Members present:
Jasmine CAMERON, Australia
Genevieve CLAVEL-MERRIN, Switzerland (Secretary)
Kai EK HOLM, Finland
Victor FEDOROV, Russian Federation
Antonia Ida FONTANA, Italy
Andrew GREEN, Wales
Elisabeth NIGGEMANN, Germany
Ingrid PARENT, Canada (Chair)
Vladimir ZAITSEV, Russian Federation

Apologies:
Martin BOSSENBROECK, Netherlands
Renee HERBOUZE, France
Graham JEFCOATE, Netherlands
Zoran KRSTULOVIC, Slovenia
Araceli SANCHEZ-PINOL DE ANTA, Spain
Celia RIBEIRO ZAHER, Brazil

Absent
Osvaldo AVALLONE, Italy
Evgeniy KUZMIN, Russian Federation
Deanna MARCUM, United States
Vigdis Moe SKARSTEIN, Norway
George ZACHOS, Greece

Observers:
Eleanor FRIERSON, USA
Suzanne D. GYESZLY, Qatar
Sigrun-Klara HANNESDOTTIR, Iceland
Kristiina, HORMIA-POUTANEN, Finland
Erland Kolding NIELSEN, Denmark
Eva KODRIC-DACIC, Slovenia
Steen Bille LARSEN, Denmark
Ellen Ndeshi NAMILA, Namibia
Siti Mariani OMAR, Malaysia (plus a colleague, name not legible)
Roswitha POLL, Germany
Gunnar SAHLIN, Sweden
Lucien SCOTTI, France
John TSEBE, South Africa
Dorjee TSHERING, Bhutan
Martyn WADE, Scotland
Peter YOUNG, USA

1. Opening of the meeting
The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed Standing Committee members and observers. All those present introduced themselves. The Chair presented apologies from those SC members not present.
2. Adoption of agendas for SC I and SC II
The agendas for both meetings were adopted, with point 8 to take place before point 7 in SC I.

3. Approval of minutes from Oslo meetings
The minutes from the Oslo meetings were approved

4. Officers’ reports
Professional Committee
The Chair reported on the “Coordinating Board of Division 1” meeting held the previous day and chaired by Donna Scheeder, Chair of the Libraries and Research Services for Parliaments Section. All delegates were reminded to wear their badges at all times. Voting members should pick up voting papers and badges as soon as possible. All SC members are requested to attend an important meeting on Sunday August 20th at 12.45 to discuss the proposed changes to the structure of sections and the professional committee. The short list for IFLA 2009 is Florence, Milan, Lisbon. For 2010 the area under consideration is South-east Asia and the Pacific.

Financial report
The Chair reported that the Section had not requested any funding from IFLA during the past year: Costs were absorbed by SC members where required. She asked colleagues to consider suitable projects which might be funded by IFLA: the topic would be put back on the agenda in SC II.

Section Review
As an outcome of the Section reviews, IFLA has called the previously mentioned meeting for Sunday August 20th.

Strategic Plan
The section strategic plan was accepted by IFLA. Only one SC member commented on the IFLA strategic plan: these comments were forwarded to IFLA.

The Chair reminded members that there are Regional IFLA offices and asked all to reflect on ways to work better with these. The discussion would be resumed at the second SC meeting on Friday 25th August.

Elisabeth Niggemann and Jasmine Cameron were asked to nominate one of the section papers for publication in IFLA journal.

The editor of Alexandria has asked for proposals for articles from national libraries: please contact Ian McGowan.

The Chair reminded SC members that 2007 is an election year: members having served one term are eligible for re-election but must apply. New members are welcome. The Secretary will have served 4 years in 2007 and will need to be replaced.

5. Information activities
Newsletter, list and leaflets
The Secretary reported that two newsletters have been published in 2006, and a third is planned for autumn. Thanks to all who have contributed. Distribution is electronic only, with downloads possible from the NL section page on the IFLA web site. The section leaflet is also available for download in English, German Slovenian and Spanish.

