

NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2015

Dear WISTA Members,

This year promises to be another interesting and exciting year for WISTA. We are working hard behind the scenes on the preparations for the WISTA **SWOT** (**S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities, **T**hreats) strategy sessions to be held in May in New York with the ExCo and in October in Istanbul with the National WISTA Association (NWA) Presidents. In addition, the three *Ad Hoc* Committees that were formed during the International Conference in Cyprus are up and running, we have received several speaking invitations for events around the world, and we are exploring possible cooperations with several organizations, all discussed in more detail below.

Let us start with what is key to our Association, namely our members.

Longstanding Membership – NWAs Celebrating Their Anniversaries in 2015

Last year we decided to give our longstanding members recognition and show our appreciation – WISTA UK 40 years; and WISTA Nigeria, WISTA Poland, and WISTA Italy each 20 years. This year the group of countries celebrating anniversaries is equally impressive:

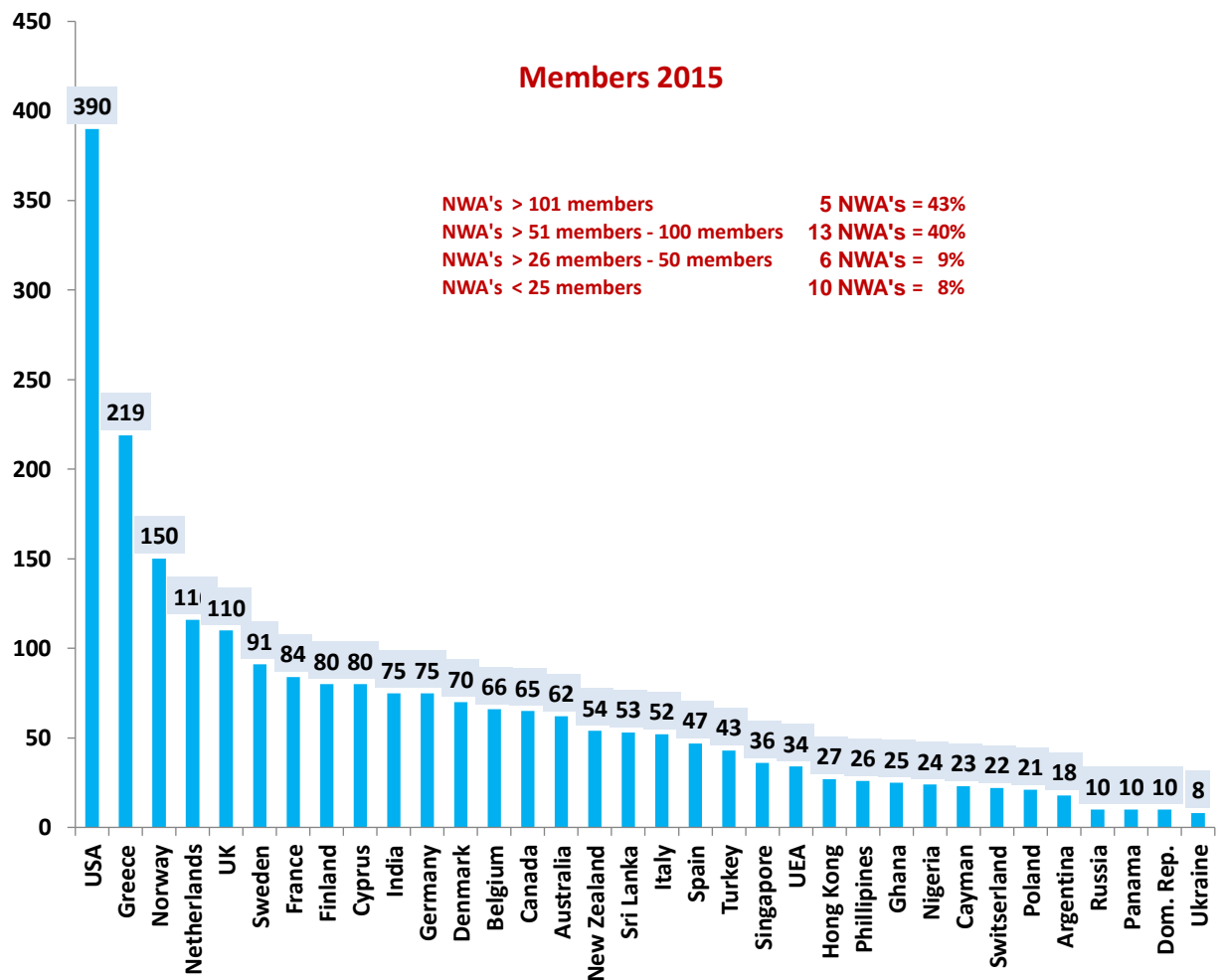
- ***Denmark – 25th anniversary***
- ***Finland – 20th anniversary***
- ***The Netherlands – 15th anniversary***
- ***Australia, Ghana, Switzerland and UAE – 5th anniversaries***

