



MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER COMMITTEE

Foz do Iguaçu

August 20-27, 2017

Theme:

SEEKING WISDOM TO CARE FOR GOD'S
CREATION

We had wonderful days at Hotel Golden Park in Foz do Iguaçu where we were gathered with women of several denominations since the DMO is a movement of ecumenical Christian women. We had the participation of several countries as:

Africa Region (Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Congo, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe)

Asian Region (Hong Kong, India, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korean, Sirilanka, Taiwan and Thailand)

North American and Caribbean Region (Bahamas, Barbados, Canada, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States)

Europe Region (Albania, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, The Czech Republic, Denmark, EWNI (England, Wales and Northern Ireland), France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland)

Latin America Region (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela)

Middle East Region (Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine and Turkey)

Pacific Region (New Zealand, Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga).

The joy of praising God with familiar hymns and songs each one in her own language was beautiful and inexplicable!



Brazilian Women at the Meeting

At the opening the theme “Communities and environmental context” was presented by Sarah de Roure from Brazil, who works with several social and political organizations. She is graduated in History from the University of Brasilia. We could hear about the creation of the world in the midst of a crisis, in a state of destruction, with contaminated water and fetid places and about our responsibility since we are co creators. The message that remained was: “the creation is good but the environmental disorder is present making victims, but through the Holy Spirit we can transform this chaos. The experience of creation is to participate in this creation in our house, city as co creators of God. “Coexistence with the path of God’s wisdom will lead us to a “non-individualistic” thought as we have had. This distances us from the world and we need to recover this feeling of belonging to this creation.”



Brazilian and African Women

Other studies were: **“God’s Creation”** by Silvia R. Lima from Brazil; **“Seeking for Wisdom”** by Dora Arce Valentin from Cuba; **“Taking Care in Community”** by Ulrike Bechmann from Germany. We learn in these studies that climate justice is a form of environmental justice. Environment means living conditions at home, in the Church and at work.

Working groups were formed to develop the theme and also on the DMO movement. This prayer is in our minds and hearts: "God of life, creator of heaven and earth, who has entrusted



One moment of the working group

to us Your creation, giving us the power to care for and watch over our common home. Forgive us when we neglect this mission that you have entrusted to us. Reconcile us with Thy Creation."

The Cultural Night was beautiful with joyful and colorful performances of several Regions with songs and dances!



The meetings of the International Committee took place with the election of a new Committee, with the next French President, Laurence Gangloff, who greeted the participants.



Elections also took place in the Regional Committees.

On Thursday all women wore "black" as we have done for some time as a Silent Protest saying "NO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN".



Foi muito significativo vermos mulheres vestidas com camisas pretas e com os dizeres em diversas línguas

The DMO (Ecumenical Christian Women's Movement) always happens in the first Friday in March around the world. Each year the liturgy is prepared by a different country. For the year of 2018 the Theme is "The whole creation of God is very good," and it was written by Suriname.

I thank Rosângela Oliveira, Executive Director of the International Committee, for the invitation, and Alison Judd, President of the World Federation, for the confidence to send me as her representative.

May we become aware of what is happening in the world and enrich ourselves with the experiences of faith experienced by other sisters !!!!

Leila de Jesus Barbosa
President of CMMALC

Some pictures:



DMO Brazilian National Committee



Meeting of the Latin America Region



Enjoying the falls, Wonders of God's Creation.



The creativity of a chef when designing the DMO Logo on a watermelon.



President Corinna Harbig of Slovenia passing the position to the elected President Laurence Gangloff of France



New friends: Grytsje Couperus from Botucatu; Maria Dulce from Lisbon; Leila from Volta Redonda; Márcia Blasi from Botucatu; Marilda Macieira from Rio de Janeiro and Sonia Palmeira from Volta Redonda.
