



PERSATUAN KEBANGSAAN USAHAWAN WANITA MALAYSIA
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS OF MALAYSIA

NAWEM

Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Since the beginning of the year, we have received several invitations to support and partner different initiatives on women matters –



This has included business opportunities for women, challenges to get board positions, gender sensitive government policies and resilience for high level innovation. In short, women are aware that they have to step up their game to catch up with our male counterparts, be it in entrepreneurship, technology or leadership positions.

We don't need tokenism and not even 30% anymore. As we are about 50% of the population, we need to work towards having an equal share in the economy and in other aspects of nation building. But it will not be easy as we have a lot to learn. We need to double our effort in ensuring women are capable of spearheading transformation programmes for everyone in our community and country. We don't want to leave anybody behind.

So I call upon women to embrace the new wave of technology such as artificial intelligence and robotics. They are to increase the efficiency of our business and to give us the opportunity to balance work and family- the dual roles most women struggle to find an equilibrium.

NAWEM is moving into its 26 th year, going strong. The secret is we have always worked towards being relevant and current. In our businesses, we need to show the same vitality and verve.

My best wishes to each and every member of NAWEM as you embark upon creative ways to enhance your business.

Sarojini Ruth



The Executive committee meeting held on 15.3.10 at Masala Wheels, a social enterprise



NAWEM has said YES! to I love MY Palm oil campaign. We will be working with a group of subject matter experts, namely women leaders in the oil palm and palm oil sectors. Together we will bring awareness to the people, the health and nutritional benefits of palm oil in our diet. We will keep you updated on the various activities of the project. This project requires every member of NAWEM to be fully committed as it is our national service to reinstate the rightful position of palm oil, Malaysia's pride and wealth, at the global level.

STEM 2 Conference

“Growing Malaysia’s Digital Economy & Talent”



Dato Sabariah with NAWEM members and speakers in Kuching



Ms. Sarojini Ruth and Ms Sarala Axryd



Puan Hajah Rosey, Yukako Uchinaga and NAWEM members



Panelist of Technopreneurs with Freida Liu, moderator

The Fourth Industrial Revolution is here to stay and in fact advancing at a rapid pace. We must therefore take the plunge and be prepared to ride the wave of change impacting the job stratosphere brought about by IR.4.0. It is imperative to realize the positive impact of IR.4.0 on the creation of work.

In line with this, The National Association of Women Entrepreneurs (Nawem) successfully organised the I.R 4.0 AND THE FUTURE OF WORK CONFERENCE on the 5th and 7th of March 2019 in Kuala Lumpur and Kuching respectively. The conference saw an attendance of 360 delegates of various ages and diverse backgrounds. The conference aimed to engender interest and enable people, particularly women; and organisations to learn and take action on workplace transformations with the unfolding of IR4.0. It looked to open people's minds to new perspectives on the future of work by pushing the boundaries of conventional views of the work environment.

The conference in Kuala Lumpur also bore witness to the launch of Data For Her, an initiative to train women in data science and programming in order to get more of them involved in the tech industry and bridge the gender gap. The Centre of Applied Data Science (CADS) is partnering with NAWEM in this initiative. NAWEM president Sarojini Ruth Rajahser and Founder and CEO of CADS, Sharala Axryd signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) during the conference.

YB Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah, Minister of Welfare, Community Wellbeing, Women, Family and Childhood Development of Sarawak, Malaysia gave the opening speech (represented by YB Hajah Rosey Binti Haji Yunus Assistant Minister of Women, Family and Childhood Development of Sarawak,) and the closing speech. The announcement of Data For Her launch was made by Dato Dr Sabariah Putit, Deputy State Secretary (Performance and Service Delivery Transformation) Sarawak at the conference in Kuching.

The keynote speakers at the conference included, among renowned speakers in the industries; Ms. Yukako Uchinaga, Board Chair OF J-Win & President of Globalisation Research Institute and Ms. Sharala Axryd, Founder & CEO, The Center of Applied Data Science (CADS) and a NAWEM member. NAWEM would like to say a huge thank you to our 13 speakers, organising committee, the media and others who played a key role in making the conferences a success.