Congratulations and thank you once more for your continuous support to our Association!



Membership

As of 31 December 2014, we have **34 countries as NWAs**, with nearly **2,500 individual members (2,276 individual members to be exact!)**.



Some observations:

- WISTA increased its overall membership by 318 individual members.
- The NWAs that stand out: WISTA New Zealand (54 members), WISTA Sri Lanka (53 members), WISTA USA (39 new members), WISTA Australia (34 new members), and WISTA Cayman Islands (23 members).
- WISTA China, WISTA Japan and WISTA Peru have unfortunately become dormant.
- WISTA Hong Kong (44%), Nigeria (33%), Denmark (20%) and The Netherlands (20%) all lost quite a number of members.



A group of eleven ladies met for lunch in Valletta on December 9, 2014 to plant the seed of WISTA Malta. WISTA Malta's official launching event will take place later this year. If you want to receive more information, please contact Krystyna Wojnarowicz (krystyna@marsec-xl.org).

Ladies from Bermuda and the Commonwealth of The Bahamas are exploring forming NWAs in their countries, and we are working hard on the revitalization of South Africa. We are also assisting with the founding of WISTA Lebanon.



L-R Vera Haywood and Taryn Thomas of Petrocam (both potential WISTA South Africa members) together with ExCo member, Oritsematosan Edodo-Emore.

ExCo Spring Meeting, May 14-16, 2015, in New York, USA

The ExCo Spring Meeting will take place in New York, USA, in conjunction with the WISTA USA Annual General Meeting (AGM). This will be the first time that the ExCo, as a whole, will be attending the WISTA USA AGM, which will take place on May 15, with a welcome reception the evening before. Members who would like to attend can register, view the agenda, and find hotel information via the following link: <http://www.wista2015agm.com>. In addition to the ExCo members, WISTA USA expects about 100 attendees, including from WISTA Canada and WISTA Cayman Islands.



As discussed during the International AGM in Cyprus, ExCo wants to make sure that the WISTA strategy is in line with our Members' expectations. To help guide the strategy, ExCo will participate in SWOT analysis during its Spring Meeting, the day after the WISTA USA AGM. This SWOT analysis will be done in preparation for a WOT analysis to be done at the Presidents Round Table during the WISTA To help the NWA Presidents prepare, ExCo will send out a list of questions that will be discussed so the NWA Presidents can seek input from their members in advance. The initial results will be presented at the AGM in Istanbul.

WISTA International Conference on October 7-10, 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey

While the program is still being developed, the first signs show that the WISTA International Conference in Istanbul it is going to be another great WISTA International Conference. Please keep checking the website for details and regular updates, which can be found at: www.wistaturkey2015.com



ExCo Members Speaking Invitations

Over the past months, ExCo members have spoken at a number of WISTA events and as well during other events increasing WISTA's visibility around the world. A summary follows. In addition, later this year, ExCo members will speak at NorShipping in June and at the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) Conference in September. Please let us know if you plan to attend either of these events.

