



Protocol of the District Conference in Vienna

October 13 through October 15, 2023

First Business Session, Saturday October 14, 2023

1. The Conference Committee Chair introduced the entering persons at the Head Table:

- Governor Heike Schmidt
- Liaison, Int. Director Renée Coppock
- Lt. Governor Wafaa Daou
- Treasurer Kathrin Stenner
- Conference Parliamentarian Isabel Christin Rameil
- Conference Secretary Janine Fehn-Claus

- Area Director 01 to 04: Ivana Tomljanovic-Rudar, Danila Dellagiacoma, Elisabeth Jentschke, Najwa al Halabi

She further introduced:

- District Nominating Committee Chair – Christiane Walter
- Chair for the United Nations – Charlotte von Bodelschwingh
- Chair for Bylaws and Resolution & Club Creator Chair – Ina Wäßerling
- Foundation Ambassadors – Margot Fleck and Kathrin Tatschner
- Chair for Advocacy – Henrike Johannson
- Team for Greater Visibility and Communications – Gabriele Strohriegel and Birgit Farnleitner
- Chair for the Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship – Carmen Kronawettleitner
- Chair for YWPA – Birgit Farnleitner
- Chair for Women in STEM Scholarship – Jutta Trube
- Chair for Z and Golden Z Club – Gundula Viering

2. On request, all participants rose for **the flag parade**.

The Governor welcomed all participants with a **short welcome speech** and thanked Conference Chair Birgit Farnleitner for welcoming the participants in Vienna. In her function as Governor of District 14, she called the Zonta International District 14 Conference 2023 with the theme “Build a better world for women and girls” to order” and struck the gavel once at **9.23 a.m.**

3. The Conference Chair thanked her and introduced the **greetings from Mag. Doris Schmidauer**, Consultant and Motivator and wife of Federal President of Austria, Alexander Van der Bellen. A short video was presented.

4. The District 14 Secretary Janine Fehn-Claus proceeded with the **Roll Call of the clubs**. The clubs were called alphabetically. All but ZC Vezprem, ZC Heviz and ZC Salzburg were present. ZC Landshut was represented by proxy.

5. The Governor appointed **two tellers**, Ms. Michaela Künzel-Painsipp and Ms. Barbara Jantscher. Both came to the head table and accepted the role.

6. Then the Credentials Committee Chair, Ms. Edith Kohlmeier presented the **Credentials Report. Present were 43 delegates with a voting power of 56.**

By direction of the committee, she moved the adoption of the Credentials Committee report as presented, showing a voting power of 56.

Diana Lutterschmied, another member of the Credentials Committee seconded the motion.

Since no questions were asked, the Governor asked all in favor of the adoption, to raise the GREEN Delegate card, those who are against the RED Delegate card, for abstentions the YELLOW Delegate card.

The motion was passed with a voting power of 56, therefore in favor 56.

7. The Parliamentarian, Isabel Christin Rameil, presented the **Standing Rules of the Conference** (page 7 of the booklet) and moved for their adoption. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ina Wäßerling, Delegate of ZC Erfurt.

The Governor explained that the adoption of this motion requires a 2/3 majority. Since no questions were asked, the Governor asked for the vote by raising the respective Delegate card.

The motion was adopted unanimously with a voting power of 56. There being more than 2/3 vote in the affirmative, the Standing Rules of the Conference were **adopted**.

8. The Conference Chair, Birgit Farnleitner presented the **conference program** and introduced the organizing Zonta Clubs. She referred to pages 5 and 6 of booklet that were also presented on the screen. She thanked the members from the Zonta Clubs of Vienna I, Vienna-Parkring, Burgenland and Feldbach for the many hours employed in the organization and Governor Heike Schmidt for the trust she has placed in this team every minute.

The Conference Chair move the adoption of the *Conference Program* for the Zonta District 14 Conference 2023 as published. The motion was seconded by Elisabeth Thaler, Delegate of ZC Brixen-Bressanone.

Since there was no discussion, the plenary proceeded to the vote. The motion was passed with a voting power of 56, thereof 56 in favor. The Conference Program was **adopted**.

9. The Governor moved the approval of the minutes of the online District 14 Conference in Aschaffenburg in October 2021 as published on the District 14 website. The motion was seconded by Ursula Werner, Delegate of ZC Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

No questions were raised. The plenary adopted the motion unanimously with a voting power of 56. The Minutes from the Online Conference 2021 were **adopted**.

