

*Club*

# AGORA

## international

PART OF THE ROUND TABLE FAMILY

Newsletter

October 2021



# **President's Address**

**Dear Agora Ladies,**

**The 25th AGM in The Hague was so surreal for me  
After many months of doubt on whether the AGM was  
going to be physical or not and ofcourse Covid 19 trying  
it's best to derail our plans didn't help much.....but we**

**won!!! Thank you so much Ladies for taking the bold  
move to register for the AGM and exceed the minimum  
number to hold a physical meeting. The AGM still had to  
be a hybrid one as many of our ladies were not able to  
travel due to restrictions....I almost missed the AGM!! I  
am very thankful that I finally made it!**

**To help me on this journey, we have our Immediate Past  
President, Chris Helsen from AC Belgium. Vice President,**

**Mihaela Cracana from AC Romania. International  
Treasurer, Yvonne Houben from AC Belgium and joining  
the Board this year is our International Secretary,**

**Sumaya Khan from AC Botswana.**

**With us in Supportive Roles are our Web lady and ACW  
specialist, Linda Rodriguez- Sierra. On Social Media, we**

**have Sandra Eilers, both from ACT Germany**

**Welcome aboard to the "A-Team" and thank you for  
accepting to "walk" with me as we continue to burn our  
" One Light and Keep Shining!"**

**As we can see countries and borders have begun opening up and travel is now possible. We still say to you all, remember to take care and please be safe!**  
**I still may not be able travel as much as I would like to meet a lot of our members but one thing Covid has taught us is that we can still be visible on Zoom, Whatsapp, Facebook, Instagram , Messenger and whatever else Social Media comes up with. I'm available for you 24/7**

**Besides Shining this year, I would also like to continue with IPP Chris's theme 2020/21 of "Dare to grow more" I'm happy to report that growth has already started....two weeks into my year, I was honoured to attend the Charter of a new Club in Germany, Agora Club Tangent 79 Göppingen....Let's go ACI, we can definitely grow more.**

**As demonstrated at the AGM, once a candle is lit, it doesn't cost anything to light another candle. When you see a sister, an Agora Club or Country struggling, please share your light and help them to keep shining!**  
**Ladies, before the year is up, we hope all our countries will have migrated to the Agora Club World (ACW)Platform. Linda is more than ready to walk you the process to migration**

**We intend to work very closely with the Round Table Family and implement some of the brilliant ideas that came from our meetings**

**When we all "light" our candles together as the RT Family and combine all our mottos for the year we form "One Light and will Keep Shining" (ACI) for all to see the Family growing from strength to strength because we are "Stronger Together" (LCI & RTI) "May the hinges of Friendship never rust" because there are "No Borders, Let us Connect" (41 Club) as we continue**

**"Joining hands, joining hearts" (TCI)**

**Last but not least, I wish to say a "BIG THANK YOU" to AC the Netherlands and especially the Conference Committee for a very well organised and memorable AGM!!**

**After a two year "drought" of not being able to meet and mingle, it was wonderful to see the Agora Family together again. Thank you so much once again!**

**We are looking forward to seeing you all in Puy du fou, France next year 2022**

**Always Remember, "ONE LIGHT..... KEEP SHINING!!!!"**

**Yours in Friendship  
Love,  
Chilu.**



# Successful AGM







# **Breasts: They could use your support!**

**This October Agora Club International joined the rest of the world in painting the month pink to show supper for Breast Cancer Awareness. As most of you are already aware it is one of the most common types of cancer and affecting one in eight women worldwide, but not everyone is aware that breast cancer can affect men too - they account for one percent of breast cancer diagnosis. This is why shedding some light on this topic is so instrumental in the prevention of this disease. "Big or small - save them all"**

**Pinktober aims to create awareness on these issues, keeping it high on the public agenda and giving everyone hope. We can get through this together.**

**We at Agora Club in our communities are working hand to hand with our own communities to ensure that women are being tested more often, to be familiar with signs and symptoms and to seek help when needed, to know how to prevent the disease and to manage it.**

We acknowledge everyone who is or has been affected by breast cancer. We recognize their struggles, their hopes and their dreams. We send love and prayers to them and their loved ones. We want each and every home to know they are not alone. This month we are celebrating all your lives. Every life is valuable. And together using this platform of Agora Club International we can work to saving one more life. Book that scan now!

