

MOTIONS by BPW Kuwait for Voting by the International Board

Three motions handed in by BPW Kuwait to be voted on electronically by the International Board, during December 2020

These three motions are submitted to finalize the Cairo Congress Financial Matters as required by the Constitution as it is overdue by 2 years before the preparation of the Next BPW International Congress. Also in response to the need to prevent a lawsuit after BPW International received two legal notices from the lawyer of Congress Service Center (CSC – which organized Cairo Congress in 2017) dated 10 August, 2020, and 2 December, 2020, which requested the final payment which was about 3 years overdue.

Motion 1: *Congress Accounts to be finalized by EFO G. Seidita with accountant R. Strange*

The International Board of BPW transfers immediately the task to finalize the Congress Account with a profit and loss as well as a balance statement to the actual Finance Officer, Giuseppina Seidita, with the support from the previous Finance Officer, Roshan Strange.

Motion seconded by the Federations of Italy, France, Bahrain and the Club Edea, Cameroon.

Motion 2: *Transfer of Congress money in Chase Bank to HSBC account*

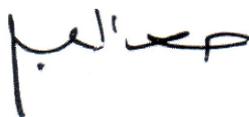
The Immediate Past International President Dr. Yasmin Darwich and signatory Bessie Hironimus send immediately the content of the Congress Account at Chase Bank USA (Congress Account # 3377302897) to the BPW International Accounts at HSBC in London. Moreover, they have to hand in a financial statement with all the documents to be audited to the current Executive Finance Officer of BPW International.

Motion seconded by the Federations of Italy, France, Bahrain and the Club Edea, Cameroon.

Motion 3: *Payment of the Congress debt to Congress Service Center*

The International Board authorizes that the outstanding payment to the Congress Service Center in Cairo of 191'613 US\$ be paid immediately.

Motion seconded by the Federations of Italy, France, Bahrain and the Club Edea, Cameroon.



Date
09/12/2020

Signature
Dr Hissah AlSabah
President of BPW Kuwait

Rationales for the three motions:

Motion 1: *Congress Accounts to be finalized by EFO G. Seidita with accountant R. Strange*

Immediate Past International President, Dr. Yasmin Darwich, **still refuses to hand in the final balance of the Cairo Congress account** (deadline according to Procedure Manual 6.3.4 1 year after congress). The audited financial statement of Cairo Congress account and the handover of the balance Congress account are **two years overdue**. Dr. Darwich got two deadlines (September 4 and September 18, 2020) to handover the congress account which she did not meet.

As there is no willingness from the Immediate Past President to finalize the Congress Balance or to hand over the Congress account, my first motion requests that the task to prepare the final balance be given to the actual Executive Finance Officer and the Executive Finance Officer of the past triennium, Roshan Strange.

Motion 2: *Transfer of Congress money in Chase Bank to the HSBC account*

The Chase Bank account contains Cairo Congress money, but as well the profits of previous Congresses (Mexico City Congress and Helsinki Congress). The money of these previous Congresses (non-Cairo Congress money) should be under the authorization of President Amany and Finance Officer Giuseppina Seidita. Moreover, it should be used as seed money to prepare the next Congress.

Moreover, Bessie Hironimus, Executive Secretary, the administrator and signatory of the BPW International bank account at the J.P. Morgan Chase Bank in New York, got a deadline on November 18 to handover **the previous Congress profits (228'914 Euros)** to the operational account of BPW at HSBC in London. She did not meet the deadline of November 20, 2020 and refused to recognize the current International President and the Executive Finance Officer who are the official signatories for this term and only recognized that Past International President Dr. Darwich was the person to have the authority over this money. This is in fact money which belongs to BPW International.

The request to return the money in the Congress Account at Chase bank to our account at the HSBC Bank which is under the direction of the actual President and Executive Finance Officer and keep separate the profit of previous Congresses from the unfinished Cairo Congress money. **If we have no knowledge on how big the deficit of the past Congress was, it is very difficult set budget to organize a new congress.**

Motion 3: *Payment of the Congress debt to Congress Service Center*

Dr. Darwich claimed that **she never signed a contract** with the Conference Service Center (CSC). **This is not true**. I have seen the signed contract dated October 4, 2017. She signed every single page with her full name. Part of the contract are two annexes with the prices for the services at the Congress. Dr. Darwich accepted a general contract with fixed prices for each service.

CSC lawyer's legal notice, listed the following invoices and indicated that out of the total US\$ 514,998, only US\$ 323,385 have been paid to date.

CSC Invoice #	Summary	Total US\$
1861	Rental of Congress Meeting Halls	\$37,100
1859	Congress Bags	\$7,800
1858	Congress Certificates	\$6,500
1857	Congress Gifts	\$7,200
1856	Tickets for Invited Guests	\$5,074
1862	Coffee Breaks	\$47,204
1870	Accommodation of Speakers & Sponsors	\$8,110
1863	Lunches	\$127,160
1869	Congress Social Events	\$153,500
1864	Congress Transport & Shuttle Busses	\$20,300

1867	Congress Registration Kits	\$1,750
1866	Congress Interpretation	\$26,400
1865	Congress Printing	\$16,650
1868	Congress Halls Set Up, Audio Visual Equipment & Branding	\$50,250
Total		\$514,998

Dr. Darwich did not recognize these invoices, and did not send a letter of complaint to CSC regarding the services rendered or the prices asked for. The remaining balance of over 191,000 US\$ remains unpaid despite the fact that services were rendered.

Past International President Dr. Rüegg put all the figures together. From her recollection, the prices of the 5-Star location close to the pyramids in Giza in 2017, 12 years after “her” congress in Lucerne, were very reasonable. After analysis of the invoices and the services of CSC, it can be stated that **all invoices are justified and correctly done.**

Moreover, the budget that was prepared for Congress was almost 600 000 US\$. The amount of the invoices is less than the budget and amounts to 514 998 US\$.

Past International President Dr. Darwich asked for the invoices of the subcontractors. She seems not to know that she signed a contract with the Congress Service Center as a General Contractor. No General Contractor submits the invoices of the subcontractors to the client. For your convenience, the comparison of the budgets, the invoices and payments can be consulted under:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ees8wqupist0p3g/AABykQXpPzlOg5xvC0fjCV2la?dl=0>
password: Numbers2017compared

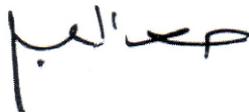
The debt BPW International owes to CSC has been outstanding for two years. The lawyer of CSC has sent a first legal notice in **August 2020** to pay the outstanding debt in the following 2 weeks. BPW got two extensions until mid-November 2020. **A second and last legal notice was sent to BPW on December 2, 2020** with the request to pay the debt by December 9, 2020.

After that date we will have to face a court case. You'll find the legal notices attached to this rationale.

Therefore, I ask in the third motion the International Board to approve that the outstanding debt be paid immediately.

Consequences for BPW International due to the open debts and a pending court case:

- **BPW International loses reputation and credibility.** The services have been rendered and the General Contractor never asked for a guarantee from BPW International.
- **Loss of membership and consequently loss of income will follow after a court case.**
We are using the money of our members!
- **Great loss of money:** As there is a signed contract our chances to win such a court case are unlikely according to several lawyers, which means that we will have to pay in the worst case the tribunal costs for both sides, the lawyer costs for both sides and the interest on the debt for 2 years. That can easily increase to an amount of more than 300 000.- US\$ all together. **Do we have so much money to waste?**



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Signature
Dr Hissah AlSabah
President of BPW Kuwait