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To the members of the FIDE Presidential board from Grandmaster Alexandra Kosteniuk

As the current women's world champion I would like to draw your attention to the next Women's World Championship cycle.

Since 2001 the Women's World Championship is being held by a knock-out system. Although this system is very interesting for spectators, it is not ideal for determining the women's world champion.

During the long chess history many ways of determining the world champion have been tried. But with the experience of the last years we can be almost certain that the world champion title should be won in a world championship match. It's been shown and proven that a match between the two strongest players of the world (men or women) would attract a lot of attention and the title of the world champion that is won in this kind of match would be respected and trusted.

In October we've witnessed the match for the World Chess Champion title between Viswanathan Anand and Vladimir Kramnik. This match was a great success for chess, it attracted a lot of attention from the media and from all the chess amateurs around the world. I think that the women's world championship cycle should have a similar system that is being used right now in the men's competition.

On July 30, FIDE proposed a new system for the determination of the Women's World Champion:

<http://www.fide.com/component/content/article/1-fide-news/3089-regulations-and-bidding-procedure-for-the-womens-grand-prix-2009-2010#regulations>

Regarding this information I have a few comments:

- I think there should be also a Women's World Cup that will be held by the same system as the world championship now and the grand-prix series should include no more than 4 tournaments on the women's side. The winners of the women's world cup will face the winner of the women's grand-prix series in a match and the overall winner will play a match for the women's world championship title with the current women's world champion.

I hope that FIDE will understand the importance of the modification of the current women's championship cycle for the popularization of women's chess in the world and will agree that a match is the ideal way to determine the best world champion.

Best regards,
Alexandra Kosteniuk