WISTA Canada AGM during the Grunt Club week in Montreal, Canada (December 2014)



ExCo member, Jeanne Grasso, attended and spoke at the WISTA Canada AGM, which was held during Grunt Club week in Montreal in December 2014. About 20 WISTA members attended, including several from other NWAs. WISTA Canada President, Andrea Sterling reviewed their activities in 2014 and the plans for 2015. The WISTA Canada Regional Vice Presidents (Eastern, Atlantic, Central and Western) then gave their reports and discussed interest in establishing a local WISTA Canada branch in Quebec City. Jeanne gave a presentation on "40 Years of WISTA" and encouraged the Canadian members to attend the upcoming International Conference in Istanbul, as well as the WISTA USA AGM in May, as both WISTA Canada and WISTA USA agree that working together more closely will further WISTA's objectives.

IAPH Chair of the Women's Forum, Diane Edwards, and ExCo Member Katerina Stathopoulou visited Groningen, The Netherlands (January 2015)



In honor of Ms. Diane Edwards, Manager People and Processes Ports of Auckland New Zealand and Exco member Katerina Stathopoulou visit to the Netherlands a special port tour was arranged by Mr. Harm Post, Director of the Groningen Seaports. Later that day WISTA members Yvonne Hoogerwerf, Astrid Drent and three board members of WISTA The Netherlands (Sylvia Boer, Michon Bullen, and Thea Pelupessy) hosted a dinner. **Quote: A great network (read WISTA) is a combination of pure networking or a combination of business and pleasure and meeting new and interesting people.**

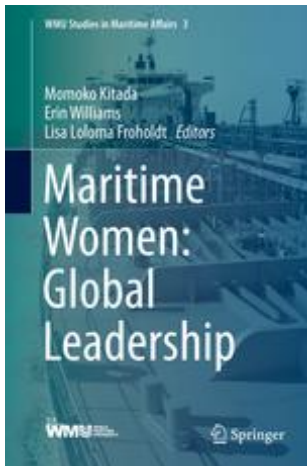
WISTA USA Luncheon at the Connecticut Maritime Association (CMA) Shipping 2015 Conference (March 2015)

For the 10th year in a row, WISTA USA hosted the annual kickoff luncheon at the CMA *Shipping 2015* Conference. The guest speaker was Karin Orsel, CEO of MF Shipping Group, Vice Chairman of the ICS, and President of WISTA International. WISTA USA President Alexandra Anagnostis-Irons gave an opening speech, followed by ExCo member Jeanne Grasso who introduced Karin using a series of photographs, followed by ABBA's Dancing Queen, which set the tone for Karin's speech.



Left: WISTA USA Leadership Team with Karin Orsel; Right: SUNY Maritime cadets with Karin Orsel.

Cooperation with other Associations



Over the past years, the IMO has launched various initiatives to increase the participation of women in the maritime industry under the name Women in Maritime Associations (WIMA). At present, six associations focusing on women have been established under the auspices of the IMO.

Along with these associations, WISTA was invited as speaker during last year's World Maritime University's 2nd Female Global Leadership Conference in Malmo, Sweden. WISTA also contributed to the book *Maritime Women: Global Leadership*.

If you are interested in buying a copy of the book, please click on the following link: <http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783662453841>

WIMAfrica and WIMA Caribbean

This year the IMO has launched two initiatives – WIMAfrica and WIMA Caribbean. The conference, which will be held under the auspices of the IMO, is aimed at supporting the efforts of the Caribbean region to deepen the integration of women in the maritime sector through the establishment of WIMA for the Caribbean. The IMO currently has WIMA in the Middle East and North Africa, Asia, Philippines, East and Southern Africa.



The WIMA Caribbean Conference will be hosted by the Maritime Authority of Jamaica at the Holiday Inn, Montego Bay, Jamaica from April 13-17. Sherice Arman, President of WISTA Cayman Islands, will be one of the speakers. The WIMAfrica Conference had quite an impressive WISTA involvement.



