Regional Conference:

This is the year for IAWRT’s Regional Conference. It will be held in Entebbe Uganda (East Africa) from 2-5 October 2018. The venue is at Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel Entebbe. The objective of this year’s conference is to strengthen the IAWRT structures and Chapters by building the capacity of members in the area of Organizational Development and to finalize the Code of Conduct. (more - www.iawrt.org)
Competition to attend the Regional Conference:

For the first time IAWRT has organized a competition to fund the trip of first five winners to the Regional Conference, 2018 – Uganda. So, pick up your pen and enter the competition. For details see http://www.iawrt.org/news/competition-uganda-trip

IAWRT-FOKUS Scholarships:

From the 15 applications, the Scholarship committee selected 13 applicants for the scholarship. Abeer Saady, head of the Scholarship Committee remarked, “For the first time we received such competitive response for the Call. The Philippines Chapter thought out-of-the-box and came up with a novel idea of proposing a joint application for six applicants. This should be followed in the future by other chapters, too.”


Abeer Saady - Head of Scholarship Committee

Long Documentary:

This year’s theme of Long Documentary is Women Covering Conflict: The Invisible Stories. The Executive Producer is from India – Chandita Mukherjee and the four country directors are – Afrah Shafiq (India), Erika Rae Macapayag Cruz (Philippines), Eva Louise Brownstein (Canada), Khadija Lemkecher (Tunisia). The documentary is in its final stages of the post-production.


Chandita Mukherjee, Exe. Producer - Long Documentary

Making a difference
IAWRT establishes Chapters Committee of the Board
Sarah Nakibuuka Bakehena, Chair, Chapters Committee of the Board

The IAWRT International Board established the Chapters Committee of the Board aimed to strengthen communication and relationship between the Chapters and the International Board. The Committee is composed of 13 Chapter Heads Chaired by Sarah N. Bakehena Secretary of the International Board. (more - [www.iawrt.org](http://www.iawrt.org))

News from and about Chapters

Cameroon:

In its efforts to revive, the Cameroon chapter has formed a new Executive Board - Becky Bissong Tchonko as President, Patience Wirngo - Secretary, Dorothy Ndikum - Treasurer, Hortensia Ntaine - Finance Secretary, Cynthia Sabtala as in-charge of the web and former President - Sidonie Sikoua to act as the Advisor.

*From L to R - Dorothy Ndikum - Finance head, Becky Bissong – Chapter Head, Sidonie Sikoua- Advisor, Patience Wirngo-Secretary and Cynthia Sabtala- Communication Officer*

Kenya:

As the Kenyan government has made the Computer Misuse and Cyber Crime bill into law, the Kenya chapter will carry out this exercise with the support of friends, local partners and use their personal savings to make it a success. Josephine Karani, Chapter Head says, “This year, we will direct our energies to strengthen and encourage capacity building to empower our members.” Kenyan Chapter elections are due in October 2018.

*Josephine Karani, IAWRT Kenya Chapter Head*

Philippines:
The Philippines chapter held exploratory talks with the International Media Support (IMS) and UNESCO Jakarta for a possible partnership. One concrete action is that the Philippines Chapter will collaborate with Media Organizations under the support of IMS. Training for women journalist and media practitioner will be done this year. The Philippines chapter has received IAWRT-FOKUS scholarship grant to support six members, taking up Investigative Journalism course. (more - http://www.iawrt.org/news/potential-partnerships-iawrt-philippines)

South Africa:

Makganwana Mokgalong, Chapter Head, S Africa says, “Our aim is to mobilize ourselves. Our chapter has new young blood in the role of Secretary, Sankara Gibbs. In July we plan to begin monthly female made film screenings in the hope of keeping Her Africa! film festival alive. We are also planning to begin releasing knowledge series videos as part of our initiative to raise awareness for the chapter.”

Tanzania:

IAWRT Tanzania held elections on 18th June 2018 at CDEA Conference Hall, Mikocheni Dar es Salaam. The founder Chair Rose H. Mwalimu was replaced by Angela Kilusungu (Midundo FM CDEA) while Razia Mwawanga (TMF Project Manager) was elected Vice Chair. Ms. Fatuma Matulanga (Manager TBC) and Oprah Sadallah (Independent Radio/TV Producer) were elected Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Other members elected to the board are Stella Setumbi (Radio Producer TBC), Editha Mayenga (Radio Producer Tumaini Radio) will be
managing projects and Betty Tesha (Radio Producer TBC) member. This is the team that shall steer IAWRT-Tanzania forward. The newly elected Chapter Head - Angela Kilusungu says, “Tanzania IAWRT Board will try to enhance advocacy on gender mainstreaming through media.”

Update about chapters & events

India:

Sometime back elections were held in India chapter. The new Board comprises of Nupur Basu – Managing Trustee, Aparna Sanyal - Secretary, Treasurer - Deepika Sharma and the other six Board members are – Ananya, Bina Paul, Mausumi Bhattacharya, Paromita Vohra, Samina Mishra and Subasri Krishnan.

Nepal:

Nepal Chapter’s new board members - Montessori Rajbhandari – President, Mallika Bhattarai – Vice President, Mandira Raut – Secretary, Chanda Bista – Treasurer. The five members are - Nitu Pandit, Shailaza Singh, Sangita Pant Thapa, Anusha Poudyal and Nita Sapkota.

Nepal Film Festival - The new Board has decided to organize Nepal Film Festival in September 2018. Former Nepal Chapter President Anupa Shrestha has been appointed as the Festival Director and Neeta Sapkota as the coordinator. The chapter will also hold female directors Short Film Competition.

Iraq & Afghanistan:

Both the chapters – Iraq and Afghanistan - would be formally installed during the Regional conference in October 2018.

Awaz and colleagues in Iraq at their first official meeting

However, both the chapters have started working – Iraq chapter, with Awaz Saleem Abdullah as the chapter head, recently convened their first board meeting to chalk out future activities.

Similarly, Afghanistan chapter under Najiba Ayubi’s leadership has recently finalized a project proposal with InterNews. (more - http://www.iawrt.org/news/iawrt-afghanistan-forges-ahead)

Ps: Join the IAWRT Regional Conference and take part in our collective future. The last date for submitting registration form is 9 August 2018.