



13th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WOMEN LEADER'S NETWORK WLN



Organization of Women in International Trade



Arequipa, Peru
May 12, 2008

Lilia Navarrete
President & CEO

Growing OWIT to Reach More Women in International Trade

- International trade leading to globalization
- OWIT – Our story
- A forum for collaboration, education and networking



United around the globe to foster international trade and the advancement of women in business

Empowerment: Our belief is the same

*"The empowerment of women is particularly
important to me as I believe
this leads to the empowerment of the nation"*

Madame Pratibha Devisingh Patel,
First Lady President of India



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Recognition: OWIT members

- Celebrating our people around the world
- Awards help us grow as individuals and chapters
- OWIT executive officers from four countries
2008



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Development: OWIT Portal

- Globalization and collaboration – our website
- Built with help and friendship from Peru
- Three countries, four cities, languages, culture, trade challenges (banking, insurance, legal), gender

What kept us focused

A vision without a task

Is but a dream,

A task without a vision

Is but drudgery,

A vision with a task can change the world.

*Declaration By Global Co-operation
For a Better World,
Mount MBU, Rajasthan, India, 1989*



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Strategy: Chicago Board Meeting

- Women leaders strengthening OWIT
- Participating in Fair Trade Fair
- Learning, impacting, growing economies



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Access: CIDA Initiative

- Opportunities in emerging markets
- Women's economic empowerment
- Public and private service providers

Advice: Technology and Learning

- Activating a larger network
- Sharing and growing opportunities
- Stepping forward with confidence

Assistance: Networking for success

- Connecting women and other groups
- Opportunity for learning and working together
- Essential for emerging markets

Community: Encouraging Youth

- Consumers as well as entrepreneurs
- More viable players in our changing economic world
- Learning for growth and prosperity

*"My mother used to tell me that 'girls who know
how to read and write
will only write love letters to boys... so it is better
that girls do not go to school.'*

*Times have changed since I was young and I know
that going to school is the only way
that my granddaughter will ever
get out of this poverty we live in."*

79-year old Grandmother of a Room to Grow Scholar, from Cambodia



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Vision: Sustainable Growth

- Inspiring each other
- Continuous connecting and collaboration
- Growing and developing business

Solutions: Growing Together

- Guidelines and resources
- Support and accountability
- Values and sharing
- Expertise and leadership
- Skills and professional development
- Supporting all women and men with an interest in international trade

The Best We Can

...Except this humming bird, which said, 'I am going to do something about the fire!' ...

"What can you do, the other animals wondered aloud?" You are too small, you cannot put off such a fire!! ...

*" I am doing the best I can!"
And that is what we are all called to do:
the best we can!*

Wangari Muta Maathai, 2004 Nobel Peace Prize winner from Kenya



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Solutions: Growing Together

- Organizational Capacity Building
 - Across organizations
- In the future, we look forward to:
 - Strengthening our existing alliances
 - Forging new partnerships
 - Forging new collaborations

Thank you!

www.owit.org

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