



Minutes of the 21st European Meeting – Izmir, 2026

İzmir, Türkiye | 24–27 September, 2026

Business Sessions: 25–26 September 2026

Meeting Overview and Participation

The 21st European Inner Wheel Meeting took place in İzmir, Türkiye, from 24 to 27 September 2026, with business sessions on 25 and 26 September. National Representatives, Deputies, Association Presidents, Vice-Presidents, District Chairmen and Inner Wheel friends met to exchange experiences on leadership, education, visibility, membership and European cooperation. The meeting approved the previous minutes of EM-Split, 2025, supported preparation of a voluntary joint letter of concern and recorded proposals and practical examples for further consideration. A decision on the future mentor system was postponed.

The organizing record reports 34 participants and five other members who joined the preparatory Zoom sessions but could not attend the meeting in person. The 39 contributors were divided into three working groups: Education and Training of the “National Representative”; Reach and Connect; and Membership, Communication, Extension and Retention. During the summer months, the groups prepared presentations and supporting and opposing arguments on selected proposals for the Manila Convention in 2027. These exercises familiarized delegates and deputies with convention debate; they did not constitute Convention votes.

Program

Thursday, September 24: Arrivals, Registration, Welcome Cocktail/Meet & Greet and Informal Dinner.

Friday, September 25: Opening and Presidential Welcome; approval of the Split minutes; Dr. Bina Vyas’s Keynote Speech and live Zoom questions; Group One’s Presentations; Dr. Volkan Abur’s Interactive Workshop; Group Two’s Presentations; Bazaar and Sightseeing Program and Dinner.

Saturday, September 26: Laughter Yoga; Group Three’s Presentations and proposal exercises; Municipality’s age-friendly programs; Orange the World Presentation; District 244 New Gen Club Presentations; mentor discussion; future European Meeting presentations; Turkish coffee presentation and closing. Museum Visit, evening activities and dinner followed.

Sunday, September 27: Optional Tour of Virgin Mary’s House and the Antique City of Ephesus and informal opportunities to continue friendship and discussion.

Countries and Participants

Country	Participants and recorded offices
Austria and Czech Republic	Gabriele Schrumpf (IIWPBD - NR), Gabriele Maria Laudani Tanzer (DNR)
Belgium and Luxembourg	Charlotte De Vos (IIWPP), Edith Bouché (NR & NP of IW Belgium & Luxembourg)
Bulgaria	Nelly Bratoeva (IIWPBD), Rositsa Yordanova (NR), Yanislava Ilieva (IIWPBD)
Croatia	Sandra Neretljakovic (IIWPE/MM, IIWPBD, UNITE Member), Snjezana Petzrovic Tkalcec (IIWPBD), Nives Sklepac Premus (NR)
Cyprus	Pavlina Meliniotou Kyprianou (DC)
Denmark	Judy Ann Rieneck (NP), Lene Kruger Schade (VNP)
Finland	Pia Helkio (NR), Eija Piispa (DNR)
GB&I	Pat Russell (AP & NR), Diane Hylton (VAP & DNR)
Germany	Sofia Kutsopapa(NR), Alexa Heine (DNR)
Greece	Sissy Avgerinou (IIWPBD), Maria Nikolidaki (NR)
Italy	Donatella Polizzi Nicolich (IIWPBD)
The Netherlands	Maria Van De Donk (NP), Marjolijn Van Den Busken (PNP&NR), Anita Meerdink Vlassak (IW OtW Unite Team Leader)
Northern Cyprus	Işın Ramadan Cemil (PDC) Tamay Uluğ (DC)
Norway	Ingjerd Anda Brigg (NR)
Romania	Veronica Claudia Jianu (DC)
Sweden	Birgitta Sallmen (NR), Susanne Domeij (DNR)
Switzerland	Franziska Zaugg ((NR), Rosita Geiger (IIWBD)
Türkiye	İlgin Günöy (VNP&DNR)

Day One - September 25, 2026

1 Opening and Approval of the Previous Minutes

The business meeting opened at 9.30 a.m. IIW Past Board Director and Organization Chair, Mrs. İclal Kardiçali welcomed participants on behalf of the organizing team. She emphasized friendship, service and international understanding, renewed relationships, shared experiences for the profit of all and cooperation between countries and on service projects.