10. The welcome messages from Zonta International President, Ute Scholz (by video), and the D14 Liaison, International Director, Renée Coppock were presented.

The first business session went in recess for 35 minutes. The participants were asked to reconvene at 10.45 a.m.

The business session reconvened at 10.47 a.m.

The **Credentials Committee Chair** presented an updated credential report. Present in the room were now 44 delegates with 58 votes. The delegate of ZC Vezprem has arrived, carrying a proxy of ZC Heviz Region.

11. Lt. Governor, Wafaa Daou, took over the Chair position for the next motion, i. e. the motion on the **Governor's Report**.

The Governor Heike Schmidt presented her report (pages 13-15 of the booklet).

Since no questions were raised, the plenary proceeded to the voting. The motion was passed and the Governors Report was **adopted**, showing a voting power of 58, thereof 58 in favour.

12. The Governor took over the chair again and the Treasurer Kathrin Stenner presented the **Treasurer's Report**. She explained that the savings were generated through the digital conference and meeting and no travel costs. Instead, a Zoom License was acquired. The report shows also the donation 20k EUR to ZIF. Expenses were made for some clubs in need, e.g. part of the membership fees.. For details see page 16 of the booklet.

A calculation error was identified and explained by Parliamentarian Isabel Rameil, showing an addition of expenses and income. The results in the column total should read as follows:

➤ District Fund result	EUR 21.054
➤ Conderence Fund result	EUR 4.571
➤ Subventions on request fund	EUR 120
➤ Totaling at	EUR 25.745

An updated version of the report will be sent to the clubs. A new Audit is not required since the figures and the presented documentation are identical and audited. It is an obvious error and visible in the document.



Treasurer Kathrin Stenner moved the adoption of the review report dated June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2022, as distributed to you. Ursula Werner, Delegate from ZC Garmisch-Partenkirchen seconded the motion.

On request, the treasurer stated that the balance in the bank accounts as of today amounts to EUR 130.203,79.

Anne Reitschuster, Delegate of ZC Murnau-Staffelsee, stated that she considers the digitalization respectively the switch to digital meetings as critical, since the networking would suffer. Kathrin Stenner stated that the District business is back to normal. However, there are savings through hybrid meetings or digital Board Meetings.

Since no further questions were asked the plenary proceeded to the voting. The Treasurer's Report was adopted with a voting power of 58, thereof 55 votes in favor and 3 abstentions.

13. Auditor Franziska Bickel presented the **Auditor's Report** (see pages 18 and 19 of the booklet). The second auditor Karin Koller-Wagner was not present. Franziska Bickel confirmed the correctness of the annual statements for the biennium 2020 to 2022. She only raised the issue of the delayed submission of the documentation.

Franziska Bickel moved the adoption of the Auditor's Report 2020-2022. Carmen Kronawettleitner-Berger, ZC Innsbruck I, seconded the motion.

The motion was passed and the Auditor's Report for the Zonta District Conference 2023 was **adopted** with a voting power of 58, thereof 58 in favor.

Carmen Kronawettleitner on behalf of ZC Innsbruck I, submitted the following

Motion

Given that the District 14 currently disposes of EUR 130.203, 79 (as of today) in its accounts, the ZC Innsbruck I motions that EUR 20.000 are donated to the ZI Foundation for Women.

Rationale:

The funds in the account are sufficient to make such a donation even in light of the other financial obligations of the District.

The District has a stable income and also accumulated a large part of this amount due to savings during the pandemic. While the District is in a considerably favorable financial position, the income of ZI Foundation for Women substantially lags behind the income from donations in the previous biennia at the same point in time. This situation also may negatively impact the reputation of ZI if the organization may not meet its self-set goals that we all voted on and agreed on the Convention in Hamburg.

And finally, it is good practice and recommended by ZI to donate one third of all charitable income to the ZIF. As the District 14 does not organize charity events, it should consider, specifically when it considers to eventually fund a District Project at a substantial amount, a donation to the ZIF of at least the same amount. ZI gains its visibility through projects realized with the UN Organizations.

Governor Heike Schmidt communicated that the **Board is in favor** of this motion. Ina Wäßerling, ZC Erfurt seconds the motion.

