

# ICELAND

## Area 3

### Status and Challenges



Ingibjörg Elíasdóttir AD

# Highlights from Iceland

- Seven clubs in Iceland
  - Two in Reykjavík, two in Akureyri, one in Selfoss, one in Ísafjörður and one in Hafnarfjörður
- Most of them very active in advancing the status of women
- Proud of our work for women and we enjoy each others company
- One of the clubs in Akureyri has it's own house, the Zonta house, which is very important!

# Highlights from Iceland

- Area meeting in April 2009
- Advocacy high on our agenda
- Passed a resolution aimed at the Icelandic government, urging the government to adopt the CEDAW Convention in to national law
  - Iceland ratified the CEDAW Convention on June 18th 1985 but has not taken in up as national law
- Passed a resolution celebrating a law criminalizing the buying of sex “the Swedish Approach” that was passed in Atthingi the day before the area meeting
- So we are very active in Iceland!

# Biggest challenges in Iceland

- Two of our seven clubs are having difficulties
- One almost quit last year
- Difficult for them to hold meetings, few women attend
- We have them in “intensive care”
  - AD will meet with one of those clubs in October
  - AD will hopefully have the opportunity to meet with the other club later this coming winter

# Biggest Challenges in Iceland

- Another challenge is how to keep our good zontians and keep them active doing zonta work
- Recession hit Iceland hard
  - Women have less money, very concious how they are spending it
  - We who are in charge of Zonta have to make sure everyone benefits from being a Zontian
- We will be working on revitalizing the clubs where needed and really making an effort to tend to our clubmembers and our clubs

# Warm greetings from Zonta in Iceland