We are grateful for everyone who joined us in honouring this month creating in creating awareness and making a difference.

- Sumaya Khan







# ISP 2021 - 2023

The ISP voted in at the AGM at the Hague was Keep a Girl Child in School. This serves to raise funds to assist communities with reusable pads for the disadvantaged young female members of society and to end period poverty. This is a global issue affecting those who don't have access to safe hygienic menstrual products. Therefore we urge every single one of you to make that change by your donations. You can be changing a whole future nation by your one donation. "Make a donation and keep a girl child in school - educate a girl and you educate a nation"

We need your help to make this ISP a success.

## DONATIONS:

Account number: AGORA CLUB INTERNATIONAL  
IBAN BE 25-001-6811249-82  
BIC/SWIFT: GEBABEBB

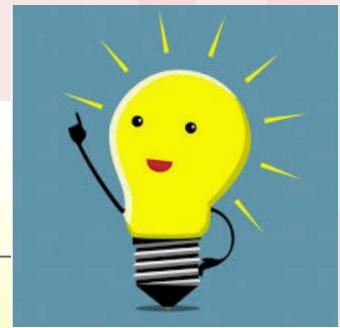
Please mention: DONATION PALESA PADS AND YOUR NAME OR NAME CLUB NAME



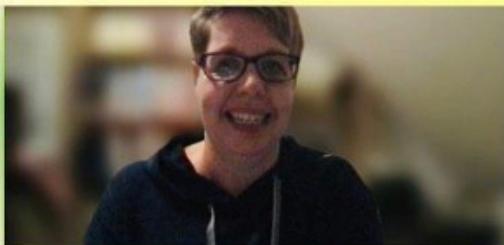
# Zoom Board meeting :

Everyone has their thinking caps on.

 ACI BOARD MEETING



## ONE LIGHT KEEP SHINING

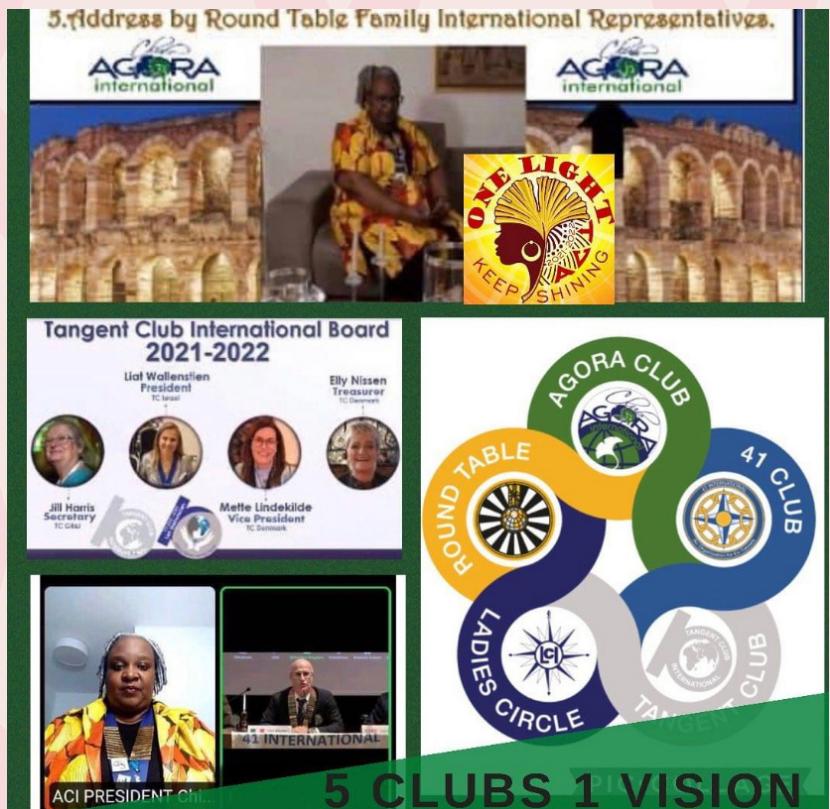


# October Highlights:



Chilu attended  
the charter of  
ACT 79  
Germany.

