



## Newsletter No 2 on ZONTA and UN 2016-2018

Dear Zonta friends,

Thank you to all the clubs who reported on their SDG 5 women projects!

59 % of the clubs in D-13 gave very interesting reports about more than 45 projects.

I hope the process of relating your projects to the targets of SD Goal 5 increased the clubs' awareness of what kind of projects you have in a wider perspective.

### **“Orange the world”: End Violence against Women and Girls!**

This 16 days of global activism takes place each year and runs from 25 November, the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December, Human Rights Day. It was created in 1991 and Zonta joined in by 2012 with the campaign “Zonta says NO to violence against women”. Many Zonta clubs surely have had their advocacy arrangements or fundraising projects. Still we have some days left to wear orange scarfs or wrestlets and talk to others! Last year many iconic buildings and landmarks around the world were lit orange, to give visibility to the issue. The network of local organizations, which Trondheim Zonta is part of, followed up this action in 2016 and initiated orange light on Rockheim Museum:



Rockheim Museum in Trondheim, 25 Nov. 2016. Photo: Rockheim Museum

### **CEDAW – “A bill of rights for women”**

CEDAW stands for Convention on the Elimination of all forms of

Discrimination against Women. It was adopted in UN 1979 and today 188 nations have ratified it. This means that the nations have to write gender equality into their legislation and delete discriminating decisions.

They are obliged to protect women against discrimination, and ensure civil, social, economic, cultural and political rights.

All governments have to establish institutions to follow up and measure the progress in the antidiscrimination efforts. A special committee in Geneva, called CEDAW committee, has the task to get reports from the countries, observe their status according to “the bill of rights for women” and point to progress or hindrances in the gender equality work, and give proposals.



The countries are examined in periods of 4-5 years.

Recently all 4 countries (Areas) in D-13, have given their report to CEDAW (2014-2016). And the NGO's are encouraged to give a shadow report directly to CEDAW to highlight alternative views to the governments'. Zonta Areas can contribute to these using Zonta International's position papers and other resources, as Zonta Norway did. (Read the CEDAW text here: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/text/econvention.htm>)



## **The Commission on the Status of Women meets 13-24 March 2017**

All Zontians are invited to take part in the NGO Forum's side events in New York. It is possible to get impact on the governmental statements on women in CSW61. Thousands of women will take part to shed light on SDG 5. If you want to go, please do not hesitate to contact me. I myself will participate as ZI delegate, and Ruth H. Fagerhaug, Trondheim ZC, as NGO Forum. See you there! On themes as follows:

- Main theme “Women’s economic empowerment”
- Review theme «Implementation of the Millenium Goals for women & girls»
- Emerging issue “Empowering indigenous women”

(read more: <http://jerainternational.org/getting-ready-for-csw61-what-you-need-to-know>)

Warm Zonta regards, and good wishes for Christmas!

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Chair UN Committee 2016-2018

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