Maria Richter, on behalf of ZC München II, motioned, given the reserves of more than EUR 130.000, to even donate a bigger amount, e. g. EUR 30.000. The motion to **amend** the amount is seconded by Anne Reitschuster, ZC Murnau-Staffelsee.

Parliamentarian Isabel Rameil reminds on the procedure. Prior to voting on the content of the amended motion, it has to be voted on the **approval of the amendment** to the original motion.

In the discussion, Ina Wäßerling; ZC Erfurt, reminded that the mandatory reserve of EUR 50.000 should not be jeopardized.

The **amendment** was passed with a voting power of 58, thereof 57 in favor and one abstention.

Maria Richter on behalf of ZC München II presented the motion to donate EUR 30.000 to the Zonta International Foundation for Women with the same Rationale as mentioned above. Elisabeth Thaler on behalf of ZC Brixen-Bressanone seconded the motion.

The motion was passed with a voting power of 58 votes, thereof 2 abstentions.

Both motions were formally correct presented and added to the Conference documentation.

14. Treasurer Kathrin Stenner presented the **2024-2026 Budget** (see page 17 of the booklet). She explained that the Zoom License will be continued but that due to expected travel expenses, the accumulation of income due to saving for that position will cease.

Treasurer Kathrin Stenner moved the adoption of the Budget 2024-2026 as presented. Gabi Strohrriegel, ZC Burgenland seconded the motion.

Klara Weigand, ZC Bad-Kissingen-Schweinfurt, referred to the typo in the headline. Parliamentarian Isabel Rameil that this is an obvious copy and paste error.

Waltraud Kraft-Safahi, Delegated ZC Alzenau, identified an error re position website, which was not added up (EUR 5.000), but instead only show a sum of EUR 2.000. Parliamentarian Isabel Rameil explained that an updated version of the budget will be sent out as well.

Ina Wäßerling, ZC Erfurt, referred to the Reimbursement Guidelines and stated that reimbursement to Chairs should be calculated, irrelevant if they are actually paid out to the Area Directors.

Governor Heike Schmidt agreed that this will be included in the updated version.

Stefanie Furmans, Delegate ZC Munich I, asked why the amount for awardees does not include JMK and Amelia Earhart. Carmen Kronawettleitner, Chair JMK explained that since last biennium the District winner is awarded by ZI (USD 5000).

The motion is passed with a voting power of 58, thereof in favor 58. The Budget 2024-2026 for the Zonta District Conference 2023 is **adopted**.

16. Nominating Committee Chair Christiane Walter provided her report (see page 20 of the booklet) to give us the Report. She emphasized that one position is not yet covered and encouraged a nomination from the floor.

The Nomination Committee Chair moved the adoption of the Nominating Committee Report. Henrike Johannson, Delegate of ZC Murnau-Staffelsee, seconded the motion.

The motion is passed with a voting power of 58, thereof 58 in favor, and the **proposed slate of Zonta District 14 Officers for the 2024-2026 Biennium is adopted** (pages 21 to 41 in the booklet).

16. The candidates (see page 21 in the booklet) present themselves: All but the members of the Nominating Committee were accorded 3 minutes for their presentation, the 6 candidates for the Nominating Committee were accorded 2 minutes.

Candidates in the order to present:

- Candidate for the position of the Governor: Dr. Jutta Trube
- Candidate for the position of the Lt. Governor: Ivana Tomljanovic-Rudar
- Candidate for the position of the Lt. Governor: Najwa al Halabi
- Candidate for the position of the Treasurer: Susanne Paukens-Scheffner
- Candidate for the position of the Auditors: Karin Koller-Wagner was excused.
- Candidate for the position of the Auditors: Brigitte Weitkamp-Moog was present but was excused from presenting.
- Candidate for the position of the Area 01/02 Director: Reka Németh
- Candidate for the position of the Area 03 Director: Dr. Hoda Tawfik
- Candidate for the position of the Area 03 Vice Director: Anja Iberl-Bittner
- Candidate for the position of the Area 04 Director: Rita Bakhos Hayek was excused.
- Candidate for the position of the Area 04 Vice Director: Lamia A. M. El-Moghrabi
- Candidate for the position of the Nominating Committee: Dr. Danila Dellagiacomma-Branz
- Candidate for the position of the Nominating Committee: Dr. Petra Hackenberg-Wiedl
- Candidate for the position of the Nominating Committee: Geerd Hummer-Niedermayr
- Candidate for the position of the Nominating Committee: Heike Schmidt

- Candidate for the position of the Nominating Committee: Ina Wäßerling
- Candidate for the position of the Nominating Committee: Carmen Zillmer was excused.

