



IFLA National Libraries Section

STANDING COMMITTEE

70th General Conference, Buenos Aires

Minutes

2nd MEETING, 28 August 2004

Members present:

Zawiyah BABA, Malaysia
Fernanda CAMPOS, Portugal (Chair and Treasurer)
Genevieve CLAVEL-MERRIN, Switzerland (Secretary)
Kai EKHOLM, Finland
Andrew GREEN, Wales
Elisabeth NIGGEMANN, Germany
Celia ZAHER, Brazil
Vladimir ZAITSEV, Russia

Apologies:

Osvaldo AVALLONE, Italy
Viktor FEDOROV, Russia
Antonia Ida FONTANA, Italy, represented by Ms. Federica PARADISI
Graham JEFCOATE, Germany
Zoran KRUSTUOVIĆ, Slovenia represented by Melita AMBROŽIČ, Slovenia
Steen Bille LARSEN, Denmark
Georges ZACHOS, Greece

Observers:

Melita AMBROŽIČ, Slovenia
Antonia ARAHOVA, Greece
Mabel BATTO OCHOTECO, Uruguay
Nidia BERTUNA, Argentina
Martin BOSSENBROEK, Netherlands
Marie-Claire GERMANAUD, France
Curely C. JONES, USA
Roger JØSEVOLD, Norway
Ngian LEK CHOH, Singapore
Graciela PERRONE, Argentina
Araceli SANCHEZ-PIÑOL, Spain
Vigdís Moe SKARSTEIN, Norway
John K. TSEBE, South Africa

1. Opening of the meeting:

The Chair opened the meeting, welcomed the members of the Standing Committee and the observers and presented apologies for absence. She congratulated Celia Zaher on becoming Chair of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL) and Zawiyah Baba on becoming Deputy Chair.

2. Review of agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of some points in Any other business. A comment was made on the length and placing of the Standing Committee meetings: it is felt that the second meeting in particular makes the IFLA Conference too long. The Chair explained that a request had

previously been made to reduce the number of Standing Committee meetings to one, but that IFLA did not accept the proposal since a meeting is required at the start to prepare and at the end to sum up and act on discussions throughout the Conference. It was agreed to minute the comment.

3. Discussion theme II: Collaboration projects between national libraries

3.1. Presentation of *TEL – The European Library: state of the art and future perspectives*, by Elisabeth Niggemann, Die Deutsche Bibliothek, Germany. See paper on the Section's page <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s1/>.

3.2. "Round Robin" on integrated access to catalogues, collections and services in national libraries
Following the presentation by Elisabeth Niggemann, Kai Ekholm underlined the fact that this new service is politically very important – it can in theory reach 300 million Europeans (and beyond), providing small countries such as Finland with a gateway to a much wider audience and improving cultural diversity. Zawayah Baba asked if the service will supply new digital content. Elisabeth Niggemann clarified that The European Library will provide access to more digital content as it becomes available in the member institutions, but that it also offers access to print holdings as well as digital. She stressed that the digital holdings remain in the libraries and are not held centrally.

Ngian Lek Cho asked what is being done to solve the question of multilingual access. Genevieve Clavel explained that the European Library will look at various approaches including MACS (Multilingual Access to Subjects) which aims to link different subject headings.

Andrew Green was very supportive of the project and hoped that it will be possible to extend membership to sub-sovereign national level libraries such as the National Library of Wales and the National Library of Scotland. Elisabeth Niggemann hoped that the service could be extended to many other institutions in the long term.

The presentation was well appreciated by members present and there was a general feeling that the model might apply in other geographical areas. The Chair thanked Elizabeth Niggemann for her presentation.

4. Revision of Strategic plan for 2003-2005

The Chair and Standing Committee evaluated progress on actions arising from the Strategic Plan (published in the Newsletter, April 2004). Overall, progress has been excellent.

