FUWA's Triennial Report (2019-2022)

Submitted By:

FUWA's CIR, Sahar Gamal

November 2022

Challenged by the pandemic of Covid-19 and by lack of resources, FUWA Board started its term of office in August 2019. The board consisted of the following members:

- **President:** Linda Rebecca Williams – Sierra Leone Association of University Women (SLAUW)
- **Vice-President:** Nneka Chiedozie – Nigerian Association of University Women (NAUW)
- **Coordinator of International Relations (CIR):** Sahar Gamal – Independent Member (Egypt)
- **Coordinator of Young Members (CYM) and Alternate Secretary:** Davephine Tholley – Sierra Leone Association of University Women (SLAUW)
- **Secretary:** Martha Sesay – Sierra Leone Association of University Women (SLAUW)
- **Treasurer:** Madiana Samba – Sierra Leone Association of University Women (SLAUW)

Instead of social distancing and leaving each NFA isolated, board members decided to reach out through the following means:

- ❑ Communication.
- ❑ Conferences.
- ❑ Courses.
- ❑ Constitutional Amendments.

I- Communication

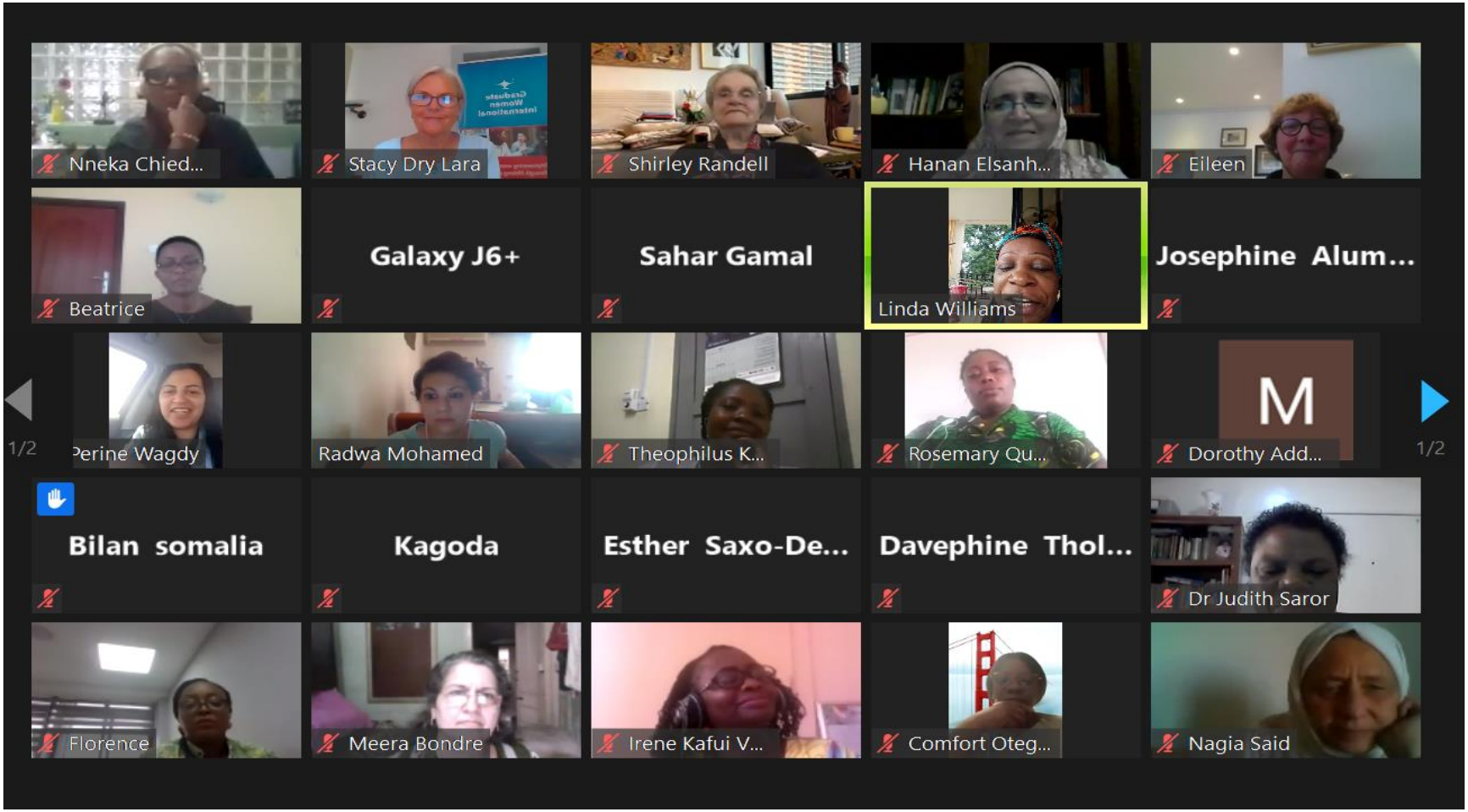
The board communicated with FUWA members, as well as NFAs' Representatives through regular emails. These emails dealt with:

