

Bettina Corke is an individual member of International Alliance of Women IAW-AIF since 1964 and a member to the delegation of the IAW to FAO since 1996. She was a founder-member of the ad hoc Group of international NGO (www.ahgingos.org), and under her guidance IAW became a registered member of FAO.

Bettina and I knew each other since we were at the triennial World Congress of IAW in Calcutta/India 1995. In this time I was the delegate of the Swiss Affiliate of IAW, in the following year becoming the main representative of IAW to the international institutions in Geneva where I was serving till 2010. We understood both – coming from different political background – that our common interest and strong conviction are the same: that the Universal Declaration of the United Nations is still not implemented on our earth as it should be: as mankind should not only survive, but survive as humankind who is aware of living in a living surrounding. To this effect it is necessary, that men and women are working together in respect and sharing responsibilities as well as rights in an effective balance.

It was in 2004 when Bettina Corke in Berlin/Germany presented a photo-exhibit together with a short history of IAW at our 100years Jubilee-Conference. I was quite impressed. Unhappily this big work has been lost in the earthquake of 2009. When I heard that Bettina survived in difficult circumstances in a camp, I invited her in the same year to the IAW International Meeting in Heiden/Switzerland where she met many sisters in support of her work. In 2010 she gave me the first edition of her booklet < How to end hunger now! - A handbook to facilitate the work & activities taking place to end hunger & poverty > - taking forward an issue we are all very engaged in. And finally, at the Board meeting of IAW in Sion/Switzerland in 2014, with the second revised edition of her brochure in hand, Bettina asked me to join her in Rome.

Now I am looking forward to discuss our ideas with Bettina who is living in L'Aquila/Italy and engaged as always. Speaking with her words: we want to live in a world "where women are allowed to produce domestic healthy food for domestic consumption". We ask our international NGOs, specially our own IAW to promote women's access to resources in a way that "no one is left behind" and to motivate national member organizations around the world to take action for the abolition of hunger and the empowerment of the poor in their region by promoting Peace, Sustainable Development and Human Rights.

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member of the delegation of IAW to the U.N. institutions based in Rome