1.1 *Organise a Session on the educational role of national libraries for Buenos Aires, 2004. **DONE***

1.2 *Participate in a project, jointly sponsored by IFLA PAC, Division I and Division IV to survey disaster planning in national libraries and to co-organise a Session on the topic for Buenos Aires, 2004. **DONE***

1.3 *Prepare a Session on access to digital cultural heritage with emphasis on the cooperation between libraries, archives and museums for Oslo, 2005. **TO BE DISCUSSED UNDER ITEM 5***

1.4 *Organise a Session or pre-conference on new national library buildings and equipment with the support of IFLA Library Buildings and Equipment Section for Oslo, 2005. **Steen Bille Larsen did not receive a positive response. It is proposed to drop this action. There will be a session on library buildings in Oslo without the national libraries and PAC will also do a session on preservation needs in library buildings. It is not considered useful to have a third session. The Section will concentrate instead on cultural heritage.***

2.1 *Continue the survey on performance measurements, already distributed in Europe, Asia and Oceania, for other parts of the world, especially in South-America and the Caribbean. **OPEN***

2.2 *Establish a Working Group on benchmarking and performance indicators with the objective to develop a workplan and further activities to proceed within the Section. **OPEN – The Section will try to start this in 2005***

2.3 Organise regional workshops to develop management skills of national library staff, the first to take place at the National Library of Malaysia for national librarians in Asia and Oceania in 2004. **DONE. A successful meeting took place. See paper by Zawiyah Baba on the Section's page <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s1/>. The Chair thanked Zawiyah Baba and the Malaysian authorities and encouraged other areas to plan something similar.**

2.4 Publish the Newsletter of the National Libraries Section in electronic form twice a year. **One issue has been published, the second is planned before the end of the year.**

2.5 Update the leaflet on the National Libraries Section and promote its translation into IFLA's official languages and its wide dissemination. **DONE.** Vladimir Zaitsev will carry out the Russian translation.

3.1 Support and cooperate with ICABS (IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards) in their workplan regarding bibliographic and resource control and long-term archiving of electronic resources. **DONE. A successful session was held in Buenos Aires. A session on web archiving is planned for 2005 and the National Libraries Section will co-operate.**

3.2 Encourage members to lobby within their countries in support of IFLA's efforts within the framework of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) to promote the essential role of libraries in the Information Society and to help reduce the digital divide. **See report in Newsletter April 2004. Genevieve Clavel urged members to contact their ministries. The Swiss colleagues will help any delegates to the Geneva prepcoms in organisation (sadly not financial) matters. Zawiyah Baba gave some concrete examples: one target in Malaysia is to connect all rural libraries – 2003 were connected in 2003 and 200 more are planned for 2004. This connection generates also a need for training staff.**

3.3 Support the recommendations 1 and 11 of the IFLA Social Responsibilities Discussion Group in the further developments that may be envisaged. **The group was informed of this but there has been no news since the last IFLA conference.**

3.4 Proceed in co-sponsoring the next IFLA Meetings of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code, organized by the Cataloguing Section. **DONE. The first meeting in Frankfurt 2004 was very successful. A final draft document revisiting the Paris Principles was prepared for Buenos Aires. Gunilla Jonsson will send a report for inclusion in the newsletter. The Section will continue to support this work.**

5. Programme for the 71st General Conference, Oslo, 12-19 August 2005

The Chair gave the floor to Vigdis Skarstein who warmly invited Section members to attend, indicating that in addition there will be activities around the opening of the new national library building. The final announcement has been released and is available on IFLANET. The theme of the conference is Libraries – a voyage of discovery. Nordic countries would be interested to hear about performance measurement, the integration of traditional and digital material and of course many other themes. The Chair suggested to incorporate a small presentation on performance measurement in a Standing Committee meeting.

Kai Ekholm informed delegates that Sweden and Finland will be happy to greet visitors who wish to make the most of their journey north to discover other libraries too.