- ❑ Introducing the new board and its triennial action plan.
- ❑ FUWA and GWI updates, including detailed instructions of how to participate in events and activities.
- ❑ Sharing information about conferences, scholarships and workshops on annual basis.
- ❑ Discussing constitutional amendments.

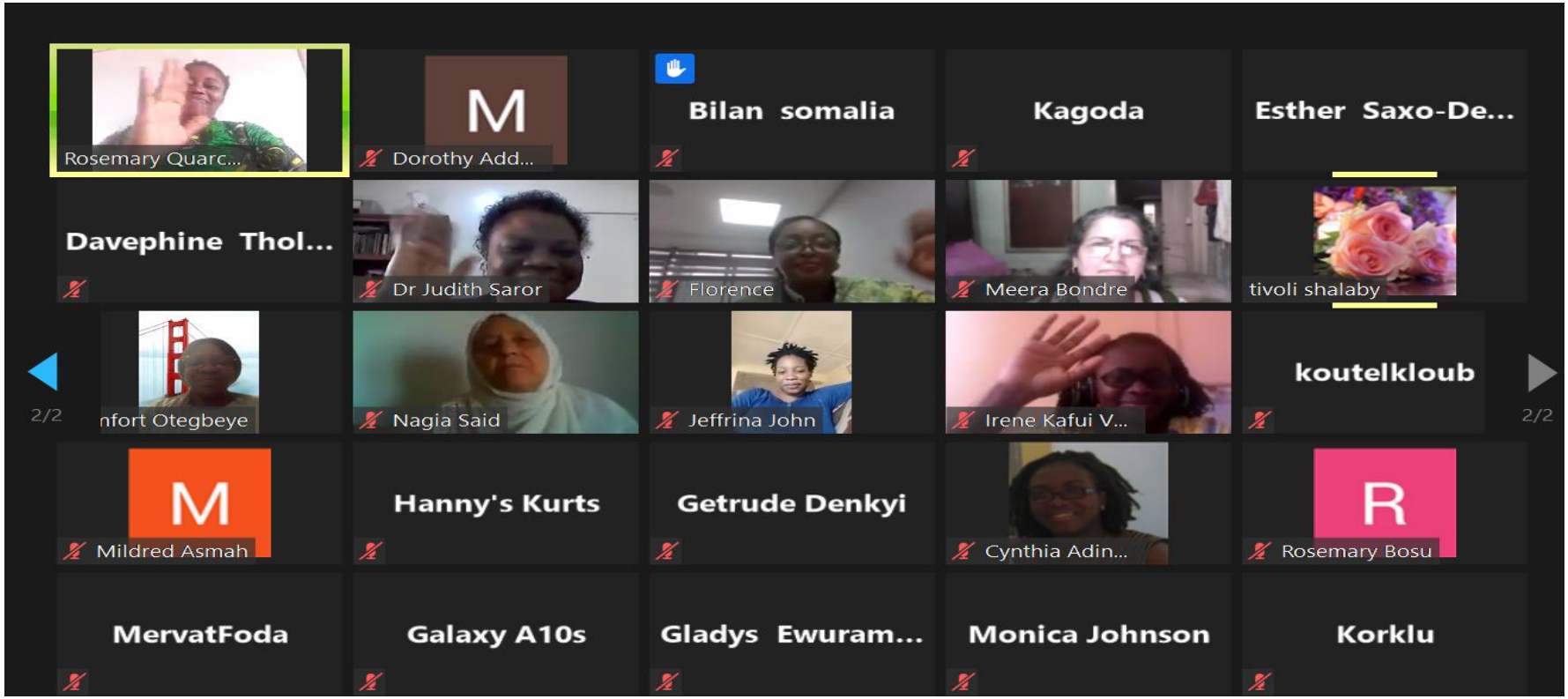
II- Conferences

Board members were not satisfied with limiting the communication to emails, which were a distant and impersonal means of communication. In addition to that, the mid-triennial regional meeting was canceled due to the travel ban. So the board decided to have formal meetings with a personal touch to voice their solidarity with FUWA members in such a difficult time and to discuss matters of shared interests.

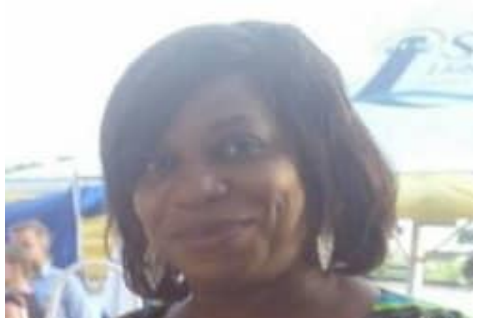
1- Maiden Meet and Greet (7 August 2020):



FUWA's first meet and greet, and first virtual one as well, was suggested by the President, Linda Williams, with the intention of voicing the board's solidarity with the members in such difficult times. Representatives of Egypt, Ghana, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Uganda and Zambia shared their means of coping with the pandemic and the difficulties they were facing in their respective communities.



2- GWI Global North-South Dialogue (31 October 2021):