Tangent Club  
international  
and 41 Club  
International  
Halfyear  
meeting.





AGORA MARRAKECH:  
COUSCOUS SOLIDAIRE

Raising funds  
for the needy,  
whilst enjoying  
Traditional  
Moroccan  
meal.



An amazing  
project to  
provide carbon  
running aids to  
children.

A photograph of a young girl with her arms raised in excitement, jumping in a grassy field under a clear blue sky. In the background, there is a brick building and some trees. To the right of the main image, there is a circular logo with a stylized profile of a person's head and the text "ONE LIGHT KEEP SHINING". Below the main image, there is a yellow banner with the French text "RENDEZ L'IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE". At the bottom left, there is another logo for Club Agora International. At the bottom right, there is a yellow banner with the text "CLUB AGORA FRANCE" and "LAMES DE JOIE".



## Charter of Club in The Netherlands - AC11

Agora Zimbabwe donated to orphans at Salem children's village, Epworth.



Ladies you have made amazing strides so far and now we need to keep asking ourselves what else is possible to make Agora Club International a great impact on the world that it is currently ?

# side by side

Side by side  
in Germany  
to help  
those  
affected by  
the heavy  
rains in July  
2021



Increasing the  
bonds of  
friendship side  
by side  
Botswana.

# **Travel Report – Shinagi Nyoka from AC Zimbabwe**

**The two-day ACI AGM was one of the most instructive times I have had since joining the Agora Club family a few years ago. It wasn't just an opportunity to travel but to meet other women within the body and to impart and share experiences. This was my first inter-continental trip since the Covid Pandemic began in March 2020 to meet. But it required gymnastics to get there, a late decision by the Dutch government to open travel but only to the fully vaccinated, which meant that the visa processes were delayed to the last minute. So many of our Agora Club Zimbabwe members wanted to travel but couldn't take time off work. The costs of travel at the last minute was also prohibitive. I therefore appreciated being chosen to receive the travel fund.**

**I gained an overall appreciation of the traditions of Agora Club, the importance of gift giving, of establishing an individual club identity amongst others.**

I was touched by the warmth and friendship of so many people. I felt as though I had known them forever. The icing on the cake was the recognition that our club received, in the form of the award for most sizeable growth of an associate club. I wish to thank all those who made it possible for me to travel.



# **Travel Report – Dany Ras Talbot from AC France**

**Après un long voyage au départ de THOUARS en FRANCE, nous sommes arrivées en fin d'après-midi dans votre beau pays « vitaminé », LA HOLLANDE et à notre lieu de Rendez-vous : La HAYE**

**Après récupération de nos « Pass » pour le week end, et de notre clé de chambre d'hôtel l'heure était rapidement aux préparatifs pour la première soirée.**

**Juste le temps de changer de vêtements pour rejoindre la soirée des amis et vous retrouver... et c'était déjà la fête à Madurodam. (à noter joli Parc miniature jouxtant la salle de Réception) Fête qui débute avec l'accueil de la fanfare. Un festival de couleurs, de sourires, de joie, de retrouvailles...de bonne humeur palpable et de ...enfin, nous sommes là (toutes ou presque) réunies. t**

**Chaque groupe, chaque pays représenté identifiés grâce à leur DRESS CODE se rejoignent pour une parade multicolore déambulant dans cette salle prévue pour la « Welcome party ».**

**Les participants ont partagé la joie de ces retrouvailles autour du verre de l'amitié, en chantant et dansant. Ces moments se sont poursuivis autour d'un délicieux diner.**