The topic proposed for the Section is Networking Cultural Heritage. There will be a 2 hour session available. Graham Jefcoate made some suggestions covering the following areas : National and international initiatives on the networking of cultural heritage institutions; the prospects for cross-searching of cultural heritage materials (digital objects, full-text archives, catalogues/inventories, other metadata, etc.) across sectoral, institutional and national boundaries; the potential benefits and challenges for national libraries. The Chair proposed to move away from a series of speeches and to have one keynote speaker (proposal by Graham Jefcoate: Jon Birger Østby, seconded by Vigdis Skarstein) and then to have regional reports about activities around the world. To prepare this, five regions were proposed and the following people accepted to manage them:

Europe – information coordination Kai Ekholm;

United States and Canada - information coordination Andrew Green

South America and Caribbean - information coordination Celia Zaher

Africa - information coordination John Tsebe

Asia Oceania - information coordination Zawayah Baba

Coordinators will use reports from CDNL and published information to present a short report. The Chair will send out a template for discussion. It is not necessary to send questionnaires.

The Section has been asked by the Section on Rare Books and Manuscripts to take part in a session on the value of 20th century archives as cultural heritage. The Chair proposed that the National Libraries Section submit a paper on the way literary archives have been managed in selected European projects: networking information and literary archives. The speaker will be confirmed after discussion.

6. Evaluation of Buenos Aires General Conference

The general evaluation of the conference was very positive, especially for the region. 1'500 attendees came from Latin America and thus had the opportunity to meet colleagues from around the world and share experiences. The Section expressed its thanks to the organising committee. The Section's sessions were very successful with about 140 people attending the National Libraries session on e-learning and 160 at the joint session with PAC and Preservation and Conservation many of whom were outside the national library sphere. The quality of the papers was very good. Few evaluation forms were returned since there were difficulties distributing them but those that were received were positive. The Section members will hand out forms next year and try to ensure that there is no confusion with the general IFLA evaluation form.

Genevieve Clavel and Zawayah Baba reported that the session at the IFLA booth was successful.

7. Any other business

The Secretary reminded Section Committee members and observers that 2005 is an election year. There will be elections to the Committee and then also the Chair and Secretary must be (re-)elected. The current Chair, Fernanda Campos, has served two terms and will not stand for re-election. A detailed explanation of the process and deadlines will be available on the IFLA officers' page (<http://www.ifla.org/III/officers/index.htm>) . The Secretary encouraged all to look at this document and undertook to inform members when it is posted.

The Committee should propose one paper from those presented during the Conference for publication in IFLA journal. Members were asked to submit their proposal to the Chair as soon as possible.

The Korean Library Association has established the IFLA 2006 Secretariat: contact for preparations (Session, workshops, satellite meetings): Kyung-Ku LEE, Secretary general Korean Library Association, klandet@hitel.net

Ngian Lek Choh informed the meeting that the National Library of Singapore will open a new building in September 2005 and that national library directors will be invited to attend.

8. Adjournment

The Chair thanked the members of the Standing Committee and the observers for their contribution and closed the meeting.

Action	Who	When
Working Group on benchmarking	G. Zachos	2005
Translate leaflet into Russian	V. Zaitsev	2004?
Newsletter	G. Clavel	Autumn 2004
Lobby for libraries in WSIS	All	2004-2005
Cultural heritage networking – regional report – Europe	K. Ekholm	IFLA 2005
Cultural heritage networking – regional report – US/Canada	A. Green	IFLA 2005
Cultural heritage networking – regional report – S. America	C. Zaher	IFLA 2005
Cultural heritage networking – regional report – Africa	J. Tsebe	IFLA 2005
Cultural heritage networking – regional report – Asia/Oceania	Z. Baba	IFLA 2005
Template for report	F. Campos	Start 2005
Propose a paper for publication in IFLA journal	All	September 2004
Inform members of election procedures (Officers' corner)	G. Clavel	October 2004