FUWA speaker 1: An Overview of Progress and Challenges in African NFA Countries

Linda Williams

FUWA President

FUWA speaker 2: Use of ICT to Empower Rural Women into Leadership

Nneka Chiedozie

FUWA Vice President

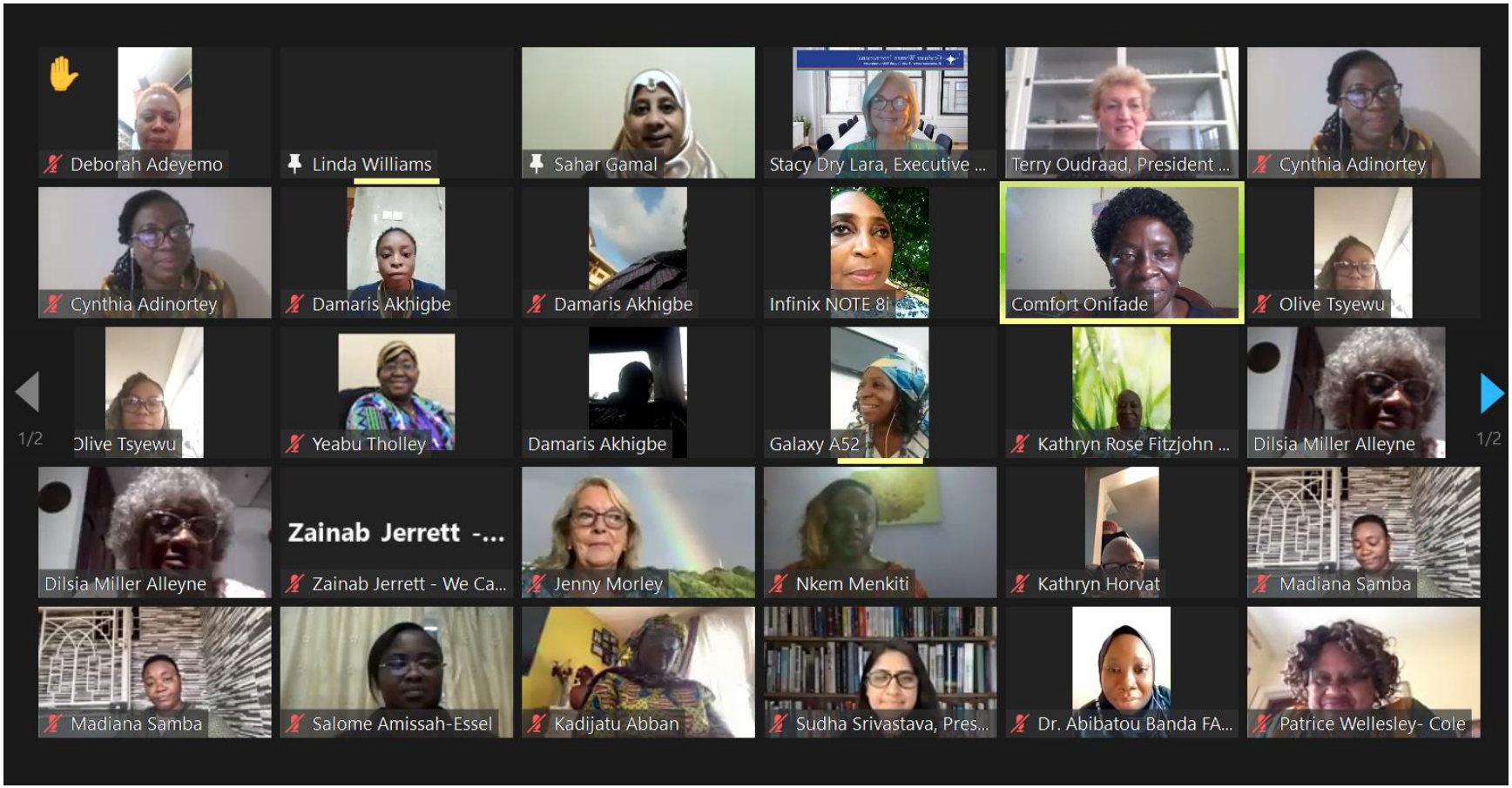
FUWA speaker 3: ICT Literacy and Connectivity as Effective Enablers for FUWA