Mrs. Öznur Tugay, the wife of Izmir Mayor, was unable to attend and sent a welcome message expressing hopes for new friendships and lasting partnerships. The organizer described an intention to continue municipal cooperation on Orange the World after the European Meeting. A recorded welcome from International Inner Wheel President Mrs. Ingelög Wyndham reflected the 2026–2027 theme Grow and Flourish and encouraged unity, appreciation of existing members, welcoming new friends and continuing service.

IIW Past Board Director Mrs. Gülgün Dolunay summarized the minutes of the 20th European Meeting in Split. The full text had been circulated by email. After delegates were invited to raise corrections, the minutes were approved by a show of hands; the opening document records unanimous approval, although no numerical count is given. The oral summary was subsequently corrected to include Northern Cyprus among the countries represented, and the correction was acknowledged.

The Split review recalled continuing European Zoom cooperation, proposals concerning shared presidencies and voting arrangements, flexible and hybrid formats, membership development, e-clubs and Orange the World. Membership losses and gains figures were recalled from the earlier meeting, rather than current Izmir totals. Izmir's selection for the 2026 meeting was also recalled.

2 Education and Leadership Keynote Speech by Dr. Bina Vyas

International Inner Wheel Past President Dr. Bina Vyas's prepared keynote was followed by live questions through Zoom. She described leadership as helping members achieve goals and stressed that holding office, wearing a collar or knowing the Constitution does not replace practical preparation and effective service.

Because officers change annually, continuing education is necessary at club, district, national and international levels. Leaders should understand duties, themes and priorities and know how to implement them. Dr. Vyas recalled training during her national presidency and a six-day online program for National Representatives and National Presidents during her International Presidency, covering organizational vision, membership, leadership, communication and interpersonal relations.

She encouraged self-motivation, practical goals, measurable targets and regular follow-up. Leaders should explain why an objective matters, what will be done, how and when. Clear communication, time management, fair decisions, transparency with information and funds, teamwork and accountable delegation are central. Leaders should acknowledge mistakes, seek reliable answers when uncertain and respect members' contributions without ego or rivalry. Commitment should continue throughout the term from 1 July to 30 June.

3 Questions and Answers with Dr. Bina Vyas

Training for incoming National Representatives. Finland (Pia Helkio) asked whether an international pathway could address informal handovers and difficulty recruiting candidates. Dr. Vyas recalled her six-day program and said continuation depended on International Inner Wheel and Successive Presidents. International support would help where national provision was insufficient. She offered assistance, and the chair confirmed that the request would be included in the minutes.

Leadership and liaison. Switzerland (Franziska Zaugg) asked why the National Representative should be described as a leader when the office connects a country with International Inner Wheel and provides a role model. Dr. Vyas encouraged initiative beyond forwarding messages: useful guidance, support and learning could be offered within liaison duties. Her response did not change the office's constitutional authority.

Separate national offices. Germany (Sofia Kutsopapa) asked whether both National President and National Representative were necessary and how their responsibilities should differ. Dr. Vyas said India had combined the offices after communication difficulties, but separate offices could work with clear duties and consistent information exchange. The National Representative's focus was International Liaison and the President's National Administration. Each country should decide the arrangement appropriate to its circumstances, including by a vote where necessary.

Equal standing. A further question (Sandra Nertljakovic, Croatia) asked whether a national presidency or combined office reduced the importance of the representative function. Dr. Vyas considered the two functions equally important and different. Separate office holders should receive recognition, invitations and information and work harmoniously. Combining functions was an option, rather than a universal requirement.

The Netherlands (Marjolijn Van Der Busken) described progression from Vice President to President and then Past President and National Representative together. Dr. Vyas welcomed this as a useful national solution. Before leaving, she invited countries to request training on leadership, communication, decision-making and time management directly or through the organizer. No dates or courses were agreed upon. The chair thanked her and recognized her continuing educational work in India, including a project described as intended to reach thousands of students in more than 30 schools.

