

WOM Report

Tromso, August 7

Present: Chairperson Susan Polgar, Secretary Martha Fierro, Council Member Zhu Chen

Also in attendance:

Observers: Keyshla M. Vega Jimenez (PUR), Cristobal Vega Adorno (PUR), Paul Truong (USA), Anastasia Sorokina (AUS), Tahnya Pastor (CRC), Sevan Muradian (USA), David Mehler (USA), Jean Hoffman (USA), Naeem Hamid Mirza (PAK), Gara Ticia (HUN), Gary Bekker (AUS), Allan Herbert (BAR), Jan Berglund (PLW), Jan Wikander (SWE), Bo Berg (SWE), Benhadi Aziz Madani (ALG), Mauricio Castro Solano (CRC), Tshepiso Lopang (BOT), Jacqueline Bosch (ECU), Ayelen Martinez (ARG), Abigail Romero (ECU), Keenese Katisenge (BOT), Ali Nooh (MDV), Ali Nasih (MDV), Anderson Gordon (TTO), Abdus Salim (PAK)

Polgar and Fierro presented a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the highlights of the WOM many activities in the past year. The activities presented include:

- Several Online FIDE Arbiter Seminars
- Several Live FIDE Arbiter Seminars
- Several FIDE Trainer Seminars
- Promotional Tours (Botswana-Italy-Madagascar)
- Project “ Rumbo a la Gran Maestria “ Spanish and English
- Castle Camp Scholarship
- Caissa Award winner
- Australian Women Master sponsorship
- Women Festival (Germany)
- Chess for Girls Europe (Geneva, Switzerland)
- Chess for Girls Asia (Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam)
- SPF Girls Invitational (St. Louis, USA)

Representatives of several of the WOM projects (Botswana, Australia, Costa Rica, Trinidad & Tobago, Argentina, Ecuador, Puerto Rico, and Pakistan) were present, and expressed their appreciation for the support received.

Representative of Trinidad & Tobago requested help to further chess for girls there.

Alan Herbert thanked WOM for the online training initiative that started a couple months ago to develop women’s chess in the English speaking Caribbean countries.

Ms. Katisenge of Botswana reported that they have about 6,000 chess players in her country and around 40% of them are women; and that Botswana has created a commission for women’s chess in their national federation. WOM encourage other federations to copy this great initiative.

Mr. Lane of Australia thanked the support received in 2014, and stated that without the WOM support the tournament couldn’t have taken place. He requested continued WOM support to their upcoming Women’s International in January.

.....

Susan Polgar