17. The floor was handed over to Nominating Committee Chair Christiane Walter to collect **nominations from the floor**, specifically for the position of Area 01/02 Vice Director.

Maria Richter, ZC Munich II, asked whether the candidate has to be from the respective area. This was confirmed by the Governor Heike Schmidt.

Bettina Liebmann, ZC Vienna I, asked whether the pre-requisite to have been at least one year President of a Club also applies for the position of Vice Area Director. Ina Wäßerling, Bylaws and Resolution Chair quote the Zonta Bylaws. Renée Coppock and Isabel Rameil agree, since the Vice Area Director is supposed to become the next Area Director. Thus, the same rationale should apply.

Claudine Holstein from ZC Bozen-Bolzano, submitted her candidature and Christiane Walter by direction of the Nomination Committee confirmed that the candidate meets all qualifications and may be approved for election. The candidate from the floor is not entitled to a presentation.

18. Bylaws and Resolution Chair, Ina Wäßerling, presented the **Rules of Elections** (see booklet page 8). Place and time of the voting were specifically announced (Seminar Room 1, from 1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m.).

Conference Chair Birgit Farnleitner announced the **recession for the lunch break until 02:00 pm**.

She further announced that between 1.00 to 1.45 p.m., the candidates could be met in the seminar rooms and reminded all delegates that they are obliged to vote and to participate in business session 2 in the afternoon.

She communicated that at 1.45 p.m. a group picture will be taken in front of the venue.

Second Business Session

The Conference Chair welcomed the participants back at 2.06 p.m.

19. **Credentials Committee Chair**, Edith Kohlmeier, presented the following figures. There were 44 delegates in the room with a voting power of 58. She moved for the adoption of the Credentials Report showing a voting power of 58. Credential Committee member Diana Lutterschmied seconded the motion.

The motion was passed, and the Credentials Report **adopted**, showing a voting power of 58, thereof 58 votes in favor.

20. The **Area Directors presented their reports** (see also pages 42 to 51 in the booklet).

- Area 01 Director Ivana Tomljanovic Rudar

- Area 02 Director Danila Dellagiacoma
- Area 03 Director Dr. Elisabeth Jentschke
- Area 04 Director Najwa al Halabi

21. Margot Fleck and Kathrin Tatschner presented the **Foundation Ambassador's Report**.

The presentation is uploaded to the D14 website.

22. Resolution Committee Chair, Ina Wäßerling, presented the **motions and motions for proposed amendments to the ZI Bylaws**.

- Z e-Club Bavaria proposed to that the **age of young professionals** is raised from 30 to 35 and to amend the ZI Bylaws Article V, Dues and Fees, Section 2b) accordingly (see page 67 in the booklet).

The motion to move an amendment was passed with a voting power of 58, thereof 56 in favor, one against and one abstention. The motion was **adopted**.

- ZC Aschaffenburg proposed to move for an extension of the **Resolution regarding the Women in STEM Scholarship** for another biennium (see page 68 of the booklet).

The motion was passed with a voting power of 58, thereof 58 in favor. The motion was **adopted**.

- ZC Aschaffenburg additionally proposed to amend the ZI Bylaws Article XIII Committees by adding a new section 15 and renumbering the previous section 15 to 16 to establish a **Women in STEM Scholarship Committee** (see page 69 of the booklet).

The motion to move an amendment was passed with a voting power of 58, thereof 55 in favor, 1 against and 2 abstentions. The motion was **adopted**.

- The motion of the ZC Beirut to fund the project "Mresti Sewing Home" (page 70 of the booklet) was suggested to be **postponed** to the next biennium. It was, on suggestion of Sabine Peters, ZC Vienna I, Ursula Werner, ZC Garmisch-Partenkirchen, agreed that it is common understanding the motion is kept in mind for this and the next biennium. If the situation changes the Board can decide to obtain a voting of the District Conference members on the funding.

The business session was recessed for 30 minutes until 3.30 p.m.

The participants were asked to join the respective **workshops** which will begin at 3.30 p.m. and reconvene in the plenary at punctually at 4.30 p.m. for the presentation of the election results.

