for the participants in EM 2017.**

### **8. The future of IW Europe and the European Think Tank, by IIW BD Gabrielle Schrumpf (Austria & Czech Republic D192).**

Gabriella made a description of the history of the European meeting. EM should be a platform for discussion and developing new Ideas for IW Europe - a think Tank. In 2012 the EM was settled to be a forum for NR and their deputies. It should be a forum for people from all over Europe joining their ideas and experience. Every year the group change and therefore the continuity is difficult to beware. The Idea of a Think Tank is lost.

Gabriella looks for solidarity in IW in Europe. When some countries develop new ideas the old clubs-countries are in opposition against this. Example: The Europea Clubs.

Gabriella sees a problem in India, where the number of members grow very fast and they soon will be the majority in the World.

She says that we need a group of experts to be a steady team to coordinate the matters in Europe. Example: the European candidates for international duties. She thinks 10 members in the Think Tank would be good.

Gabriella describes how many countries that can vote for a candidate to the international president and the way of voting for just one candidate from Europe.

Gabriella asked for the participants meaning to this. The participants did not agree in this. They could not put the Districts rights to vote for a candidate out of order.

Later during the business sessions a small group for a Think Tank/extension was formed and the theme is: The Image of Inner Wheel. The group presents their work at the next European Meeting in Stavanger.

The group members are:

Bambi de Ceuninck Leunckens	Belgium&Luxemburg
Ria Heijens	The Netherlands
Elisabeth Haye	FAMAT
Gabriella Schrumpf	Austria & Cz. Rep.

**Gabriella's script and PowerPoint slides are attached to the Minutes.**

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### **9. Why Effective Communication should be a Focus in IW development, by Sandra Neretljakovic, (Croatia).**

Sandra told about the fundamental component of an effective communication in order to gain the right understanding of each other. Communication in teams must create the right understanding and meaningful relation to everybody in the team. The team members have to commit to the communication in order to give the best outcome of communication and goals for the daily work in our organization Inner Wheel. This is important in clubs as well as in districts and in the national and international teams (boards).

Communication is essential for

collaboration - relevant information and positive working relationship

productivity - efficiency and performance

Empathy - use of our emotional, social and cultural intelligences

Machines - computers - cannot empathize and feel the human nonverbal language.

The social media have many ways to communicate with in a long distance from each other. The way to use social medias must be decided and having strategies for whom we want to communicate to, what is going to be our story and information and what shall be our outcome of the communication.

There are different social medias - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram ... International Inner Wheel have connections to all these on the [www.internationalinnerwheel.org](http://www.internationalinnerwheel.org).

In using the social media the most important thing is to use visual communication - photos. Every photo tells a story from our daily life, the lives and projects in clubs and campaigns that Inner Wheel will carry.

We have our traditional printed materials but the social medias with photos are very fast in spreading the news and are news just now not days, weeks or months old.

A new hashtag campaign will be out launched. Hashtags are very fast spread out.

Sandra ended her speech with the words: Every member matters and every member has a story - an inner Wheel Story which should be told worldwide.

**PowerPoint slides from Sandra are attached to the Minutes.**

### **10. European Rally, by Marian Tellegen (Netherland)**

Marian proposed an idea for a European Rally. Today we have 6 different Inner Wheel European meetings for almost the same participants just with different content. Some are working meetings, some are fun meetings. Some meetings have both fun and work on the agenda.

Marian put forward some objectives for one European Rally with both work and fun, for inspiring or sharing, for planning or deciding for connecting or belonging.

She wished to make the European meetings stronger and more powerful to the rest of the IW-world. The Meeting could be with many participants and therefore a greater sharing and deciding from the whole of Europe.

She wanted to know if the delegates agreed with her. She got a yes and will plan a European Rally in 2019 in Rotterdam.

**PowerPoint slides from Marian will be attached to the Minutes.**

### **11. The European Idea and its role in the Extension of Inner Wheel in Europe and Internationally. Implementation-Limitations-Assessment and Proposals for its dissemination and better implementation, by IIW BD Sissy Avgerinou (Greece).**

Sissy took hold of the sentence in Inner Wheel's purpose "The international understanding". She is very moved by these words because she has felt the meaning in her participating in international Inner Wheel matters (offices and meetings). She expect others to feel the same when we take part in European meetings.

In the context of international understanding Europe consist of many countries with quite different cultures and history but also equal history and traditions. In the late 10 years the European countries have become closer with more flexibility in moving, in democracy and the European Union.

Sissy connected this to closer cooperation in Inner Wheel in Europe. Therefore the European idea. The Europea clubs are founded by the European Rally's and Meetings Women for Europe and Cruises.

Sissy was last year the founder of a Europea Club in Greece. A geographical name added with a Europea club attracted new members especially young members who were interested in international work and connections to other parts of Europe. An elderly club attracted many new young women with jobs and a family with small children. They wanted the international network. They were enthusiastic and interested in the club.

Sissy experienced that this was the way of expanding in IW.