NAWEM Kuching



Meeting with YB Datuk Dr. Sabariah binti Putit, Deputy State Secretary and board member of Sarawak Centre of Performance Excellence (SCOPE) at Wisma Bapa, Kuching on 6th March 2019.



Meeting with YB Hajah Rosey Bt Haji Yunus, Assistant Minister for Women, Family and Childhood Development, and Puan Noriah Bunti Haji Ahmad, Director of Jabatan Wanita & Keluarga Sarawak (JWKS) during the STEM IR4.0 and The Future of Work Conference at Waterfront Hotel, Kuching on 7th March 2019 with NAWEM Kuching Chairperson Cynthia Lim

Malaysian Urban Forum 2019 Women Assembly

NAWEM was invited to be a partner for the Malaysian Urban Forum which was held on 19th February 2019. For one of the sessions, Saliza Abdullah was the subject matter expert, Andal Krishnan the moderator and Sandra Ghouse the rapporteur.

The theme of the Women's Assembly was Towards a Gender Responsive Sustainable and Resilient Urban Nation - Implementation of the New Urban Agenda to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. NAWEM's topic was Policies and Programs for Women in Urban Economy

The response for our session was overwhelming with the audience wanting to share their views and ask questions about new policies and programs.

The recommendations of the Women Assembly have been submitted to the government. Suffice to say that all partners of the forum were in unison in demanding for a National Women Policy which is bipartisan, transparent and participatory to ensure we become a Gender Responsive Sustainable and Resilient Urban Nation.



NAWEM CO Admin Pn. Saliza Abdullah and Ms Andal Krishnan, Special Projects. Dr. Jem, an expert in Gender Policies from UKM was also involved in the discussion

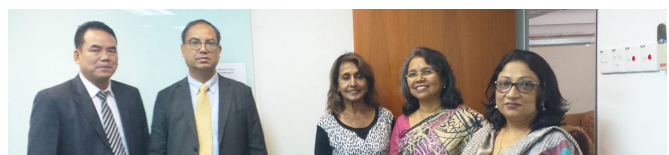


NAWEM Penang . Immediate Past Chairperson Wendy Wong and incumbent Chairperson Yeap Ai Li at the SME conference in Penang

Research on Women Entrepreneurship

What makes them tick

On 20th February 2019 faculty members from the University of Calcutta and Lincoln University College met Andal Krishnan, Exco member for special projects to discuss the Malaysian experience on the topic "Sustainable economic, social and political Empowerment of Women through small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and the policies to foster the growth. NAWEM will assist in identifying entrepreneurs who can share their stories on how they manage their businesses to be relevant and become a force to reckon with.



The research team members from University of Calcutta and Lincoln University College with Andal Krishnan, NAWEM Exco member.

Gender Balance on the Malaysian Corporate Boards



Althea Goh and Andal Krishnan

The issue of gender balance on corporate boards in Malaysia continues to be discussed, given the business and economic impact on inclusivity.

Many NAWEM members have completed the preparatory programme to be ready for board invitations. However the path to being a board member needs more visibility than attending courses. We need support from the industries.

On the 6th of March, this was the topic of debate during the half day event organised by the Malaysian Alliance of Corporate Directors at the Royal Selangor Club, KL

NAWEM was one of the strategic partners as it was a pertinent conversation to have among aspiring women board members, the international corporate governance expert from Norway and our male counterparts who are supportive of increasing women participation in the Boards

NAWEM KOOP



Currently a coffee maker at only RM1.00 per month is available at the KOOP. The capsules, namely different kinds of coffee, milk and chocolate can be purchased monthly. They are sent to your place of work or residence. Please contact NAWEM KOOP Secretariat.

KETOGENIC way to healthy eating



To illustrate that NAWEM is a way of life organised a talk on how to eat well, stay trim and be healthy. It was held on 23rd February at Full Course Kitchen Studio. It was well attended and the minds fully nourished.

Sales & Service Tax Training.



On 18th of February at Dewan Makota in SME Corp, Sentral, NAWEM organised a training programme on how to implement Sales and Service Tax in businesses was conducted by personnel from the Customs and Excise Department, Ministry of Finance.