



Gabriele VOIGT

PRESIDENT WOMEN IN NUCLEAR GLOBAL



Ms. Gabriele Voigt, born in 1952, is a biologist and holds a doctorate in genetics, microbiology, and biochemistry. She habilitated from the University of Munich in Ecological Chemistry and is lecturing Radioecology among others at the Atominstitut of the Technical University in Vienna. She is working as a radioecologist since more than 30 years in the field of radiation protection, nuclear sciences and environmental management and remediation, first in the Institute of Radiation Hygiene of the German Federal Health Office and later in the Institute of Radiation Protection in the GSF-Research Center for Environment and Health, both located in Neuherberg near Munich, Germany.

In May 2002 she has been appointed as director of the Agency's Laboratories in Seibersdorf and Headquarters of the Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications. Here she was responsible for the programme on Environment (terrestrial) and was the focal point for environmental issues in the IAEA to liaise with other international or UN organizations. From January 2010 she was in charge of the Office of Analytical Services in the Department of Safeguards. Until her retirement end of 2014 she was responsible for the ECAS construction project on the enhancement of capabilities for analytical services for Safeguards at the Seibersdorf site.

Her main scientific interests are: radiochemistry and radiometry, radioactivity in different ecosystems, transfer of radionuclides via food chains to humans, countermeasures and remediation strategies, dose reconstruction, environmental decision support systems and the application of radioecological models for non-radioactive pollutants. She is since many years an editor of the Journal of Environmental Radioactivity; in addition she serves as a referee to several international journals.

Gabi is heavily involved in activities concerning gender equality and women's networking such as WiN and WISE (Women in International Security). Since her retirement she works as a consultant in radioecology and runs her own company r.e.m. (cognitive radioecology) and continues to serve as member of several scientific societies in her field of expertise.

What objectives have WiN Global?

To promote and inform about the peaceful use of nuclear energy and sciences and to support women working in the nuclear sector.

How have changed the goals from the foundation in 1993?

WiN is now more advanced in participating in actual discussions about the role of nuclear in climate change combatting. WiN has developed from a loose network of women to a registered legal NGO allowing official participation in activities of IAEA, NSF and other international organizations in the nuclear field. More emphasis is also put on informing the public and awareness raising of young girls to pursue a STEM profession.

How many members have the organization?

Presently registered in WiN Global 12271 members, but many more registered in individual chapters i.e. >30000.

Which are the countries incorporated recently?

43 countries and 2 Int Organisations.

Is WiN Global growing in the same direction than the nuclear sector? (more in Asia and EAU, less in Europe and America, perhaps).

Highest growth is in African countries and Arab countries, however also many new members in Latin America.

How can help WiN Global to young female professionals to improve their jobs?

Mainly by individual mentoring and linking to experienced male and female experts on a local and international basis. Strong support in the individual chapters provided by the chapter members familiar with local conditions.

Which are the future challenges for the organization?

Financial constraints as WiN avoids to ask for fees.

Attracting young members who commit to WiN and become active and introduce new technologies.

Please, tell us about WiN Global next projects

WiN is heavily involved into the NICE initiative with continued presence on social media, webinars and events. In 2020 WiN is co-organizer a special event 'Better-Together - gen-



der in the NPT dialogue' of the NPT Review Conference to be held in New York. WiN is also present at the next IRPA conference in Seoul 2020 as an invited speaker.

Dealing with Madrid Conference, which activities do you consider more relevant?

Mentoring workshop, the African workshop, and the technical presentations/posters.

From technical point of view, what is your opinion about the program?

Great programme and very dense and excellent speakers. I also enjoyed the very informative technical tours.

Did you enjoyed Madrid?

Wonderful city, will come back again for sure.

Could you give us some information about next Conference, in Canada?

The next conference will be held in October 2020 in Niagara Falls - with a major focus on mentoring. The programme is still worked out as we have more than 1 year to go, thus details are not yet available. But WiN Canada will provide info ASAP and open the conference website soon. WiN also expects strong involvement of governmental bodies and financial support. For the General Assembly: There will be a new WiN global President to be elected directing WiN for the next 4 years through the challenges. ■