4 National Structures and Cooperation

Delegates emphasized two-way liaison: conveying international information nationally and conveying national views internationally. Reports concerning Croatia and other countries illustrated how exclusion from meetings or restricted access to information could weaken this function. A delegate cited revised responsibilities encouraging National Representatives or deputies to attend district meetings in countries without a national governing body and suggested sharing the wording with district chairs.

National examples differed. Italy (Donatella Polizzi Nicolich) described separate offices and disputes about precedence, speaking order and signatures; the contributor favored combination or succession. Denmark (Lene Kruger Schade) and Belgium (Edith Bouché) reported workable combined functions. Great Britain and Ireland (Pat Russell) described representatives participating in executive, district and committee meetings without overriding the President. Germany (Alexa Heine) cited seven districts and a large membership as reasons to avoid overloading one person. The Netherlands succession model retained experience on the board.

The discussion recognized national differences in size, workload and practice. Clear responsibilities, equal respect, information sharing and teamwork were recommended. No common model or amendment to governing documents was adopted.

5 Group One Education and Training

The National Representative of Germany (Sofia Kutsopapa) presented contributions from nine active group members of differing ages and experience. Romania and Moldova highlighted gaps in organizational information and support: an organizational chart, job descriptions, manuals, candidate profiles, accessible calendars, incoming-officer training and reliable handovers. Germany's handover materials, website calendars and translated international information were cited as useful practices.

The German representative reported practical difficulties concerning influence and cooperation despite equal standing and voting rights for the National President and National Representative under national bylaws. She also described concerns about presidential approval of magazine content. These were her reported experiences, rather than findings adopted by the meeting.

The group proposed advanced leadership development through the European Meeting, orientation for incoming officers and shared resources for newer clubs. Experienced representatives and past leaders could facilitate workshops or advise members. An e-library was requested by Claudia Jianu representing Romania and Moldova, to preserve information and make experienced support accessible.

National and international training were both discussed. National provision could address language, scale and local structures; international provision could strengthen shared understanding and consistency. Barriers included work schedules, time zones, equipment and connectivity. Effective training required organizational knowledge, trusted facilitators, communication, negotiation, intercultural and digital skills, adequate English for international participation, preparation time and practical resources. No delivery model, curriculum, budget or timetable was approved.

The presenter described leadership as combining personal qualities with learning and practice. Skills included analytical and strategic thinking, conflict resolution, clear communication, assertiveness and confidence. John Maxwell's five levels were used illustratively: position, permission through relationships, production, developing people and sustained respect through developing further leaders. These frameworks were not formally adopted. Delegates emphasized empowering and inspiring others, service and succession rather than personal power.

6 Mentor System and Education Archive

Delegates questioned the purpose, qualifications and terminology of mentors, with advisers suggested as an alternative. One view treated the European Meeting as a think tank where representatives learn from one another; another favored ongoing access to experience for newer countries and hosts.

Existing mentors recalled an arrangement authorized by National Representatives, with five candidates proposed and four elected. They said assistance had been requested for business sessions and that they had not appointed themselves. Budapest was cited as an example of local organizers receiving program support from the mentors.

Mentors explained that they advise organizers when requested on logistics, program and content. The host country retains final decisions. Split was cited as a successful meeting organized without intervention. Delegates differed on whether selecting capable hosts was sufficient or whether continuing advice preserved knowledge and continuity. A first-time Finnish participant compared the arrangement to a local organizing committee supported by a program committee.

A vote for a possible 2027–2030 mentor term was proposed for the following day, with one vote per country and a closed ballot suggested. Delegates requested preparation time, candidate names, clarity about duties and voting arrangements. Existing mentors were described as continuing through the 2027 Convention period. This proposed vote was subsequently postponed in the closing session, because it was not included in the agenda; no election took place.

Mentor expenses. In response to a question about who pays when assistance is requested, an existing mentor stated that mentors pay their own expenses, including meeting attendance. Delegates and candidates should understand this commitment.

