




Intercontinental Think Tank Meeting
Sunday 20 August 2023,
6.00 to 7.30 pm UTC

NOTES

1	<p><i>Welcome to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zonta International President Ute Scholz, District Governors, District Advocacy Committee Chairs and first-timers. • 75 Zontians from 15 countries attended the meeting • This month, we featured 19 August as the World Humanitarian Day that had the theme #NoMatterWhat.
2.	<p><i>Actions since the July meeting</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Guides: Links circulated after the last meeting. Final versions forwarded to Zonta International. • Zonta Says NOW Framework leaflets: uploaded to the Zonta International website. • Surveys of members, club presidents and district governors: Zonta International Strategic Plan released, and surveys circulated by Zonta International. • Social Media Team: volunteers noted and meeting being arranged with Zonta International Communications team.
3.	<p><i>Guest speaker:</i></p> <div data-bbox="277 1420 491 1630" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><i>Karin Lange, Zonta Club of Berlin 1989, District 27, Germany.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany is among the top ten emitters of greenhouse gases. • The country aims to be climate-neutral by 2045. • Recently suffered from major floods, fires, droughts, storms, and landslides. Drought and wildfires increase risks associated with buried WWII munitions. • Draft Climate Protection Program recommends paying more attention to the interaction of climate change and gender roles. • Constructing disaster lighthouses to provide shelter for the population – now is the time to ensure they are safe places for women and will provide for their needs. • Advocacy in Germany is challenging as there are 138 clubs, in 7 areas, in 5 districts – therefore have created a Women and Climate Change unit within the German Union of Zonta Clubs. Gendered data is urgently needed.

<p>4.</p>	<p><i>Guest speaker:</i></p>  <p><i>Marisa Mason-Smith, Zonta Club of New Providence, District 11, the Bahamas</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio presentation as shown at the USA Caucus Zonta Says NOW Think Tank. • The Bahamas is very vulnerable to Hurricanes due to rising sea levels and rise in oceanic temperatures. • Hurricane Dorian in 2019, destroyed 13,000 houses and killed 5 people. • All they can do is evacuate to save lives and provide hurricane kits to sustain people during the storms. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality impacts women before, during and after a disaster. Women and girls are more likely to be injured and killed due to their inability to swim etc. Gender equality has also contributed to women and girls having less information, less mobility and less influence in decision-making. They also have less access to resources and preparedness survival training. After a disaster, they are less likely to have access to relief and assistance – further threatening their livelihoods, well-being and recovery. • The Government is implementing the Beijing platform for action and is making some progress. The Bahamas is part of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) which includes 18 states. This is part of CARICOM – the Caribbean Community. • CDEMA has a Disaster Management Strategy 2014-2024 that includes climate change, adaptation, information communication technology, gender mainstreaming and environmental sustainability. Includes access by women to relief payments, disaster insurance and compensation. • Department of Social Services provides a program to help the most vulnerable to renovate their homes before and after disasters to maintain a basic standard of living.
<p>5.</p>	<p><i>Other business</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The links to the speakers' videos and slides of their well-researched presentations may be found at https://zontasaysnow.org.au/intercontinental-think-tank/ • Zonta has joined the United Nations Environment Programme and Joan Kabayambi will be Zonta's representative at the meetings in Nairobi. • Joan Kabayambi and Pamela Morgan (Chair of Zonta International United Nations Committee) have both joined the Zonta Says NOW Working Group. • Details of legal cases brought by young people protecting their futures in the USA (Montana), Australia and Portugal, were shared.
<p>7.</p>	<p><i>Next meetings</i> – please put these dates in your calendar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday 17 September 12 to 1.30 pm UTC • Sunday 15 October 6pm to 7.30 pm UTC