Representation at IFLA Booth
The Chair and Secretary offered to represent the Section at the IFLA booth on Monday August 15th (10.00-11.00).

6. Review of programmes at Seoul
The Chair explained how the new procedures for papers had been carried out, with a call and evaluation process that was very successful both in terms of numbers and quality of papers. She encouraged all to attend the session to be held on Tuesday 22nd August 13.45-15.45 and reminded SC members of the joint sessions held with other sections on Monday 21st August Information Technology with Audiovisual and Multimedia and National Libraries New Access Technologies (13.45-18.00) and on Thursday 24th August Information Technology with National Libraries with Academic and Research Libraries and Knowledge Management
Institutional Repositories: policies, implementation issues, an overview of the technologies (8.30-12.45).
The Chair explained that although a satellite meeting had been mooted for Durban, the plans did not work out and that as an alternative a satellite meeting for 2008 should be considered: suggestions had been made from the Bibliography section but more would be know by the second meeting.

The Chair welcomed Ms. Poll on behalf of all those attending and gave her the floor.
Ms. Poll informed the group that voting is being carried out on a proposal to set up a working group within ISO TC46/SC8 to discuss performance indicators for national libraries. Initial responses are very encouraging. A draft has already been written with some ideas, looking for example at information in national libraries’ annual reports, and is attached to the minutes. The working group should start discussion based on the draft by the end of 2006 with the goal to provide a technical report (not a standard) including methods and indicators for National Libraries. Experts are needed from each country; most work will be done by email. SC members and observers were very supportive of this proposal and a lively discussion followed with many ideas about the types of indicators that could be included to cover the special needs of national libraries. Suggestions for indicators relating to digital collections, remote access and usage were particularly requested. The problem of ephemera and how to measure its collection was discussed. The digitization of the national heritage was also considered a useful indicator. Ms. Poll agreed to provide the Secretary with a copy of the proposal and a call for input which will be sent with the minutes and to the CDNL, CENL and national libraries lists. It was proposed that the NL section become an official liaison for the working group in order that members be able to comment.
The Chair thanked Ms. Poll for the very stimulating presentation on this topic that is of utmost importance to all national libraries.

8. Discussion theme kick-off - CDNL – SC cooperation (paper distributed to SC members)
The Chair introduced the topic, thanking Jasmine Cameron for drafting the comparison paper. She opened the floor for discussion, indicating that she hoped to report on this at the CDNL meeting the following Wednesday. SC members had different views on the paper, while some were in full agreement, others felt there was no risk of overlap or confusion. It was stressed that the discussion was not intended to lead to a decision on the suppression of either group: both have their role and should be continued. The acting Chair of CDNL, Erland Kolding Nielson, observing at the SC meeting, agreed in principle with many of the observations in the paper and explained the history of the growth of CDNL and its support for IFLA’s core programmes, then ICABS. Membership of CDNL is limited to CEOs, that of the Section is much wider
It was felt that the two groups should seek to find areas in which they could work together. The Chair proposed to report to the CDNL that the groups are exploring areas of cooperation and that the officers of each group would work together to define these, perhaps arranging to meet in Durban 2007.
During the discussion the problem of managing a full list of national libraries was raised: the CDNL has some names, IFLA others, CENL, CDNL-LAO and Abinia others but there is no complete list. The Chair proposed that the creation of such a list could be a useful project to submit to IFLA and suggested that the topic be discussed again in the SC II.

9. News from SC members and observers (please register beforehand with Genevieve)
Given the lack of time, this point was postponed until SC II, except for a brief statement from Andrew Green (Wales) who reported on the status of libraries in Lebanon and spoke of the plans to open a new national library in 2008 (www.bnlb.org).

10. Any other business
There was no other business. The Chair closed the meeting.
Genevieve Clavel/September 2006