Terms of reference. A delegate (Diane Hylton) asked for agreed terms defining the European Meeting and mentor system. Participants referred to the circulated history and European Meeting guidelines, including mentor duties. No revised terms of reference were adopted.

Respectful dialogue. Delegates urged recognition of host countries' voluntary effort and objected to disparaging descriptions of earlier meetings. A historical question concerning signatures and distribution of European Rally funds was raised but not resolved. The chair encouraged direct clarification of misunderstandings.

For an education archive, participants suggested existing online leadership and communication courses supplemented with Inner Wheel-specific material, accessible at convenient times. The chair supported exploring an e-archive and possible contributors with educational expertise. Delegates noted the need for feasibility and organizational approval and recalled an unsuccessful earlier European website initiative. Possible volunteers were to be considered, but no task force, launch, funding or deadline was confirmed.

7 Leadership Workshop by Dr Volkan Abur

Dr. Volkan Abur led an interactive afternoon workshop on membership, organizational identity and leadership. He used the Smyrna legend as an opening reflection on women's leadership and described membership as a changing relationship: reasons for joining, staying and participating may evolve over time.

Participants completed the sentences I joined because, I stay because and What I need now. Invitations, family and Rotary connections, friendship, service and international understanding attracted members. Lasting relationships, learning and making a difference encouraged them to stay. Current needs included digitalization, visibility, new projects, learning and participation suited to younger women; some participants were satisfied with their present experience.

In groups of three, members imagined Inner Wheel as a woman connecting its roots, present and future. They wished to preserve friendship, solidarity, service, ideals and an international outlook while considering more flexible attitudes, stronger promotion and better social media. Eligibility barriers to office were questioned, and participants sought delegation, knowledge transfer and opportunities for future leaders. These were workshop ideas, rather than an agreed strategic plan or constitutional amendment.

The facilitator described eight dimensions of well-being: environmental, physical, emotional, social, intellectual, spiritual, occupational and financial. He encouraged care for oneself alongside service and urged members to demonstrate friendship, personal service and international understanding through conduct and projects.

A scholarship example illustrated long-term impact: a former beneficiary was described as later employing approximately 800 people. Participants considered direct and indirect reach, including families and communities. Examples of 800 children and 200 teachers were participant estimates, not verified meeting totals. No common impact reporting method was agreed.

Collective leadership was explained through direction, alignment and commitment. Responsibilities should carry appropriate authority and ownership. An example of contributing a laptop instead of attending a fixed shift illustrated how service could fit skills and circumstances. Younger women should help shape projects, agendas, timing and participation, with reciprocal mentoring and defined project periods.

Communication with sponsors, authorities, universities and communities should combine credibility and trust, evidence and clear information, and compelling human stories. A phone-based club profile exercise explored age, occupations, atmosphere, values, projects and outside perceptions. Club age examples ranged approximately from 43 to 76; no meeting-wide average or complete numerical results were presented.

The workshop closed with reflections on women's leadership, diplomacy and peace. The chair presented a sapling associated with the Inner Wheel forest to thank the facilitator. The facilitator and organizer agreed to circulate the slides, without a distribution date. No formal strategy, action owners or policy changes were adopted.

8 Group Two: Reach and Connect

Group Two (ppp by Marjolijn Van Den Busken from the Netherlands and Susanne Domeij from Sweden) linked visibility with recruitment and retention and recommended defining the audience before choosing communication methods. Six channels should work together: social media, local press, printed material, visible events, partnerships and stronger national initiatives.

Sweden (Birgitta Salmen) reported a Happy Sunday-inspired women's event involving local businesses and Facebook promotion. The first year attracted approximately 250 women at a reported entry fee of SEK 100. Information bags, activity stations and an early-booking gift supported engagement. The club reported recognition, some new members and charitable funds, without an exact recruitment total.

Belgium and Luxembourg (Edith Bouché) described journalist involvement in project presentations and local coverage of a cancer-related event. A national walking initiative funded a reusable, branded sports court for Special Olympics events, generating recurring visibility in different towns.