Sahar Gamal

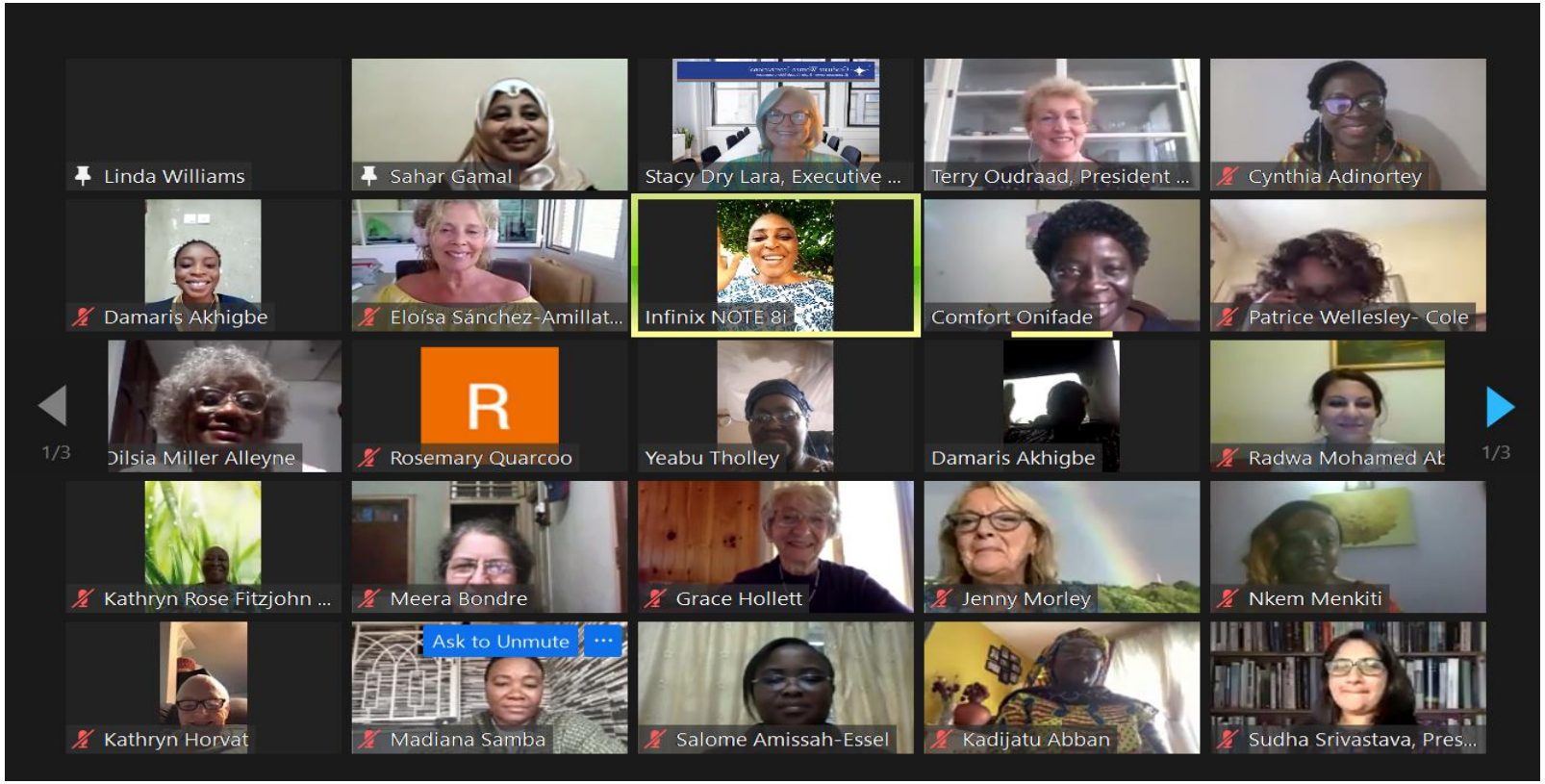
FUWA CIR

The board welcomed participation in GWI's first North -South Dialogue (UWE and FUWA). The theme of the dialogue, "Connectivity and Partnerships to Empower Women as Agents of Change", was suggested by CIR, Sahar Gamal, adopted by the board and welcomed by UWE President, Anne Nigre. The dialogue was a great opportunity for FUWA to share with the rest of GWI members the ICT challenges they are facing and to invite cooperation with the other GWI regions.

3- Pan African Women's Day (31 July 2022):

