

BPW International General Assembly OCT 2017 Resolutions Passed

Resolution 1 - Climate Change

BPW International Resolves that all Affiliates:

1. Investigate whether their government or state has signed and ratified the Paris Agreement (December 2015), Acceptance and Approval and signing Entry into Force, 2016/17.
2. Strongly advocates for this to be undertaken, if their government or state has not both signed and ratified the Paris Agreement.
3. Lobby their government or state to implement Environmental Displaced Person status to provide future security for those affected by climate change.

Resolution 2 – Zero Hour Contracts

BPW International resolves that all Affiliates:

1. Urge their governments to recognise the increasing number of women and girls in Zero Hours or If and When contracts.
2. Advocate for legislation which bans Zero Hours and If and When (Permanent Variable Hours) contracts where: a) exclusivity rights of employment are in place b) those contracted are required to work any hours offered

Resolution 3 – Pay Equity for Women and Girls with Disabilities

BPW International resolves that all Affiliates:

1. Require their Governments or States adhere to the UN Convention on the Rights of Person with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and its Optional Protocol and to make specific reference to women with disabilities, whose rate of employment and pay equity are lower than women without disabilities and ensure they provide the required reports on women and girls with disabilities.
2. Ensure their Governments or States acknowledge indigenous rights, make specific reference to indigenous women and girls with disabilities, whose rate of employment is less and pay equity is even worse than their peers.

Resolution 4 – Long Term Strategy – Elimination of Violence

BPW International resolves that all Affiliates:

1. Urge and actively lobby their Governments and States to support the Draft Amendment of General Recommendation No. 19 of CEDAW and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2. Work with their Governments and States to ensure legislation procedures and programmes are implemented towards achieving the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls
3. Ensure BPW International's voice and participation at all upcoming United Nation events around the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls.

Resolution 5 – Mental Health – Women in Prisons

BPW International Resolves that all Affiliates:

1. Require their Governments or States to adhere to the UN Standard Minimum Rules for Treatment of Prisoners 2015 (SMRs) rules 24 to 35 particularly as they apply to the mental health of women prisoners and the 2010 UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners.
2. Make submissions to relevant human rights bodies where UN standards are breached.
3. Advocate for trauma-informed practice in women's prisons.

Resolution 6 – Mental Health – Suicide Prevention

BPW International resolves that all Affiliates:

1. Urge their governments to recognise the increasing number of suicides and the requirement for prevention measures to be implemented to achieve a reduction.

2. Form taskforces to assist in obtaining: (a) accurate statistics of women and girls who have committed suicide, over the last three years (b) accurate records over next two years for inclusion into the next WHO report (c) a copy of the WHO Preventing Suicide: Community Engagement Toolkit for use in their communities
3. Ensure their States and Governments are working to achieve at least a minimum of 10% reduction of suicides as set out under the SDG 3.4
4. Present projects and workshops demonstrating where Affiliates are Influencing Change with regard to suicide rates at the next Triennium.

Resolution 7 – Alcohol Use and Breast Cancer Awareness

BPW International resolves that all Affiliates:

Urge their governments to provide current information to Physicians on the health risks associated with the use of alcohol, for their female patients, and in particular raise awareness of the correlation between alcohol use and breast cancer, so that physicians may communicate these well documented health related risks to their patients.

Internal Resolution 8 – Core Governance [amended and approved]

BPW International Resolves that:

1. The following BPW International Core Governance documents should remain readily available and accessible on the BPW International website: Policy, Constitution and Procedure Manuals.
2. The following BPW International Core Governance Documents be made easily accessible on the BPW International website for existing Affiliates and for potential new members: The BPW International Aims as approved by the 2011 BPW International General Assembly, the BPW Mission Statement, in full, including reference to all levels of United Nations participation, the BPW International Vision and Values, BPW International Congress documentation including the Congress Timetable and General Assembly Proceedings, and the BPW International Rules of Debate.
3. The following BPW International Core Governance Documents be regularly distributed to the International Board: the triennium budgets and audited accounts and the Minutes of BPW International Board meetings.
4. The BPW website is revised to implement the above by the end of February 2018 before the BPW International Leaders' Summit 2018.

Internal Resolution 9 – Annual Leader's Summit

BPW International resolves that, for working on BPW Leadership issues in our organisation together with the BPW International President and the Executive Board Members, an annual Leaders' Summit of two days should take place immediately before an important international event such as the UN CSW in New York.

In addition, immediately before each Regional Conference a "Regional Leaders' Summit" (minimum 3 hours) should take place.

Internal Resolution 10 – Business Network Taskforce [amended and approved]

BPW International resolves that a permanent Business Network Taskforce be established with applicable tools to encourage our BPW women-owned businesses (WOBs) to register their businesses with BPW International, implement the BPW International partnerships with all current business actors and encourage the development of new ones, and enable opportunities for encouraging and harnessing entrepreneurial growth, networking and mentoring for the members at all triennial regional meetings and congresses.

Internal Resolution 11 – Administrative Director

BPW International Resolves that, without increasing the budget, BPW International replaces the "Director of the President's Office" with an "Administrative Staff of BPW International" and a "Personal Assistant of the President".