



IFLA National Libraries Section

STANDING COMMITTEE

72nd General Conference, Seoul

Minutes

2nd MEETING, 25 August 2006, 14:08-16:45

Members present:

Jasmine CAMERON, Australia (minutes)
Kai EKHOLM, Finland
Victor FEDOROV, Russian Federation
Antonia Ida FONTANA, Italy
Andrew GREEN, Wales
Graham JEFCOATE, Netherlands
Elisabeth NIGGEMANN, Germany
Ingrid PARENT, Canada (Chair)
Vladimir ZAITSEV, Russian Federation

Apologies:

Martin BOSSENBROECK, Netherlands
Genevieve CLAVEL-MERRIN, Switzerland
Renee HERBOUZE, France
Zoran KRSTULOVIC, Slovenia
Araceli SANCHEZ-PINOL DE ANTA, Spain
Celia RIBEIRO ZAHER, Brazil

Absent

Oswaldo AVALLONE, Italy
Evgeniy KUZMIN, Russian Federation
Deanna MARCUM, United States
Vigdís Moe SKARSTEIN, Norway
George ZACHOS, Greece

Observers:

Lise BISSONNETTE, Canada
Ngaian Lek CHOH, Singapore
Maria Ines CORDEIRO, Portugal
Elisabeth FREYRE, France
Kristiina, HORMIA-POUTANEN, Finland
Eva KODRIC-DACIC, Slovenia
Hans, JANSEN, Netherlands
Steen Bille LARSEN, Denmark
Erland Kolding NIELSEN, Denmark

Siti Mariani OMAR, Malaysia
Lucien SCOTTI, France
John TSEBE, South Africa
Willy VANDERPIJPEN, Belgium
Martyn WADE, Scotland

1. Opening of the meeting

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed Standing Committee members and observers. All those present introduced themselves.

2. Review of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with the addition of 'Item 9 News from SC members and observers' which had been postponed from the first meeting.

3. Evaluation of Seoul General Conference and NL Section sessions

There was strong praise for the conference organisation and hospitality. Members also noted the following positive aspects of the conference: good attendance from the Asian region at the conference shows that IFLA's policy of holding the conference in different regions is successful; the exhibition hall was centrally located and therefore well patronised; collaborative two-hour sessions are successful in creating diverse and interesting programs.

There was some discussion about the number of concurrent sessions, visits and tours which has come about because of the introduction of a shorter conference program. Members also asked the Chair to consider a single section meeting at the beginning of the conference instead of the current arrangement where a meeting is held at both the day prior and the day after the conference.

The Chair reported that approximately 160 had attended the NL session and 13 evaluation forms had been completed. Positive comments were received about the focus on non-European libraries but comments were also made about the lack of a coherent theme and the fact that speakers concentrated largely on what was happening in their own libraries. Suggestions for future sessions included human resources, digital preservation and the economic benefits of libraries. Andrew Green commented that guidelines should be provided to future speakers to encourage them to keep to the selected theme.

4. Programme for the 73rd General Conference and Council, Durban, August 2007

The Chair invited John Tsebe to commence the discussion on a possible theme for the NL session in Durban. He reminded members that the 2007 conference theme is *Libraries for the Future: Progress, Development and Partnerships*. A survey of African nations to determine progress on the production of national bibliographies is underway and this is an area in which partnerships with developing countries would be useful. Erland Kolding Nielsen asked members to consider a pre-conference session for national libraries in developing countries. The Chair undertook to work with the Secretary on a plan for a 'best practices' workshop to be held in Durban for national libraries in developing countries.

After a broad ranging discussion of potential themes it was agreed that the Chair would develop a section theme around 'partnerships' for further discussion by members. The Chair will also pursue the idea of a joint session with ICABS on 'resource discovery' tools and initiatives underway in national libraries.

The Chair asked for expressions of interest to represent the Section at a meeting to be hosted by the Bibliography Section in Paris in February 2007 to discuss proposed "Guidelines for (Electronic) National Bibliographies". A program session on the Guidelines will be held at the next IFLA conference in Durban. It is important that the National Libraries Section be involved in any activity relating to national bibliographies. Because there were several questions on the scope of the Guidelines, the Chair will contact the Bibliography Section for more information and will report back to members. It will then be decided who will represent the Section for further work on this activity.

The Chair asked members to keep in mind the topic of performance indicators for a potential future session with the Statistics and Evaluation Section and the evolving status of national libraries which had been discussed at CDNL and which could be the topic of a session, for example '*Emerging, De-merging, Converging*'.

