



MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

VICE PRESIDENT: Dr. Tuula Saarela

Tel:

E-Mail: VP_northerneurope@mwia.net, Tuula.saarelaatkolumbus.fi

Web Address: <http://www.mwia.net>

The Northern Europe Business Meeting,

Royal College of Surgeons, London

May 13th, 2017, 8-9

1. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Saarela at 08.00.
2. The roll call was taken:

Bettina Pfliederer, President
Monica McWeeney, Ireland
Cisca Griffiden, Netherlands
Genevieve Koolhaas, Netherlands
Elizabeth Lorraine-Lichtenstein, Sweden
Clarissa Fabre, UK
Helen Goodyear, UK
Eeva Leppävuori, Finland
Kirsi Kelhä, Finland
Tuula Saarela, Finland
3. Dr. Saarela asked Dr. Kelhä to help keeping with the minutes
4. The agenda pre-sent to the NE countries was accepted as an agenda for the meeting:
 1. Which country is in line for the next VP
 2. Where the next Northern European meeting will be held after London
 3. How we can support the Presidents triennial theme
 4. Issues each country would like to discuss – going round them in turn
5. The hostess country for the next regional meeting 2020 was discussed.
According to the rotation list Finland is next in line. A possibility of Finland and Sweden sharing the responsibility for organizing the meeting was presented. The Swedish Medical Women will decide now in June 2017 where they stand on co-organization idea. The format of the conference was discussed. A boat cruise between Finland and Sweden was suggested

as an option. The most convenient time for the meeting is early June 2020.

Action: Finland has the responsibility for the next regional meeting. The date and primary information should be available for all member countries and MWIA early enough but no later than one year before the planned event.

6. The country in line for the next VP-position was discussed. In rotation, Sweden is next in line. MWIA, however, accepts more candidates. The VP for Northern Europe 2019-2022 will be elected at the 2019 MWIA congress.

Action: Sweden notifies the rotation and will take the candidacy issue in agenda for discussion.

7. President Bettina Pflaiderer brought up the role of national associations in supporting the triennial theme. In the past, the medical women have traditionally been an active dynamic in social issues. In the same way, the national associations are encouraged to look for efficient forms of work and to participate in their societies in order to achieve our goals in today's world.

The MWIA information channels were discussed. Dr. Goodyear reminded that generated emails don't work, shorter letters with hyperlinks to the website are recommended.

The Presidential letters are well appreciated and distributed to all members by national associations.

8. Dr. Koolhaas introduced the "She decides" campaign initiated in the Netherlands in January 2017. Women and girls have a fundamental right to decide freely and for themselves whether, when and how many children they have. The campaign "She decides" will not set up a new organisational structure. Contributions and support will be channelled through existing mechanisms. Financial contributions raised will be made available to affected organisations working on sexual and reproductive health initiatives in developing countries. This theme was discussed in connection with the MWIA activities.

9. Dr. Saarela closed the meeting at 9.00.

Respectfully submitted

Tuula Saarela

Kirsi Kelhä

Circulation of minutes to all those present and the MWIA exco.