She also mentioned that many will look upon these Europea Clubs with skepticism and resistance especially if one don't feel interested in international matters.

Sissy mentioned the European meeting should be for all people in the European countries especially the District Chairmen, who knows what is going on in every IW districts. Se hopes that the Europea idea will grow because she sees these clubs as the new way to increase in number of members.

**Sissy's script is attached the Minutes.**

### **12. Development in countries.**

#### **a) Elisabeth Haye, FAMAT**

Elisabeth started her speech with the words surway or not surway. She talked about the development of Inner Wheel in FAMAT. They have lost many members in the last 2 years and 1 club though there have been started 8 new clubs. Like many other countries FAMAT also must develop. They have decided 4 axes for development:

Modernize, communication, give a new impulse to membership and create new clubs, the role of Europea.

Modernize means new modern technology for the administration in order to rationalize and for communication a new website.

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It means that they will modernize relationships between levels in Inner Wheel - be less administrative and more leaders for the future.

There has been elected a new visual charter with a chairmen, vice-chairmen and a FAMAT executive committee. New times with more visual communication.

The FAMAT organization has become a new logo with symbols showing the 10 countries in FAMAT and the triple symbol of the Inner Wheel commitment.

New impulse to membership will be seen in 2019 where the Inner wheel FAMAT is going to have their first Congress. In this congress the members have to vote for the first time for By Laws for the French members and later ratified by the Constitution. A new project is proposed for all members in FAMAT. Every district may work on this project as they feel for.

Every member must be an actor in Inner Wheel.

Creating new clubs has been a success in FAMAT. Many clubs have old members who do not want to change things in order to get new members. They want to have their club as it always has been. New members must align with the older members way of doing things.

Creating new clubs has allowed pioneers to look forward and give room for working girls and new concepts of social projects.

In FAMAT Europea clubs have been a success. They have been attractive for modern women with interests in the world around them.

Elisabeth ended her speech with the words: Everything is possible if we trust we can.

**PowerPoint slides from Elisabeth are attached the Minutes.**

### **b) Birgitte Mùthel, Denmark**

Inner Wheel in Denmark has about 3,000 members in 5 districts and 102 clubs in our small country In Denmark we are almost 5.7 million inhabitants and we are on the labor market until we are 68 to 70 years old. Though we all know that Inner Wheel has a lot to offer women, the younger ones too, it is very difficult to get new members in our IW clubs and we all focus on that problem.

But what can we do? That is the question we often ask. The younger women - with new family and children - cannot find the time for this social commitment. They have enough to do with the family's well-being and their own career.

It's not only IW, who has this problem – associations In Denmark - and maybe also in your country – is in a time change!

And if we focus on how many hours we use daily to socialize **outside our** home - it will be fewer and fewer hours. Over the last 10 years socialization outside the home has fallen to 38 minutes daily – from 90 minutes daily

New times new trends change society and it's no longer just men, but also women, who think "what's in it for me". Instead of thinking "what can I do for you- for this?"

**Therefore it is very important**, that we know and communicate

- who we are & what we can offer -

**We must and we can be proud of this unique organization**

We learn a lot about ourselves and our leadership skills, we participate in business visits, have excellent speakers, and furthermore it gives us the possibility to meet lots of exciting people not only in Denmark but from all over the world.

With these friendships we are able to build bridges between communities and inspire peace efforts.

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Inner Wheel's International President, Kapila Gupta, wants us to "leave a lasting legacy" – so please consider and evaluate how many ways and possibilities we can think of – and don't let anything be unsaid or untested.

In Denmark we have lost 1182 members the last 5 years (140 is dead) – this negative development requires action.

Luckily we have also got 877 new members. We are now 2867 Club members in Denmark.

In my opinion, we should not only focus on getting **new** members – we also – and that is very importing - must focus on **what** we can do - in order to maintain our current members.

We must ensure that *we can continue to grow in the IW clubs - not only in Denmark – but all over the world.*

In Denmark we have simplified our laws and workflows in a Manual – it's a step towards making it easier and understandable for our members. We also have appointed a working group, whose main task is to come up with new ideas and innovations on how we can renew and become more visible about this amazing work we stand for - both local and national.

I hope, the coming years will be filled with lots of success and friendship in our clubs and all over the Inner Wheel world.

And remember ..... we all leave a lasting Legacy!

**PowerPoint slides from Birgitte are attached the Minutes.**

### **c) Meri Suman Tolic, Croatia**

Developing Inner Wheel in Croatia and other countries in EX-Yugoslavia have hard times. Young women have not time to join a club because of family, job and career. The members are getting old and want young women to take the offices. They have problems with their health or they retire. Rotary clubs have mixed gender members and they do not mention IW in their organization.

Opportunities for developing could be found in new members from women not related to Rotary. Clubs may join each other in projects, in their meetings and in international affairs. More meetings between the members/clubs. It is important to create enthusiasm and positive energy by seeing and enjoying each other often. Meeting with other women organizations and create good traditions.