Swedish pocket brochures, bookmarks and magazines and Finnish business-sized information cards provided concise introductions and contact details. The group recommended an easily shared one-page digital version. Great Britain and Ireland (Pat Russell) described scarf-based garments and a fashion event leading to a promotional opportunity at Alexandra Palace, with a reported audience of at least 24,000 visitors. Recruitment gains from that future event were anticipated, rather than confirmed.

Cyprus District 96 (Pavlina Kyprianou) cited a branded public fitness park, two club-funded vehicles for cancer patients and Inner Wheel Day visits to organizations supporting children and women affected by abuse. Northern Cyprus (Işın Ramadan Cemil) described links with women's groups, university graduates, schools and authorities, including HPV and adolescent-health education with doctors and relevant permissions, a women's choir, a bazaar and municipal environmental work.

The Netherlands (Marjolijn Van Den Busken) provided adaptable club logos and promotional materials nationally. Regions of approximately five clubs supported geographically practical cooperation and annual events alongside the districts. An external marketing agency was being considered, but no appointment was confirmed. A three-year national service project provided a shared focus alongside local work.

Delegates recommended sustained club relationships, visits, joint projects and partnerships with universities and community organizations. Flexible daytime, lunch, evening and e-club arrangements could meet differing circumstances. Practical workshops and shared activities strengthened belonging. No common recruitment target, mandatory format or budget was adopted.

9 Governance Concerns and Proposed Voluntary Letter of Concern

Group Two questioned transparency in the evaluation and rejection of constitutional proposals. Presenters said rejected proposals were absent from the official booklet and requested publication of submissions, dates, reasons, assessment criteria and appeal procedures. They sought clearer Handbook descriptions of the Constitution Committee's duties and authority. These were participants' interpretations and requests, rather than a constitutional ruling by the meeting.

Great Britain and Ireland (Pat Russell) described rejection of a proposal for annual constitutional meetings instead of the three-year cycle. A June objection supported by the Netherlands was reported as unanswered, with Board Directors uninformed. The contributor challenged workload-based objections and favored faster adaptation through possible online arrangements.

Delegates asked how many proposals had been rejected. Figures recalled during discussion were uncertain; no verified submission or rejection total was established. Receiving a reason was distinguished from finding that reason adequate. Suggestions included documented criteria, an appeal mechanism and broader committee representation by Board Directors from different countries. No reform was approved.

Participants supported preparing a voluntary joint letter of concern to Board Directors and the International Board before the early October Board Meeting. Group Two presenters undertook to work with interested participants and aimed to have the text ready before the European Meeting ended. Signatures would be voluntary after discussion and finalization.

The support expressed was not accompanied by a counted formal vote or a confirmed unanimous resolution.

Day Two - September 26, 2026

10 Group Three: Membership and Communication

The day began with Laughter Yoga, breathing and movement, using an imagined journey across the represented countries to reinforce friendship and connection.

Group Three (ppp by Alexa Heine) encouraged welcoming communication through audience-appropriate social media and local press. Short films and promotional material should show the energy and enjoyment of club life, explain Inner Wheel's aims and provide clear contact details. Artificial intelligence was mentioned as a possible production aid. Personal invitations remained important.

Concise recruitment handbooks and integration procedures were recommended; Great Britain and Ireland's four-page sheet was cited. District subcommittees and a modest recruitment budget could support new clubs. Younger women's ideas should be heard even where similar methods had failed previously, because circumstances change.

Smaller clubs of around 20 members could strengthen friendship, and clubs of 60–65 members might consider establishing another club. These were optional examples. Online, hybrid and e-club formats could include busy members while retaining personal contact. Recruitment should reflect different ages, cultures and nationalities, including links with bilingual associations and international groups.

Recruiting two or three similarly aged women together could help newcomers settle, while mixed-age clubs retained mutual learning. A directory of members' professions, talents and interests could support projects. Long-serving members should also introduce themselves and explain why they joined and stayed. Every contribution should be valued equally.

Retention required noticing disengagement and offering empathy, interesting speakers, excursions, informal time, service and accessible meetings. New members could shadow officers, receive mentoring and lead projects when willing, without being overwhelmed by duties. Younger members could help others with social media.