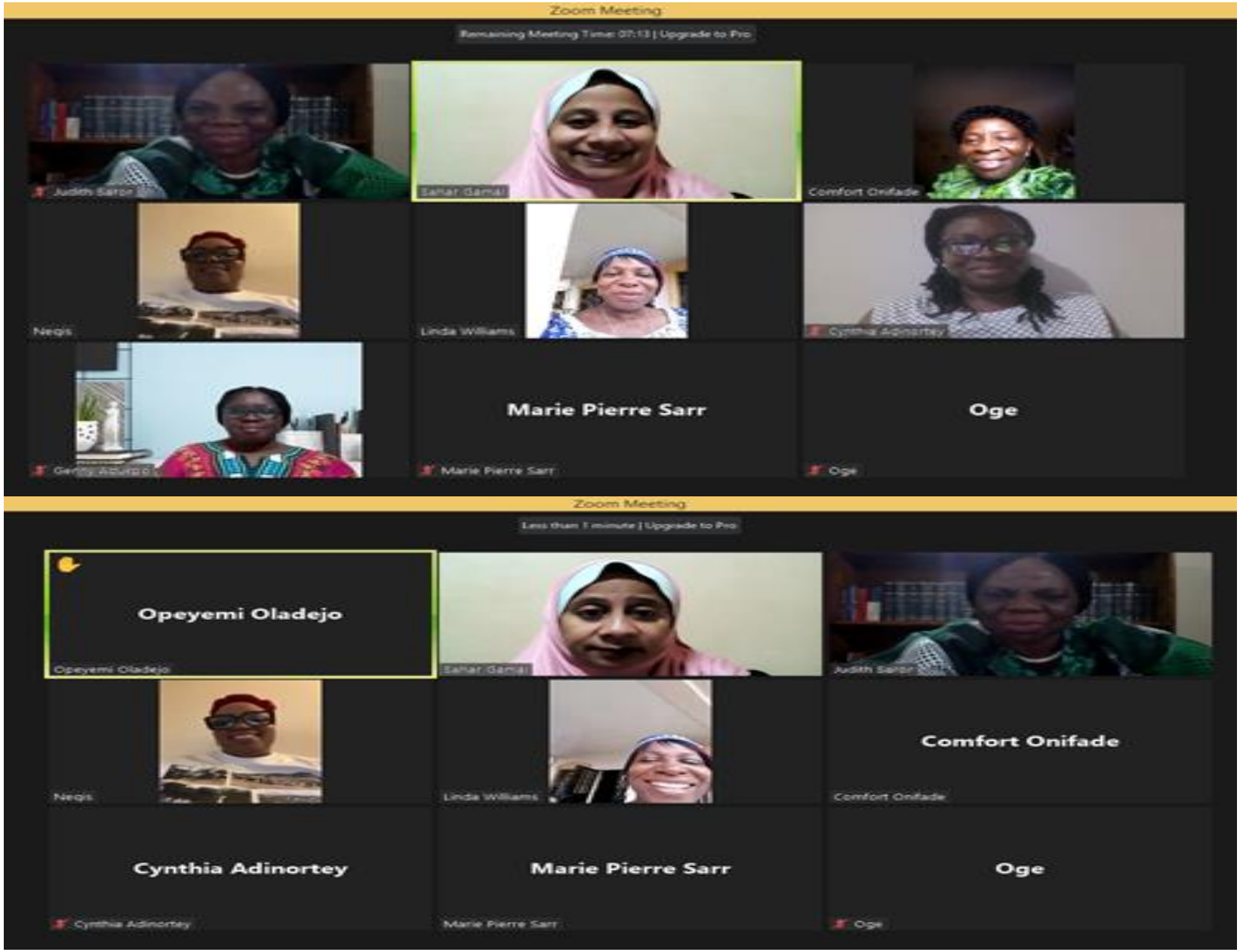


FUWA's first celebration of Pan African Women's Day was suggested by Vice President, Nneka Chiedozie. Members from Egypt, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Zambia celebrated the day by sharing information about iconic examples of African women who wrote history.



4- Triennial Regional Meeting & GA (6 November 2022):

Following FUWA's tradition, the members had a triennial regional meeting and General Assembly. The outgoing board submitted its triennial report and received feedback from NFAs' representatives. Then decisions were ratified and the next board was officially elected. The term of the incoming board thus began with the best wishes from the outgoing board and FUWA members.


Zoom Meeting
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III- Courses

Keen on upholding FUWA's mission of empowering women and girls through life-long education, the board seized the opportunity of GWI's Peer-to-Peer Marketplace to offer two virtual courses. These courses were tailored by FUWA members for FUWA members.

The courses were a very good opportunity to get to know the challenges faced by African women, especially in the field of ICT, and led to the adoption of FUWA's theme in UWE-FUWA North-South Dialogue as mentioned above.