23. Workshops:

- Young Zonta Go- Our Youth Our Future
- Zonta at the UN and Advocacy
- SToP – Neighbourhoods without Intimate Partner Violence
- Stimme wirkt!

Details are uploaded to the D14 website.

The second business session reconvened at 4.40 p.m.

24. Election Results

Voting power Delegates: 58

Voting power Board: 7

Area 01/02: 21

Area 03: 35

Area 4: 2

The Election Committee presented the following election results:

- For the position of the Governor: Dr. Jutta Trube
63 Yes Votes, 2 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Lt. Governor: Ivana Tomljanovic-Rudar
41 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Lt. Governor: Najwa al Halabi
24 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Treasurer: Susanne Paukens-Scheffner
65 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of Auditor: Karin Koller-Wagner
61 Yes Votes, 1 No Votes and 3 Abstentions
- For the position of Auditor: Brigitte Weitkamp-Moog
55 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes and 10 Abstentions
- For the position of the Area 01/02 Director: Reka Németh
20 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes and 1 Abstention
- For the position of the Area 01/02 Vice Director: Claudine Holstein
21 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Area 03 Director: Dr. Hoda Tawfik
35 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Area 03 Vice Director: Anja Iberl-Bittner
35 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Area 04 Director: Rita Bakhos Hayek
2 Yes Votes 0 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Area 04 Vice Director: Lamia A. M. El-Moghrabi
2 Yes Votes 0 No Votes and 0 Abstentions

- For the position of the Nominating Committee: Dr. Danila Dellagiacomma-Branz
35 Yes Votes 1 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Nominating Committee: Dr. Petra Hackenberg-Wiedl
32 Yes Votes 1 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Nominating Committee: Geerd Hummer-Niedermayr
16 Yes Votes 3 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Nominating Committee: Heike Schmidt
55 Yes Votes 0 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Nominating Committee: Ina Wäßerling
47 Yes Votes 1 No Votes and 0 Abstentions
- For the position of the Nominating Committee: Carmen Zillmer
7 Yes Votes 3 No Votes and 0 Abstentions

The elected Officers and District Nominating Committee members were announced and asked to come forward to the front of the Head Table to be acknowledged:

- Governor: Dr. Jutta Trube –
- Lt. Governor: Ivana Tomljanovic-Rudar –
- Treasurer: Susanne Paukens-Scheffner –
- Auditors: Karin Koller-Wagner and Brigitte Weitkamp-Moog
- Area 01/02 Director: Reka Németh –
- Area 01/02 Vice Director: Claudine Holstein –
- Area 03 Director: Dr. Hoda Tawfik –
- Area 03 Vice Director: Anja Iberl-Bittner –
- Area 04 Director: Rita Bakhos Hayek –
- Area 04 Vice Director: Lamia A. M. El-Moghrabi
- Nominating Committee: Dr. Danila Dellagiacomma-Branz, Heike Schmidt and Ina Wäßerling with Heike Schmidt serving as Chair.

The Governor asked for the general **approval that the ballots are destroyed**. No objection was raised.

The Conference Chair gave final instructions for the Gala Dinner and announce that the conference will continue the next morning at 9.00 a.m. with the memorial service. The Governor adjourned the meeting to reconvene for the 2nd Business session at 9.00 a.m. the next morning. She stroke the gavel once.

End of Second Business Session at 4.56 p.m.

Governor Heike Schmidt encourage to start smart mob and to attach orange ribbons with messages on the topic of violence against women and a hotline number at a specified place in the nearby park, opposite of the conference venue.



Third Business Session, Sunday 15, 2023

Governor Heike Schmidt announced that the third business session will come to order and stroke the gavel once **at 9.23 a.m.**

The Board Members Wafaa Daou (Lt. Governor), Area Director 04, and Najwa Ghannam al Halabi, Danila Dellagiacom, Area Director 02 were excused.

The Governor announced that the roll call will be skipped in alignment with all delegates present.

27. The Credentials Committee Chair, Edith Kohlmeier, presented **the Credentials Report** and announced that 33 delegates are present with a voting power of 46. She moved for the adoption of the report showing a voting power of 46. The motion was seconded by Credential Committee member Diana Lutterschmied.

The motion was passed and the Credentials Report was **adopted**, showing a voting power of 46, thereof 46 in favor.