Questions clarified that a worldwide-club example concerned twinning and joint service, rather than a formally constituted cross-border club. A contribution associated with Northern Cyprus mentioned cooperation with Türkiye and a Tanzania training initiative planned for November. In response to concerns about age-specific clubs, the presenter reaffirmed intergenerational value. A Turkish example linked to IWC of Ege had grown from approximately 16–17 to 24 members, with an average age of about 43, some young members being daughters and relatives of the sponsoring club; Bulgaria described a similar family-based recruitment experience.

11 Proposal 19 and General Motion B

Proposal 19. The group reviewed a Mexican proposal for a defined Extension and Membership Chairman or Organizer on the club governing body, supported by no more than five other members. It aimed to give recruitment, retention and engagement clear ownership. Discretion, tolerance, warmth, networking and commitment were preferred qualities.

An illustrative aim of one or two new members annually was suggested. A Basel practice involved guests attending events and an information meeting, followed by circulation of a prospective member's profile and photograph, a membership vote where no justified objection arose, and induction. Flexible evening participation was also described. These were local examples, not procedures or targets adopted for all clubs.

Benefits included greater accountability, visibility, diversity and guidance for newcomers. Concerns included workload, alteration of governing structures and overlap with existing offices.

General Motion B. A French-origin motion concerning zones was reviewed as a Convention preparation exercise. Arguments on both sides did not necessarily represent presenters' personal views. Supporters saw regional representation, culturally relevant recruitment, faster exchange, stronger assistance for smaller districts and clearer regional responsibilities for Board Directors. Zones should have a defined purpose and connect members with international leadership.

Opposing arguments concerned another administrative layer, workload, cost, duplicated responsibilities, dominant larger countries, unequal resources and weakened global solidarity. Authority between zones and International Inner Wheel would need clarification.

Questions covered the problem zoning should solve, boundaries, balanced membership, representation, resources, accountability and protection of common campaigns. Six to twelve zones were mentioned, but no number or map was agreed. The authors were absent and their underlying rationale remained unresolved. Delegates recalled Swiss work in 2015–2016 and complexities involving India's membership, smaller American membership and political, cultural and language boundaries.

A participant explained the different Convention majorities for constitutional proposals and general motions and described a general motion as a direction for subsequent detailed work. This explanation did not constitute a procedural ruling. Delegates suggested studying comparable service organizations before deciding. No zonal structure, timetable or working group was adopted.

12 Metropolitan Municipality of Izmir's Age-friendly Programs

An İzmir municipal presentation offered examples for engaging older members through inclusion, learning, care, accessible environments and intergenerational solidarity. Activities included meetings with the mayor, digital literacy, language and drama classes, Turkish folk and classical music choirs, rhythm and exercise. Choirs rehearsed weekly and exercise was generally twice weekly.

In response to a question, municipal activities were described as free for people over 65. Bay excursions, chess and backgammon were also mentioned. Programs for people with dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, were described with transport support.

Two local private universities offered lifelong learning in health, humanities, literature, arts and practical subjects for modest fees, with certificates and graduation ceremonies. Intergenerational mentoring, online health learning, hospital partnerships and expert symposia were presented. A District 244 club was undertaking similar mentoring.

A German delegate questioned whether access mainly benefited people already familiar with lifelong learning, particularly the upper middle class. No clear response or agreed inclusion measure was captured. The programs were examples for consideration, not adopted Inner Wheel requirements.

13 Orange the World Campaign

Mrs. Anita Meerdink, as coordinator and Mrs. Sandra Nertljakovic, responsible for social content, presented the Orange the World Team's year-round work against violence towards women and girls. Materials should suit local cultures and circumstances. The speakers linked the campaign to UN Women and clarified later that their reference to the Istanbul Convention concerned the Council of Europe framework, rather than an Inner Wheel Convention.

The 2026 campaign period was from 25 November to 10 December. Speakers addressed physical, psychological, economic and digital violence, harmful online influences and education for men and boys. National Representatives and Presidents were urged to circulate resources and connect club action internationally. An informal show of hands indicated participation, without a numerical count.

