

**WOM Report**  
**Baku, Azerbaijan**  
**September 7, 2016**

Chairperson: Susan Polgar (USA)

Secretary: Anastasia Sorokina (AUS)

Present: K. Katiseng (BOT), M. Murphy (USV), U. Vogel (NAU), D. Ambarukmi (INA), E. Smart (RSA), P. Truong (USA), A. Achabsi (OMA), M. Huba (SVK), M. Maruatona (BOT), S. Simango (MOZ), T. Lopang (BOT), M. Nuunama (MAL), G. Borg (MLT), N. Cinar (TUR), G. Font (HUN), R. Jones (PNG), H. Pees (DGT), K. Daniel (BAR), A. Herbert (BAR), A. Salim (PAK), O. Nakapunda (NAM), R. Haring (USA), S. Johnson (TTO)

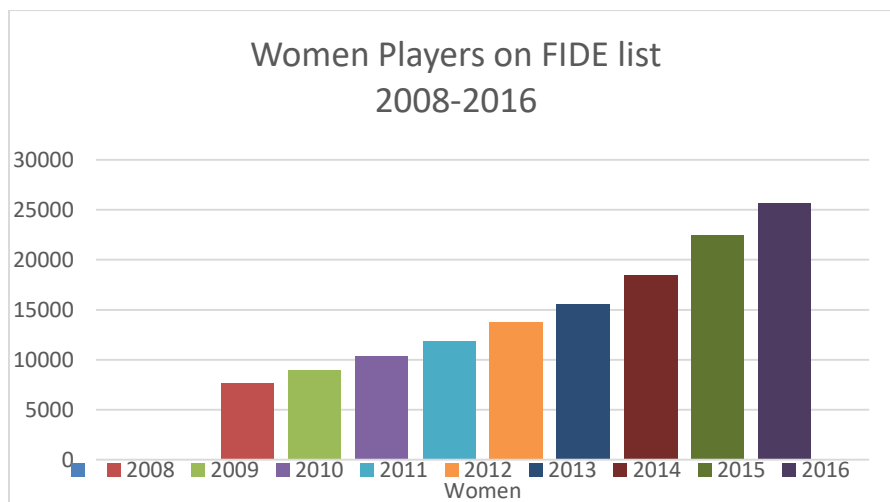
WOM Co-chairperson Martha Fierro and Council member Antoanetta Stefanova sent their regrets for not being able to join the meeting as they were conducting Trainer's Seminar.

WOM chairperson Susan Polgar started the meeting by putting in perspective the purpose, goals and challenges of the commission. It is important to widen the base of female players worldwide regardless of playing levels. However, it is also important to help the more serious players raise the bar.

In addition to increasing the number of female players, it is also important to get more women involved and provide them opportunities as coaches, arbiters and organizers. Another ongoing goal is to raise visibility in the mainstream media for Women's events, especially official FIDE championships.

There has been remarkable growth in female participation in chess. The following chart illustrates the specific number of women on the official FIDE rating list since 2008. Back in 2008, there were only 7,685 women on the list, while it more than tripled to nearly 26,000 today.

Women's role as commentators/interviewers has also significantly increased.



Ms. Polgar then proceeded to give a brief summary regarding the events and projects already mentioned in detail in the WOM report for the 87<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress.

The keys parts of the presentation were:

- Grand Prix Events in 2016
- Women's World Championship Lviv, 2015: Hou Yifan – Mariya Muzychuk 6-3.
- “Rumbo a la Gran Maestra” project – for Latin American (20) Girls
- Future Stars Project by Antoanetta Stefanova
- 2015 Caissa Award: Mariya Muzychuk. The presentation of the prestigious Caissa trophy will be held as part of the Closing ceremony of the Olympiad. We appreciate the sponsorship of the Lobortas Classic Jewelry House.
- SPF Girls' Invitational 2016

Ms. Katiseng mentioned about the *Brighton Declaration* which encourages more involvement of women in sports worldwide.

Ms. Murphy commented on how all-girl classes are successful in her experience.

Susan Polgar