1- Early Career Skills :

- The course was provided by Dr. Radwa Abdel Fattah, an EAGW member.
- It targeted fresh graduates and young women looking for a career change.
- The skills included how to write a C.V. and a cover letter, how to search for jobs, and how to have a good interview.
- The method of teaching was interactive and included role playing.
- Dr. Radwa volunteered to follow up and guide whenever needed.

2- ICT Literacy Skills for Beginners:

- The course was provided by Sahar Gamal, Egypt's Independent Member and FUWA's CIR.
- It targeted FUWA members aiming to learn the use of ICT to communicate globally.
- The course included identifying the tools and skills of ICT, learning how to use them to empower women and girls, locating funding to finance ICT literacy and learning how to use social media for marketing .
- The method of teaching was learners-based, interactive and tailored to the learners' needs.
- A WhatsApp group was created for follow up and guiding whenever needed.

IV-Constitutional Amendments

The board realized the need to amend FUWA's Constitution, written in 2000, to comply with GWI's Constitution. There was also a need to constitutionalize FUWA's long lasting tradition of rotating leadership among the sub-regional branches.

FUWA's leadership, as far as the board knows, rotated anti clockwise as follows:

2007-2010 West African NFAs (Nigeria).

2010-2013 South African NFAs (South Africa).

2013-2016 East African NFAs (Uganda).

2016-2019 North African NFA (Egypt).

2019-2022 West African NFAs (Sierra Leone).

FUWA's Board 2022-2025 (South African NFAs)

President: Mercy Chatyoka (ZAUW, Zimbabwe).

Vice-President: Judith Ziwa (GWZ, Zambia).

CIR: Kelliness Kawonga (GWZ, Zambia).

CYM: Henrica Makhulu (ZAUW, Zimbabwe).

N.B.: ZAUW and GWZ nominated **SAAWG's CIR**, Hazel Bowen, for the position of FUWA's Secretary, but she graciously declined due to pre-planned commitments.

Special Thanks

The board's special thanks are due to:

- **GWI's Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara**

No matter how understaffed or overloaded she was, she has always been there for FUWA's Board, NFAs, Independent and individual members.

THANK YOU STACY

Special Thanks

The board's special thanks are due to:

- **Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW)'s Board**

For stepping forward to help FUWA's board with the Pan African Women's Day flyer.

THANK YOU MILDRED

THANK YOU GENEVIEVE

Graduate Women International

Empowering women & girls through lifelong education

Federation of University Women in Africa (FUWA)

Celebrates

World Pan-African Women's Day

Date: 31st July 2022 (Sunday)
Time: 16.00 – 17.30 GMT

Theme: AFRICAN WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Zoom link:
https:// us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tfuirpzgpE9Ma22kUevCeKwR1NEBMIq3p

Register in advance for this meeting:

Special Thanks

The board's special thanks are due to:

- **FUWA's NFA Boards, Individual and Independent Members**

For giving us the honour of leading FUWA throughout the triennium. Your support and lively engagement in all activities were, are and will be much appreciated.

THANK YOU SISTERS

Our Best Wishes

to

the Upcoming FUWA Board

Congratulations

Vice President Fundraising Uncontested Candidate

Nneka CHIEDOZIE-UDEH

Nigerian Association of University Women (NAUW)

Congratulations

Hegg Hoffet Uncontested Member Candidate:

Cynthia ADINORTEY

Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW)

Congratulations

International Fellowships Uncontested Member Candidate:

Naa Adjeley ALAKIJA SEKYI

Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW)

Congratulations

Membership Committee Uncontested Member Candidate:

Jolie MASSAY

Association Congolaise des Femmes Diplômées des Universités

Wishing All The Best

Vice President Projects contested Candidate

Mildred ASMAH

Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW)

Wishing All The Best

Education Committee Contested Member Candidate

Genevieve Etornam ADUKPO

Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW)

Wishing All The Best

Education Committee Contested Member Candidate

Confidence DIKGOLE

South African Association of Graduate Women (SAAWG)

No Photo Provided

Wishing All The Best

Education Committee Contested Member Candidate

Comfort Adenike ONIFADE

Nigerian Association of University Women (NAUW)