28. The D14 Liaison, Intern. Director Renée Coppock presented the ZI Strategic Plan.

The presentation will be uploaded to the District website.

Jutta Trube, Governor elected, reasoned that with regard to climate topics we need to look on local state and federal laws.

Ille Prockl-Pfeifer, Zonta e-Club Bavaria, asked for more flexibility for clubs regarding membership structure. They have not yet discusses Bylaws changes gut retain this as a goal.

Ursula Werner, Delegate of ZC Garmisch-Partenkirchen, asked for the status and impact of implemented tools and concepts (e. g. club creator, work on diversity, evt. use of a professional marketing agency (Salaa Tuominen), possibility to restructure HQ to provide better support to clubs (Meghan Radavich), prioritization based on webinars and zoom sessions (list). She specifically sees a risk in the continuation of all these efforts.

Dorothea Böhm, ZC Munich II, asked whether there is a benchmarking against other organizations like Rothary to stop the decline of membership. She added that Rothary has a PR specialist, Soroptimist scholarships program and stated that we have to be more innovative

Ingrid Eberkamp, ZC Munich City, identified a culture of distrust to the Board displayed by the NO changes voted at convention. She is also of the opinion that Zonta is in many instances captured in formalities.

Stefanie Furmans, Delegate of ZC Munich I, asked for more flexibility re election criteria and flow of information.

D14 Liason, Int. Director Renée Coppock referred to the possibility to share your story on the ZI website and the clubs need to share more. Clubs can also publish highlights in the ZI newsletters and in the Zontian. She asked to become more active on club level. This is a task for all members. She conceded that the eligibility topic is already looked at.

Anne Reitschuster, ZC Murnau-Staffelsee, agreed that it is our to share and to inform the board

29. The Conference continued with the **Moderated Member Forum and Discussion** moderated by Parliamentarian Isabel Christin Rameil.

Katharina Schumann, Zonta e-club Bavarian, asked why the Zontian is wrapped in plastic. Liaison Renée Coppock stated that this is due to international shipping requirements and added ZI would love to save these costs. She encouraged to read online and/or register for email only

Elisabeth Thaler, Delegate of ZC Brixen-Bressanone, whether there is a plan to change the status of Z and Golden Z clubs, so that its members are full Zonta members and get access to all information. Reasoning is that EU law prohibits to keep the information of young awardees. Renée Coppock answered that is task of the clubs to count them as members and retain the information locally.

Maria Richter, Delegate of ZC Munich II, also suggested to accept them as members, not just projects (Golden Z) so that they get access to network. Renée Coppock replied that give access to all information on the website is possible, most is public. However, currently there is no idea how to handle fees. The problem is identified because access could smoothen the path for future leaders.

Ina Wäßerling, ZC Erfurt, added that a possible solution could be to join or create a Zonta e-Club or that the club sponsor the membership.

Maria Richter, Delegate of ZC Munich II, reminded that goal is also to keep them in the local organization and not to lose them to a Zonta e-Club, which eventually has not the same quality of club life.

Dorothea Böhm, Munich II, raised the topic on tax deductibility of donations and the problems that clubs face in Germany. Renée Coppock reminded that each national tax law is different, even up to national districts and counties. This is rather a local problem to solve. Margot Fleck, Foundation Ambassador, stated that they support in this regard and can provide answers to these questions.

Elisabeth Thaler, Delegate of ZC Brixen-Bressanone, further reasoned that the terminology is sometimes outdated and should be looked at. E. g. Lt. governor is a military term and could be replaced by vice governor. It should be handled more stringent and faster, other than the replacement of chairman v. chair.

The Conference Chair announced a **recession of 30 minutes and asked the participants to reconvene at 11.05 a.m.**

The 3rd business session **reconvened at 11.07.**

Ivana Tomljanovic-Rudar was excused.

30. Any other Business

- The Governor reminded that the **“Every Member Every November Campaign”** will start in two weeks. This year’s goal is to increase monthly recurring donations through a friendly district competition. As part of this competition, members and club donors are encouraged to set up a monthly recurring donation of at least US\$10. ZI will be recognizing top ranking districts for their highest percentage of active recurring donors and for the highest number of new recurring donors. However, all amounts of all sizes are welcome and highlight the collective efforts of Zontians in building a better world for women and girls.

