Circular 16 / 2019
2 July 2019

To: Presidents, CIRs and Standing Committee Conveners and members
From: GWI Board of Officers
Subject: Conference Information and Deadlines – proposed Amendments to Resolutions

Resolutions Information and Deadlines
The texts of the policy and internal resolutions proposed for consideration by the 33rd General Assembly have been circulated through the GWI email networks. The Circulars are also available on the GWI website in the Member Corner at the following https://graduatewomen.org/members-login/constititutional-material/resolutions/

National Federations and Associations (NFAs), the GWI Board of Officers, Conveners of GWI Committees and Coordinators of the Teams of GWI Representatives to inter-governmental organisations may propose amendments to resolutions prior to the General Assembly. This is intended to encourage wider consideration of the resolutions and to give national affiliates an opportunity to suggest improvements in wording before they are formally presented for discussion at the General Assembly. You may wish to consult with members who have been active in the areas covered by the resolutions.

Amendments are meant to strengthen, clarify and support the original resolution. They are not meant to alter the intention but should follow the original sentiment of the resolution. Hostile amendments, which would change the meaning or direction of the resolution, are unacceptable. Amendments must relate to the subject of the original resolution; they cannot be used to introduce a new subject. This holds true throughout the amendment process.

We have received one change to Policy Resolution 5 which has been posted on the website, but we have not received any other amendments to the Policy and Internal Resolutions. We are keeping you informed as per practice.

Prior to the presentation of the Policy Resolutions at the General Assembly, there will be an informal meeting where people can discuss these resolutions, ask questions, and even negotiate updates to the resolutions, provided that the proposers agree. The only amendments permitted at this stage are minor alterations to the text or typographical mistakes. This is because many NFAs are mandated to vote in a certain way at the General Assembly and become uncertain how to vote if substantial alteration to the text takes place.

The Board has received an amendment to Constitutional Resolution 1 on Restricted Funds from the Australian Graduate Women AGW and several queries from the Canadian Federation of University Women CFUW. The amendment has been circulated through GWI email networks and is posted on the website. The Board, as the Proposer, is still considering whether to amend its original resolution. If the proposer does not agree, the amendment may still be submitted for consideration when the resolution is presented at the General Assembly in Geneva.
Any amended resolutions incorporating amendments negotiated and agreed to by the original proposers, together with any amendments not agreed to by the proposer, shall be circulated to NFAs up until 13 July. They will not, however, be published in the documentation distributed at the General Assembly.

Please send any further amendments to Rae Duff, VP legal and Governance for consideration at randsduff@xtra.co.nz.

GWI Board
2 July 2019