**Les échanges se sont multipliés. La piste de danse était animée et joyeuse. La fête était belle, l'ambiance festive. Déjà le temps de retrouver notre chambre pour une bonne nuit des étoiles plein la tête.**

**Après cette première nuit retrouvailles pour l'ACI – AGM conférence au DILIGENTIA.**

**Accueilles autour d'un brunch apprécié par chacune, remise d'un sac de bienvenue aux couleurs toujours vitaminées, petite visite aux boutiques en place et c'est le début de l'assemblée. Nous sommes confortablement installées dans ce petit théâtre.**

**Le bureau international est en place à la tribune.**

**Mot de bienvenue de notre amie AGORA de La Hague, référente de l'organisation de ce week end**

**Accueil chaleureux de la Présidente Internationale Chris HELEN(vidéo – it's a good day), Intervention de Yvonne**

**Houbens – Trésorière (Bilan financier) Interventions successives des différents membres du bureau international.**

**Nous avons apprécié la prestation de la Diva KARIN, talentueuse, touchante, et drôle.**

**Elections des différents membres du futur bureau  
Choix de poursuivre Action Internationale « Keep a Girl Child in School » pour deux ans**

**Hymne Belge**

**Intervention de CHILUFYA MWANAKATWE (incoming Président)  
présentation de son magnifique logo « ONE LIGHT – KEEP SHINING «**

**L'assemblée s'est terminée vers 14H30 et s'est conclue par un buffet apprécié de toutes.**

**La soirée Royale de Gala au Château Oud Wassenaar a clôturé notre beau week end à la Haye**

**Lieu de prestige – Ambiance festive – contacts enrichissants et partages conviviaux. La soirée s'est poursuivie sur la piste de danse avant de regagner notre hôtel pour notre dernière nuit avant le retour dans nos foyers dès le lendemain**

**Week-end intense, chaleureux, des souvenirs plein la tête.  
Bravo à toutes.**

**Merci à toutes de m'avoir permis de vivre cette aventure,  
ces bons moments de partage,  
Merci pour votre générosité à mon égard. Je vous suis  
infiniment reconnaissante.**

**Je suis encore plus fière aujourd'hui d'être AGORA.  
Rendez-vous en 2022 « le Puy du Fou n'attend que vous »**



# Calendar of Events 2021 - 2022

| MONTH     | DATE                               | EVENT   | PLACE  |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| NOVEMBER  | 5-7<br>16-18                       | HYM ACT GERMANY<br>LC CHARTER   | NEUMUNSTER<br>NAMIBIE  |
| DECEMBER  |                                    |   |  |
| JANUARY   | 28-30                              | MTM LCI NORDIC REGION   | DENMARK / KOLDING  |
| FEB       | 4-6<br>11-13<br><br>22-27<br>25-27 | MTM LCI MIDDLE REGION<br>MTM LCI SOUTHERN REGION<br><br>MTM AFRICA<br>BOARDMEETING<br>MTM NEPAL | MALTA / VALETTA<br>CYPRUS / PAPHOS<br><br>ZAMBIA<br>GERMANY<br>NEPAL |
| MARCH     |                                    |   |  |
| APRIL     | TBA                                | CHARTER   | CYPRUS   |
| MAY       | 21<br>23-26<br>27-29<br>TBA        | INSTALLATION NATIONAL BOARD<br>BOARDMEETING<br>AGM 41 / TCI FORUM ACI<br>ACT GERMANY AGM        | NORWAY<br>NORWAY<br>BERGEN NORWAY<br>TBA                             |
| JUNE      | TBA                                | INSTALLATION NATIONAL BOARD   | AUSTRIA  |
| JULY      | TBA                                | AGM   | ISRAEL   |
| AUGUST    | 18-21                              | LCI AGM   | FINLAND  |
| SEPTEMBER | 22-25<br>26-30<br>30-2/10          | RTI WM<br>BOARDMEETING<br>AGM   | DENMARK / COPENHAGEN<br>FRANCE<br>FRANCE / PUY DU FOU                |
| OCTOBER   | 30/09-2                            | AGM   | FRANCE / PUY DU FOU  |