D14 Communications Team will support the campaign in all Online channels of the district. Please share and spread the message in your personal accounts. The campaign is not just a chance to create donations, it is also a great chance for visibility.

- **Major Membership Database upgrade:**

ZI is currently in the process of a major membership database upgrade. The final stage of work will begin Monday, 16 October and continue through Sunday, 30 October.

During this time, Headquarters will not be able to make any updates to the membership database, and no one will be able to log into My Zonta on the Zonta International website or access My Profile, Directory and Leadership Access. You will still have access to Governance, Forms and Tools. If you need materials under Leadership Access, please email zontaintl@zonta.org, and the ZI Headquarters team will be happy to send you any materials via email.

- Save the date for the 2023 Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Summit.

Please join the Zonta International three days annual virtual summit on 6-8 November. Sessions will feature keynote speakers, panel discussions and workshops. Single day tickets are US\$10* each or US\$25* for all three days.

All presidents have already received more information on this topic in the Zonta International Leadership Update for October.

➤ **Help us promote Zonta Awardees Connected!**

Zonta Awardees Connected is the link between awardees of all Zonta awards and scholarships and Zonta. ZAC aspires to be an international network within Zonta in which awardees can connect with each other.

If you are interested, you can get more information from Gundula Viering.

Governor Heike Schmidt encouraged the club representatives whether they want to make special announcements.

- Ille Prockl-Pfeiffer, Zonta e-Club Bavaria, announce that an **English-speaking e-Club** (working title: Europe) is about to be created. Please write to email i.prockl@t-online.de. Addressees are ZACs, Golden Zs etc. that have no time to join regular meetings, age 17 and up.

Governor Heike Schmidt encouraged to invite the ZACs and enroll them in regular activities.

- Upon request from Ina Wäßerling on the status of the D14 website, Gabi Strohriegel, stated that the next goal is to finalize it. The Structure is done and content is need. She encouraged the participantsto be prepared to support and provide information. Goal: end of this year
- Jennifer Prockl, e-club Bavaria, stated that the e-Club Bavaria created a Club App in Spond to organize the club structure. The software/tool is developed for sports clubs. ZC Nürnberg Area also uses it. Governor Heike Schmidt thanked for the proposal and reminded that some clubs are even only reachable per dial phone.

The next District 14 Conference will be in Aschaffenburg. For years ago Aschaffenburg was also the location but due to Covid it was held virtually. The video from the D14 Conference in Aschaffenburg was shown again.

29. A Video was presented to promote the **invitation from Zonta International** President Ute Scholz and the Australian Convention Team to attend the **ZI Convention in Brisbane.**

30. Closing Remarks

Governor Heike Schmidt asked Liaison, International Director, Renée, for feedback of the D14 Conference.

Liaison Renée Coppock stated that she is happy that a month of conferences comes to an end. She enjoyed the D14 Conference very much and specially remarked the visit to the UN as well as how Zonta has an impact and creates visibility. She praised the conference that excelled with

the best technology and the timeliness of all elements. She made friends and enjoyed all presentation.

Governor Heike Schmidt acknowledged her presence and constant support and handed her a gift.

Governor Heike further acknowledged all Zontians engaged in the organization of the Conference, specifically:

- President of ZC Vienna 1, Sabine Peters, as well as Margot Fleck, Beatrice Swoboda and to Bettina Riedmann.
- ZC Feldbach: Edith Kohlmeier, Diana Lutterschmied, Michaela Künzel-Painsipp and Barbara Jantscher.
- Zonta Club Vienna-Parkring, for the technical services of this Conference as well as
- My beloved son Christian Schmidt for working voluntarily in the technical support during the whole conference.
- A very special thanks goes to our Godmother of the Conference, Ingeborg Geyer, to Ina Wäßerling who was always reachable and willing to support and to Isabel Rameil.
- Gabi Strohriegel from Zonta Club Burgenland who designed for us every single sheet for the Conference.
- A very special thanks also goes to Conference Chair Birgit Farnleitner.

The Conference Team also acknowledged Governor Heike Schmidt's inspiration with a present.

Since there were no further business and no objections the 2023 Conference of Zonta International District 14 was **closed at 11.53 a.m.**

The Governor stroke the gavel once and wished everybody a safe trip home.

For the correctness,

Thüngen/Germany, November 15, 2023

Janine Fehn-Claus

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