5. Satellite meeting for 2007

In view of the time needed to organise a satellite session this would be postponed to 2008. The Chair asked members to think of suitable topics for a satellite meeting. The work being undertaken by Roswitha Poll on performance indicators for national libraries and the ISO TC46/SC8 standard or national bibliographies are possible topics.

6. Selection of papers to be published in IFLA Journal

Members agreed to the suggestion by Jasmine Cameron and Elisabeth Niggemann that the paper by Martin Wade be nominated for publication in the *IFLA Journal* and that the remaining papers be referred by the Chair to Ian McGowan for consideration for publication in *Alexandria*.

7. Discussion theme II: CDNL-SC cooperation follow up

Erlend Kolding Nielsen commented that it is necessary to plan common themes at least two years in advance of IFLA conferences and suggested that the chairs of both groups meet after the first NL Section meeting and prior to the main conference next year. The Chair undertook to circulate the NL Section newsletter to CDNL members. There was discussion about the best way to compile an up-to-date list of national libraries and national librarians. The CDNL Secretariat will update the CDNL members register but as this contains personal email addresses these details cannot be made publicly available. The NL Section will also investigate developing a list, possibly to be funded by IFLA as a project.

8. The European Library – update by Elisabeth Niggemann

Elisabeth Niggemann undertook to send the Secretary a copy of her overhead slides for circulation to members. The Gabriel website has been integrated into The European Library which has evolved from the original TEL project, which was partly funded by the European Commission. It provides a single access point to all of the digital and non-digital resources of member libraries in Europe. The Koninklijke

Bibliotheek provides strong support for the service and members also contribute financially to the running of the service. CENL has sought additional funding from the European Commission to enable the ten new member libraries of the European Union to join. The European Commission is seeking the ultimate expansion of the service into the European Digital Library which will encompass digital collections of museums, archives and others by 2010. Multilingual access is also an aim. Further information about The European Library is at <http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org> and the aims of the European Digital library and the proposed timeline can be found in the overhead slides.

9. News from members and observers

In order of reporting:

Finland: Following a review of responsibilities the role of the National Library of Finland (previously known as the Helsinki University Library) has grown to encompass the university and public library network.

Germany: the new name Deutsche Nationalbibliothek reflects the new legal deposit responsibility of the national library for networked publications.

Canada: Library and Archives Canada will implement its new legal deposit legislation for networked publications in January 2007.

Denmark: Government is funding a new collaborative digital project (PLANNERS) between the Danish national and university libraries and archives. The two Danish national libraries (Royal Library in Copenhagen and the University Library in Aarhus) have formed an alliance (*netarchive*) to harvest the Danish internet domain following a revision of the Danish deposit law, see <http://www.netarchive.dk>. The Royal Library has developed a Danish version of JSTOR and hopes that other Nordic national libraries may contribute to the archive in the future. The Royal Library is working with other libraries to implement a resource discovery tool for federated searching called PRIMO from Ex-Libris. Following a review in Denmark the number of Danish universities will reduce from 12 to 6 and the two national libraries will be responsible for providing them with library services. The Danish Folk Archive will also merge with the Royal Library.

France: the copyright exception to acquire websites has been renewed; a paper on this will be given to the Secretary for inclusion in the NL Section newsletter. A mass digitisation test is underway with IBM in order to establish costs and test searching. A report in French will be sent to the Secretary for distribution to members. Lessons learnt to date include: the market for conversion of text to OCR'd images is not yet mature; the chain of production needs to be well thought through; robust procedures are needed to identify defects with OCR processes.

Italy: Italy also now has legal deposit covering websites. A harvest of Italian websites has been undertaken on behalf of the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale Firenze by the Internet Archive using the IIPC software. Several digitisation projects are underway including the digitisation of 8,000 ancient maps using software similar to Google maps. The project to translate DDC into Italian has been completed.

Singapore: The new national library building opened in November 2006. It is hoped that the Library 2010 plan to improve digital infrastructure will attract funding from the government. The IFLA Asia/Oceania Office has now moved from Bangkok to Singapore.

Wales: the National Library of Wales has a new constitution. Any library undergoing a similar change is welcome to contact Andrew Green. To mark the occasion of the 100th birthday of the National Library of Wales on 19 March 2007 two poems will be

sent to each national library. Andrew Green would like national libraries to respond with birthday greetings, if possible in the form of a poem. These poems will be placed in an anthology on the website.

Scotland: The National Library of Scotland's legislation is being reviewed because the government is harmonising the national museum, archives, gallery and library within a single act. Funding has been received from government to increase the amount of public space; this will include exhibition and reading room space and a drop-in centre which will open up the library to all users.

Malaysia: significant funds have been raised for the reconstruction of libraries in Aceh.

10. Other business

There was no other business. The meeting closed at 4.45pm.

Jasmine Cameron