Finland described a board-led team sharing advice and examples, followed by approximately ten club volunteers organizing walks and year-round activity. The international team encouraged community action and recurring awareness walks or runs, preferably on 25 November or during the campaign period. Activities remained locally chosen.

Four priorities were presented: include men and boys; reach beyond Inner Wheel; educate young people about boundaries and trusted adults; and collaborate with other service clubs and organizations. A My Body is My Body Zoom presentation was announced for 6 October 2026; no time or joining link was recorded.

The team demonstrated a digital resource hub and activity map. Clubs were encouraged to submit short descriptions and use campaign resources, making local initiatives visible and sharing inspiration. In response to Finland's question about standard categories, the presenters distinguished internal themes used for data from short public descriptions suited to mobile reading. Awareness-walk and awareness-run wording would help identify those activities.

A European women's organization had requested a meeting with the team, but its identity was unclear and no formal partnership was announced. A Swiss delegate described 20,000 printed campaign handkerchiefs with space for club identification and offered the design for adaptation. No delivery deadline was assigned. National coordination, resource sharing and map submissions were encouraged without compulsory participation or a shared submission deadline.

14 IW District 244, Türkiye Urla IW Club Projects and Recruitment Questions

Mrs. İçten Yazıcıoğlu presented the Urla club, established in January and chartered in April 2023, acknowledging PDC Zeynep Pamukçu's support. Its 24 active members brought expertise in education, healthcare, design, finance, engineering, manufacturing and communication. Friendship, community service and international connections motivated participation.

A theatrical production portrayed pioneering Turkish women and was presented twice, including on Women's Day. More than 150 audience members or ticket sales were reported. Income and donations supported projects; the production's title was not reliably captured. (Chair's Note: "Timeless Women")

A continuing permaculture project involved two pilot schools and more than 30 children. A children's rights initiative begun in 2025 had reached more than 60 children through two visits and planned another in November, using interactive discussion of education, safety, healthcare, food, family, play and life.

University cooperation supported four students at an international robot design, dynamics and control conference. A separate planned robotics initiative with a university and municipality would train two PhD students to mentor twelve others, with later robot development and competition participation envisaged. More than €3,000 was reported for educational support through two foundations, benefiting one university student and three high school girls.

Asked what attracts women without family connections, İçten explained that a friend's invitation and the combination of a women's group, service and friendship had attracted her. Members favored personal invitations alongside public visibility. Questions on fundraising were answered with membership fees, events, theatrical income and donations.

Regarding all D.244 Clubs with young members, many members had families and children. The discussion recognized that daytime meetings suit some freelancers or parents but exclude many office workers. Flexible and online meetings, potential e-clubs, useful professional connections and visible social impact were suggested. No formal status was established for a related proposal recalled during discussion.

15 IW District 244, Ege IW Club: Between Two Worlds

Mrs. Nergis Usul and Mrs. Nedime Sömek, members since 2012 with experience in club and district offices, described balancing careers, family and voluntary service. Examples from design and architecture illustrated deadlines and competing commitments. Limited time or energy did not imply limited dedication.

Younger professional women sought meaningful service, space for ideas, flexible participation, leadership opportunities, digital communication and visible impact. Experienced members offered organizational knowledge and networks; younger members contributed digital skills and new perspectives.

The speakers, on behalf of all New Gen Clubs, recommended project-based volunteering, shorter focused meetings, online communication, clear responsibilities and opportunities for younger women to lead. Two-way mentoring could preserve values while adapting participation. Questions were invited and appreciation expressed; no binding policy or substantive further question was recorded.

16 Future Mentor Arrangements and European Meetings

The Chair thanked the mentors (IIWPP Charlotte de Vos and IIWP Board Directors Donatella Nicolich, Gabi Schrumpf and Sissy Avgerinou) for their support and confirmed that no election would take place, because Voting was not on the official agenda. Participants were not ready to decide on continuation. Further discussion over the coming months and a later vote were envisaged, without a fixed date, agreed procedure or final decision. Mentors received appreciation and gifts.

