



**2005 International Meeting, May 15 - 18, 2005**  
***Women Changing Business and Civic Landscape***

**May 15 – 18, 2005 Sofia, Bulgaria**

***Host: International Association of Professional Business Women of Bulgaria***

**Hotel:** Radisson SAS Grand Hotel  
4 Narodno Sabrainie Sq.  
Sofia, 1000, Bulgaria  
For Reservations call: 359 2 0334 333  
Email: reservations.sofia@radissonsas.com

**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**

General arrivals in Sofia

**Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 – 11:45 am**      **TIAW Board Meeting**  
**Venue: TBD**

**1:15 – 5:30 pm**      **“City of Sofia” Tour**  
Walking tour with an English-speaking guide. Sofia has a history that goes back thousands of years. Through the centuries, many peoples have inhabited it and added to its rich and diverse history. Some of the sites we’ll visit include St. Sofia Church, The National Palace of Culture, the golden domed Alexander Nevski Memorial Cathedral, the 4<sup>th</sup> century Rotunda of St. George with its medieval frescoes, and the archeological complex of the Church of St. Nedelya

**7:30 pm**                      **Welcome Reception**  
**Venue: TBD**  
This will be an opportunity to meet and network with our hosts, the women of IAPBWB, as well as highly placed officials of the city of Sofia.

**Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>**

**6:30 – 8:30 am**              Breakfast in participants’ hotel (included in room rate)

**8:00 am**                      **Conference Registration opens at the Radisson SAS Grand Hotel**  
**Venue: Alexander’s Ballroom**  
Networking with conference attendees

- 9:00 – 09:15 am**      **Opening Address**  
**Nina Noeva**, President, IAPBWB, Conference Chair  
**Hannah Sorscher**, President, TIAW
- 9:15 – 10:30 am**      **1<sup>st</sup> SESSION: The Way to Positive Change and How Women’s Networks Can Contribute**
- Maxine Westaway**, Executive Director and Past President TIAW  
**Stephanie MacKendrick**, President, Canadian Women in Communications (CWC); 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President TIAW; Chair, Women on Boards Program  
**Diane Morris**, President, City Women’s Network, London
- 10:30 – 11:00 am**      **Coffee Break and networking**
- 11:00 am – 12.15pm**      **2<sup>nd</sup> SESSION: EU Accession Management And Its Influence On The Economy Of The Candidate Country**
- Milko Kovachev** – Minister of Economy of the Republic of Bulgaria  
**Nina Radeva** – Chair, Parliamentary Budget and Finance Committee  
**John Chomel-Doe**, Director, Bulgaria, European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)  
**Daniela Bobeva** – Head, International Relations and European Integration Department, Bulgarian National Bank
- 12:15 – 1:30 pm**      **Networking Lunch**
- 1:30 – 2:30 pm**      **3<sup>rd</sup> SESSION:  
Relationship Building/Networking And Why It’s Important To Women  
Gender Specific Initiatives That Have a Positive Impact  
Women Entrepreneurs**
- Nina Noeva**, IAPBWB President  
**Lea Chambers**, Marketing Director, KPMG, Victoria, Canada  
**Vanessa Erogbogbo** - Program Officer, Gender Entrepreneurship Markets Private Sector Development, World Bank Group, IFC Gender Entrepreneurship Markets (GEM)
- 2.30 – 2.45pm**      **Q&A**
- 2:45 – 3:15 pm**      **Coffee Break**
- 3.15 – 4.45pm**      **4<sup>th</sup> SESSION: Business Environment And The Investment Climate Of A Country On The Doorstep Of EU Accession**
- Sasha Bezuhanova** – General Manager HP, Bulgaria  
**Maria Ilieva** – Executive Director HVB Biohim Bank  
**Elitsa Tsanova** – Executive Director Ideal Standard Bulgaria, Director Supply Chain American Standard Eastern Europe
- 4.45 pm**      **Q&A**

**4:55 pm**                    **Closing Remarks**

**7:30 pm**                    **Cocktail Reception**  
**Venue: TBD**

**Tuesday May 17<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 am**                    **Departure from the hotel**

**10:30 am**                    **Discover Bulgaria Tour**  
Arrival in the ancient city of Plovdiv, the second largest city in Bulgaria. Plovdiv is said to be older than Rome, Athens, Carthage and Constantinople itself. Home of the Dzhumaiya and Imaret Mosques, and the ancient ruins from both Byzantine times, and its time as the 2<sup>nd</sup> century Roman provincial capital.

**1:00 pm**                    **Networking lunch**  
Folklore restaurant with IAPBWB members from Plovdiv, local authorities and the business community.

**3:00 pm**                    **Depart Plovdiv**

**7:30 pm**                    **Arrival in Sunny Beach**

**8:30 pm**                    **Networking Dinner**  
Local women from IAPBWB and a special guest speaker

**Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 am**                    **Depart hotel for the seaside resort of Nessebur**  
This remarkable town is one of the oldest in Bulgaria dating back to the 1<sup>st</sup> Century BC with its preserved fortified wall, towers, gate, sanctuaries, inscriptions, and reliefs, home to the world famous St. John the Baptist Church from the 10-11<sup>th</sup> century. The "Old Town" is included in the list of "UNESCO World Heritage Sites".

**1:00 – 2:30 pm**                    **Lunch in a picturesque local restaurant**  
Networking with local women

**2:30 pm**                    Departure for Starosel to visit the recently discovered ancient Tomb of the famous Thracian King before returning to Sofia.

**7:30 pm (approx)**                    Arrival back in Sofia, check back into the Radisson Hotel  
  
Free evening.

**Conclusion of official program**

**Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**

**9:30 am**

**Shopping for those who wish, accompanied by local women**