ExCo board member Oritsematosan EDODO Emore in the first picture with participants of the conference, 2nd on the left WISTA Ghana President Naa Densua Aryeetey. In the second picture Oritsematosan EDODO Emore together with Mr Alain Michel Luvambano, Secretary General of Maritime Organization of West and Central Africa.

The 1st Continental Conference on the Empowerment of Africa Women in Maritime was held in Luanda, Angola on March 25-26, 2015, with the theme *Toward Africa's Blue Economy*. This is a project of the African Union (AU) supported by the IMO. It was organised by WIMA Angola. WISTA members actively participated in the Conference, both as members of the organising committee and also as speakers and facilitators. The Conference was attended by top officials of the government of Angola, the AU Commission and the Maritime Organisation of West and Central Africa (MOWCA). The Angolan Ministers of Transport, the Deputy Minister of Fisheries, the Minister of Women Affairs and the Secretary of State were present, as were Alain Michel Luvambano, the Secretary General of MOWCA and Mrs. Mfon Usoro, the Secretary General of the Abuja MOU on Port State Control.



At the opening of the Conference, Mrs. Rosa Sobrinho, the Angola representative at the IMO, was elected the chairperson of the Conference. Mrs. Jean Chiazor Anishere, President of WISTA Nigeria, and Mrs. Naa Densua Aryeetey, President of WISTA Ghana, were elected Rapporteur and Deputy Rapporteur, respectively.

Mrs. Jean Chiazor Anishere made a presentation on “*A Common Agenda for the Empowerment of African Women in Maritime – The Adoption Africa’s Women in Maritime, Common Platform of Action Towards Africa’s Blue Economy*,” and Mrs. Oritsematosan Edodo-Emore, WISTA ExCo Member, made a presentation on “*Challenges and Opportunities for Enterprising African Women in the Maritime Industry*.” Mrs. Mfon Usoro, also a WISTA Ambassador, made a presentation on “*Imperatives for Creation of African Women’s Wealth in the Maritime Industry*.” WISTA members actively participated in the lively debates that ensued and it was clear to everyone that WISTA members are knowledgeable and experienced in the maritime industry. At the end of one of the sessions, the Conference Chair recognized the benefit of WISTA and encouraged the formation of WISTA Angola.

At the end of the Conference, a working group comprising persons representing Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, Congo-Kinshasa and Congo-Brazzaville was established to actualize the objectives of the Conference and to decide on a path forward for a second conference. Ms. Funmi Folorunsho, Secretary General of the African Shipowners Association, and Mrs Oritsematosan Edodo-Emore, ExCo member, were asked to join the working group. From all indications, WISTA is clearly an organization to be reckoned within the African continent!

Ad Hoc Committees

During the WISTA International Conference in Cyprus, we agreed to form three Ad Hoc Committees:

1. **Communications Committee** – The Committee's goal is to advise on WISTA's overall communications strategy and help develop an effective program. This includes re-looking at our Website, our core communications channel, and advising on Social Media, which includes a Facebook site and group, a LinkedIn page and a Twitter account. The Committee will make recommendations on how WISTA can more effectively communicate inside and outside the Association.
2. **Female Cadets Committee** – The Committee's goal is to develop a policy or guidelines for WISTA members with the aim to increase the number of female cadets onboard of vessels. InterManager is also very interested in the work of this Committee and the Committee will be coordinating with InterManager.
3. **Personality of the Year Committee** – The Committee is tasked with reviewing the current Personality of the Year procedure and criteria, and proposing changes, as appropriate.

Each Committee, which includes one ExCo member, has appointed its own chair and has held several planning meetings. The Committees will present their findings at the AGM in Istanbul. We will keep you posted on developments.

In closing, we hope you all enjoyed some days off during the Easter holidays. We look forward meeting you in May during the ExCo Spring Board meeting that's being held in conjunction with the WISTA USA AGM or at one of the other upcoming events.

We hope you enjoyed reading this Newsletter and please visit our website www.wista.net and follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter for the latest news.



Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Karin Orsel
President WISTA International,
On behalf of the Executive Committee