The Bulgarian delegation (IIWPBD Nelly Bratoeva, IIWPBD Yanislava Iieva, NR Rositsa Yordanova) presented Varna for the 2027 European Meeting, outlining the city, travel, accommodation and an experienced five-person organizing committee. A film and an Inner Wheel Bulgaria song accompanied the presentation, with an offer to share the English text and song. A complete date range was not captured.

Switzerland (IIWBD Rosita Geiger and NR Franziska Zaugg) invited delegates to Basel for the 23rd European Meeting on 5–7 September 2028 and the European Rally on 7–10 September 2028, in the same city and venue. The developing theme was Connect Inspire Lead. Mrs. Rosita Geiger was responsible for coordination, Mrs. Franziska Zaugg for communication and public relations, Daniela for organization and sponsorship, and Marie Christine for finance. Venue and hotel names were not reliably recorded.

Romania, presented by NR Claudia Jianu, and Northern Cyprus, presented by DC Tamay Uluğ expressed interest in hosting the EM in 2029. No host-selection vote, winner, venue or dates were recorded.

17 Turkish Coffee and Official Closing

Mrs. Berrin Ertürk presented on behalf of Mrs. Tülin Çağlar, whose collection of Turkish Coffee cups appeared in most slides. The presentation explored the saying that “One cup of Turkish coffee carries forty years of gratitude and friendship.” Preparation in a cezve, foam, serving with water and sweets, family customs and social conversation illustrated hospitality and warm, long lasting friendship bonds.

A traditional story of kindness between a coffeehouse owner and a Greek fisherman explained the friendship theme. Salted coffee during some marriage customs and coffee-grind reading were described as cultural practices. The speaker illustrated Ottoman cup holders and Turkish and European porcelain, including KPM, Rosenthal, Meissen, Limoges and Wedgwood.

Questions concerned the collection’s ownership, coffee’s spread to Europe and bone china. The speaker clarified the source of most cups and explained the use of bone ash in bone china. Inconsistent historical dates were not treated as confirmed chronology.

Delegates thanked organizers, speakers and campaign contributors, with gifts and photographs. The Chair, IIWPBD İclal Kardiçalı recalled open dialogue, practical results, shared experiences and friendship and service beyond borders, and closed the business meeting with wishes for safe travel. She also reminded the Inner Wheel Friends that, since “one cup of Turkish Coffee carries forty years of gratitude and friendship bonds”, İzmir is again presenting its candidacy for the EM in 40 years, in 2066.

The following day’s optional excursion to UNESCO World Heritage of the House of Virgin Mary and the Antique City of Ephesus offered opportunities for friendship and further informal exchange. No exact adjournment time was recorded.

Decisions and follow up

Item	Recorded outcome or follow up
Split minutes	Approved; oral country list corrected to include Northern Cyprus.
Incoming representative training	Request recorded. Dr. Bina Vyas offered assistance; no course dates or common program agreed.
Workshop slides	Facilitator and organizer agreed to circulate; no date stated.
Letter of concern	Group Two presenters and interested participants to finalize for voluntary signature before meeting end, for the early October board meeting. Completion and dispatch not recorded.
Mentor system	Decision postponed. Further discussion and later vote envisaged; no date, procedure or election result.
Education archive	Feasibility and possible volunteers discussed; no task force, budget or launch confirmed.
Orange the World	Local action and map submissions encouraged for 25 November–10 December 2026; walks or runs preferably on 25 November.
Campaign learning	My Body is My Body Zoom presentation announced for 6 October 2026; time and link not recorded.
2027 European Meeting	Varna presented; complete dates and formal approval not captured.
2028 events	Basel European Meeting 5–7 September; European Rally 7–10 September.
2029 hosting	Romania and Northern Cyprus expressed interest; no selection recorded.

The recorded outcomes distinguish approved minutes, stated undertakings, invitations and matters awaiting further discussion. The meeting did not adopt national restructuring, a common training program, a membership office, zoning, committee reform or a binding recruitment policy. The proposal discussions were preparation for Convention. No completed joint letter or mentor election is evidenced in the supplied session records.