



P R O G R A M

“Cross Cultural Understanding & Women’s Empowerment”

PRE CONFERENCE

of the “Cairo International Women’s Conference”

Mena House Hotel, Cairo, Egypt, 28th April 2014

The issue “cross-cultural understanding” can be treated on different levels. At the Cairo conference we will examine the roots. A good cross-cultural understanding is not mainly a question of know-how, but of emotional competences. A person with a brilliant intellectual cross-cultural know-how will fail if e.g. true respect or empathy are missing. But how to develop emotional competences? In contrast to intellectual learning, where we copy, combine and explore knowledge, emotional competences develop by individual experiences only. Therefore exchanging personal experiences and practicing cross-cultural understanding are the best teachers. That is why the program focusses on the exchange of personal experiences and profits from an open exchange between participants belonging to different cultures.

As a participant you will be very involved in the program. That is why we ask you to prepare short answers for the following 3 cross-cultural understanding questions which we will discuss in the morning. Each participant will have only 3 minutes to answer the questions:

- 1st Example of a successful and a failed cross-cultural understanding situation.
- 2nd Which behaviours lead to successful solutions and which ones to failures?
- 3rd How can we adapt positive emotional qualities which support competences of cross-cultural understanding?

Moderators will summarize the answers and the participants will decide on their priorities. Dr. Antoinette Rüegg picks up these priorities and presents the biological and psychological basics which are crucial for the development of emotional competences like true respect, empathy or true tolerance.

The afternoon will focus on cross-cultural understanding issues in BPW.

BPW offers members an outstanding platform for the development of their competences on cross-cultural understanding.

In **breakout sessions** we will discuss the following topics

- 1st My most important success and my most painful experience regarding cross-cultural understanding in BPW and the lessons learnt.
- 2nd How should an input on cross-cultural understanding in a BPW leadership training look like? Contents, trainings?
- 3rd How could BPW promote the fact that this organization is an ideal platform to train cross-cultural understanding?

Moderators will report the results, the participants will decide on the actions which can be taken and the results will get published on the website of BPW International.

PROGRAM

Time	Event	Responsible
9.00 am	REGISTRATION	<i>Dr. Omnia Fahmy Daniela Rigassi</i>
9.30 am	WELCOME <i>Dr. Amany Asfour, President BPW Egypt Dr. Antoinette Rüegg, Past President BPW International & Chair Task Force "Leadership & Lifelong Learning" Jill Worobec, Vice President BPW International</i>	
9.45 am	PRESENTATION of all speakers and participants	Moderator <i>Dr. Yasmin Darwich</i>
10.00 am	"My personal experiences and evaluation in context with the war in Syria". Q & A	<i>Yasmina Azhari</i>
10.20 am	DIALOG on Cross-Cultural Understanding Participants will answer the following questions in a 3 minutes input: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1st Examples of a successful and a failed cross-cultural understanding situation? - 2nd Which behaviours lead to successful solutions and which ones to failures? - 3rd How can we adapt positive emotional qualities which support competences of cross-cultural understanding? 	Moderators <i>Dr. Antoinette Rüegg Jill Worobec Johanna Marius Sabine Schmelzer Daniela Rigassi</i>
11.30 am	COFFEE BREAK	
12.00 am	<i>Follow – up</i> DIALOG on Cross-Cultural Understanding <i>What are my most important propositions?</i>	Moderators <i>Dr. Antoinette Rüegg Jill Worobec Johanna Marius Sabine Schmelzer Daniela Rigassi</i>
12.30 am	„Cross-Cultural Understanding, how to develop the qualities requested? Biological and psychological contexts.” Q & A	<i>Dr. Antoinette Rüegg</i>
1.30 pm	LUNCH	
2.30 pm	„Cross-Cultural Understanding” <i>Different presentations</i>	<i>Different speakers</i>
3.30 pm (parallel program)	“Most important Cross-Cultural Understanding issues in BPW and what would support progress?” BREAKOUT SESSIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1st My most important success and my most painful experience regarding cross-cultural understanding in BPW and the lessons learnt. 	Moderators <i>Dr. Antoinette Rüegg Jill Worobec Sabine Schmelzer Daniela Rigassi</i>

	<p>- 2nd How should an input on cross-cultural understanding in a BPW leadership training look like? Contents, trainings?</p> <p>- 3rd How could BPW promote the fact that the organization is an ideal platform to train cross-cultural understanding?</p>	
3.30.pm (parallel program)	<p>Program for non BPW Cross-Cultural Understanding -Training for participants who are not BPW members</p>	<p>Moderator Johanna Marius</p>
4.15 pm	<p>Results "Most important Cross-Cultural Understanding issues in BPW and what would support progress?"</p>	<p>Moderators Dr. Antoinette Rüegg Jill Worobec Sabine Schmelzer Daniela Rigassi</p>
5.00 pm	<p>Evaluation</p>	
5.15 pm	<p>Closing PHOTO SESSION & COFFEE BREAK in the garden in front of the pyramids</p>	