Bosnia, Herzegovina and Montenegro are potential countries for new clubs to start. Rotary district Vienna have several Rotary clubs also with women and 1 rotary club only for women. It is hard to get help from the Rotary District. Inner Wheel must manage themselves. In Bosnia they recently have succeeded with a new club.

**PowerPoint slides from Meri are attached to the Minutes.**

### **d) Margareta Wesslau, Sweden.**

Margareta told about facts about members in Sweden. There have been big problems but at the time now it is status quo. Sweden is at country with parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy . Members in Inner Wheel in Sweden have a very high average age. 3/4 are not connected to Rotary.

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Sweden have many projects both international, national, and on club level. They have scholarships - 2 student studying at the Queen Silvia Foundation. They are paying for custom sniffer dogs, Happier Future project for abandoned children i Garissa in Eastern Kenya and many other projects. They cooperate with a imam and midwives in Sweden for stopping FGM.

The communication in IW Sweden has changed. A brand new website has been revealed, all clubs, districts and the national board have their own website. The Newsletter 4 numbers a year are also on the websites.

Inner Wheel Sweden take part in several meetings international and in the Nordic Countries.

**PowerPoint slides from Margareta are attached to the Minutes.**

### e) Liv Elin Broberg Lewin, Norway

Inner Wheel Norway has got many new members after the §17-proposal was carried. But they have lost many more members and few clubs anyway.

Norway have 2 main projects - the international Fistula project in Ethiopia and the local project Custom sniffer dogs. Clubs have many projects local as well as international.

Liv has put up 3 goals for her year as a Council Chairman. She wants to strengthen and support the clubs, make IW known in the surroundings (PR) and develop the local club projects.

Liv has also set up strategies for her goals and hopes to succeed with them.

She will focus on education in all the international matters for the members in Norway. She will share Best Practice and spread out knowledge about Inner Wheel club projects in the local communities.

At last Liv wishes to share Best Practice with the participants in the EM.

**PowerPoint slides from Liv are attached the Minutes.**

### f) Mania Falidas, Greece

We have 18 clubs and 390 members. We have lost only one club the last 6-8 years and we are trying to recruit two. In the middle of the economical crisis, when every Greek has lost a large amount of savings, we still believe in charity, and do our best to provide support to people with disabilities.

The IW provided support to charities that accommodate orphaned children, children from problematic families and refugee children. The IW clubs support also needy families and day nursing homes for elderly providing free meals.

We celebrate traditionally the "Inner Wheel Day" and "Women Day" organizing interesting lectures.

Besides, it is important to indicate the creation of our new club "Patra-Europea", which recently received their charter. It is a new generation club with young ladies who believe in friendship and are ready to service humanity, the best way that they can do. We are very proud for them and we want to support and encourage them. The expansion of our district with new generation clubs is our future and ,of course, IW future in every country. But apart from the creation of new clubs, it is important to preserve the old members and the stimulating presence of IW at the same time in the global community.

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Also it is important more social media as Skype , Facebook , Twitter etc to communicate the Clubs to exchange information. As regards stimulating world of Inner Wheel, my opinion is that it needs to become more gathering such as this European meeting but topics on the principles and problems of proliferation of IW. A "Think tank , with the participation of more countries for exchange of views , regardless of the proposals. We have to identify new problems and adopt quickly and correctly the way of dealing with them. IW future is bleak because it relies on woman and the female mind is made to solve problems in the best way.

**PowerPoint slides from Mania are attached the Minutes.**

### **13. European Meeting 2018, by Helene Torkildsen, Norway**

Helene invited all the participants and their countries to Stavanger in Norway to the European meeting next year from the 6th - 9th September 2018.

Helene told about Stavanger and the history of Inner Wheel in this town.

She showed some PowerPoint slides from the town Stavanger.

**The PowerPoint slides from Helene are attached the Minutes.**

### **14. Open Forum - Questions**

Margareta Momkvist from Germany told in the presentation of her country about a collection of money for a project in Nigeria and that this project had been rejected by the International President because it was a project in coordination with Rotary Foundation for development and innovation. Margareta felt very proud of collecting so much money, money from her IW-members all over Germany. She was sad, that she was not allowed to use the money on the project she had announced to the clubs in Germany. The delegates on EM were saddened to hear of the differences of opinion between Margareta and IIW President Yemisi but wish it to be recorded that IW must be able to use donations raised as clubs recommend.

To the question about what the money will be donated for, Margareta answered. The money collected in Germany to a project in Nigeria are on their way to Nigeria with help and support from RFPD (Rotary).

Margareta brought up at possibility for a joint international project for IIW and talked about a FGM project. (Female Genital Mutilation) that Sissel Michelsen had mentioned in a speech at the Nordic Rally last year 2016.

Sissel informed at the meeting that Norway had sent an application for a FGM project. Sissel stated that Female Genital Mutilation is not only an African problem but also happens in Asia - the worst country being Indonesia. Sissel stated that using the media, making films would be a suitable approach to the problem and insisted that a woman organization should have the well-being of women in their minds.

Annalise Larsen  
Secretary EM 2017