

## September 2015

As we enter the last quarter of this year many members of SIGBI will be turning their thoughts to our annual Convention, this year in Glasgow – [www.sigbi.org/glasgow2015](http://www.sigbi.org/glasgow2015).

Final preparations are being made to ensure things run smoothly so that delegates get the most out of the experience, renewing friendships, making new friends but above all being inspired by the speakers and by the programme work.

In the past fifteen years Soroptimist programme work has been linked to the Millennium Development Goals but will now look towards the [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

More than 150 world leaders are expected to attend the UN Sustainable Development Summit from 25-27 September at UN headquarters in New York to formally adopt the new sustainable development agenda.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has said that the summit “will chart a new era of sustainable development in which poverty will be eradicated, prosperity shared and the core drivers of climate change tackled”.



*UN Headquarters, New York*

The Summit will be the climax of a negotiating process that has spanned more than two years, has involved all 193 Member States of the United Nations and has featured the unprecedented participation of major groups of society and other stakeholders.

On 2 August, Member States reached agreement on the outcome document for the summit with the title ‘Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’, which includes 17 new sustainable development goals.

This agreement will be formally adopted at the summit and aims to “encompass a universal, transformative and integrated agenda that heralds an historic turning point for our world. This is the people’s agenda, a plan of action for ending poverty in all its dimensions, irreversibly, everywhere and leaving no one behind. It seeks to ensure peace and prosperity and forge partnerships with people and planet at the core. The integrated, interlinked and indivisible 17 sustainable development goals are the people’s goals and demonstrate the scale, universality and ambition of this new agenda.”

Many new contacts were made at the International Convention in Istanbul which may result in partnerships for SIGBI and assist in supporting the SDG’s. It is an exciting new phase with opportunities for change and innovation.

Conventions inspire so I hope to see many of you catching the bug in Glasgow.

*Barbara Dixon  
Federation Programme Director*