

Section on Library and Research
Services for Parliaments

Section des services de bibliothèque
et de recherche parlementaires

International Federation
of Library Associations and Institutions
Fédération internationale des
Associations de bibliothécaires et des
bibliothèques
Internationaler Verband
der bibliothekarischen Vereine und
Institutionen
Federacion Internacional de
Asociaciones de Bibliotecarios y
Bibliotecas



WSIS Report



**FINAL PROGRAM OF
THE SEOUL CONFERENCE 2006**

NEWS FROM THE SECTION



Circular Newsletter

Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments

Vol. 25 – No. 14-15, June 2006

Editor: Margareta Brundin, Graphic Design: Louise Edlund, Ulf Gråberg

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Letter from the Section Chair

Dear Colleagues,

It is hard to believe that almost an entire year has gone by since we met in Oslo. The program planners have been hard at work. Our hosts at the Korean National Assembly have planned three days of meetings and social events that will be stimulating, challenging and fun. Mr. Yong Soo Bae, the Librarian of the National Assembly and Ms. Anna Lee, the International Affairs Officer, deserve the wholehearted thanks of the Section. Special thanks go to Hugh Finsten and Keith Cunningham who developed the program for Research Day and have recruited panelists to speak. A detailed program appears in the newsletter.

In addition, the Section is sponsoring 3 sessions at the COEX on Monday. In cooperation with the Section on Government Information and Publications, speakers will explore E-parliament projects, technology tools and strategies for building dynamic websites, and how government generates and uses business information to stimulate the country's economy. A day of management workshops will take place on Wednesday, August 23rd at the Prima Hotel. Moira Fraser has been busy devising a list of topics and recruiting workshop leaders. The two Standing Committee meetings will take place on Saturday, August 19th and Friday, August 25th. Those will take place at the COEX Convention Center. A more detailed schedule for our Section appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

We have already begun to prepare for IFLA 2007 in South Africa. The South African Parliament has graciously invited the Section to hold a pre-conference at the Parliament in Capetown. Mr. Albert Ntunja, the Chief Librarian, will be joining us in Seoul where we will begin planning discussions and meetings for that event.

We have had changes in the Standing Committee membership. Sara Parker resigned her position on the Standing Committee as she has retired from her position at the Missouri State Library. We will miss her. She made many contributions to the work of the Section for which the members are grateful. She has been replaced by Mr. Albert Ntunja, the Chief Librarian for the Parliament of South Africa, for the remainder of her term.

There are a number of new leaders of parliamentary libraries. Roxanne Missingham has been appointed Parliamentary Librarian for the Australian Parliamentary Library. She previously served as Assistant Director for Resource Sharing at the National Library of Australia. Bill Young was appointed Parliamentary Librarian for Canada. He joined the Library in 1987 as an Analyst in the Research Branch and was Director of the Political and Social Affairs Division. Madelaine Dennison was named Head of Library and Information Services in Houses of the Oireachtas for Ireland. John



Pullinger has been appointed Head of the House of Commons Library.

Dick Toornstra writes that he has a new position. As of August 1 he will be in charge of all European Parliament activities in the field of parliamentary capacity building. He asked that I convey his very best wishes to all colleagues and to thank you for the support and friendship you have shown him over the years.

The agendas for the Standing Committee meeting contain a number of important items. Elections will take place in 2006-2007. Those elected will take office at the end of the Durban meeting. Procedures and deadlines for filling vacancies on the Standing Committee will be discussed. As usual, the agenda will include time for discussion on presentation topics that may be useful to members of the Section. The IFLA Governing Board received a report on the work of the Sections. A special meeting for Standing Committee members to discuss the work of the Professional Committee and the Section review will take place at the COEX on Sunday, August 20th. This topic will be discussed at the first Standing Committee meeting. I hope that all of the Standing Committee members will put this meeting on their schedule. IFLA is also revising its website with the aim of making it more user friendly and easier to update and maintain. More information will be available on this project at a later time.

Janet Seaton has produced a draft of a revised Section brochure. There will be a chance for comment on this as well. The Section is very grateful to Janet for taking on this project.

Work to strengthen parliaments is going on in many arenas. Elisabet Lindquist Michailaki of the Riksdagen, Sweden represented the Section in Geneva at the WSIS Implementation Consultation Meetings on Action Lines. Her report appears in the newsletter as well. The objective of the meeting was to create multisector partnerships. The United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) has joined with the Inter-Parliamentary Union to officially launch the Global Center for Information and Communication Technologies in Parliaments. A speaker from this organization will be making a presentation during our session at the COEX on Monday. This could be a very valuable partnership for our Section and I am looking forward to discussion with Section members on how we might pursue future cooperative efforts with this organization.

The United States House of Representatives has initiated a democracy assistance program for selected nations including Kenya, East Timor and Georgia. Bill Robinson has been busy traveling as part of this program. Amelia Armit is the Director of Asian and East European Programs for the Parliamentary Center of Ottawa. While she cannot join us in Seoul, she has offered to share her report on the state of library and research services that is a product of a study conducted by that organization. The Section has also been in contact with Rikki Hyde, Chambers of the International Association for Business and Parliament, who is interested in pursuing cooperative projects with the Section. Other parliaments and members of the Section have also engaged in this work. Perhaps the Section will want to consider using the information



site hosted by Chile as a way to share information about these efforts so that those providing assistance and those needing it can see the opportunities better.

This is a time of change and new beginnings for many in the Section. What does not change is our willingness to share ideas and best practices and help each other face the challenges of providing high quality programs and services. I am looking forward to continuing in this spirit in Seoul in August. I hope you will be joining us.

Sincerely,

Donna Scheeder, Chair
Section on Libraries and Research Services for Parliaments



Standing Committee Information 2006

The current Standing Committee (2005–2007) consists of the following members:

Name:	Election period
Ms. Wafaa Ali-Abdel-Elah, Egypt	(2003–2007, second term)
Mrs. Cristiane Almeida Maia, Brazil	(2003–2007, first term)
Ms. Irina Andreeva, Russia	(2005–2009)
Mrs. Margareta Brundin, Sweden	(2005–2009)
Ms. Caryn Carr, USA	(2005–2009)
Mrs. Marialyse Delano, Chile	(2003–2007, second term)
Ms. Anita Dudina, Latvia	(2005–2009)
Me. Hugh Finsten, Canada	(2005–2009)
Ms. Moira Fraser, New Zealand	(2005–2009)
Karl Min Ku, Taiwan	(2003–2007, first term)
Mrs. Eleni Mitrakou, Greece	(2005–2009)
Ms. Josephine Moesi, Botswana	(2003–2007, first term)
Mr. Younghee Park, South Korea	(2005–2009)
Mrs. Sara Parker, USA (see information below)	(2003–2007, second term)
Mrs. Gro Sandgrind, Norway	(2005–2009)
Ms. Donna Scheeder, USA	(2003–2007, second term)
Ms. Janet Seaton, Scotland	(2005–2009)
Mr. N.K. Singh, India	(2003–2007, first term)
Mr. Segundo Soto Coronel, Peru	(2005–2009)
Mrs. June Verrier, Australia	(2003–2007, second term)

Corresponding Members of the Standing Committee 2003–2007 are:

Margarita Angelova, Bulgaria
Tembi Chalabase Mtine, Zambia
Bharti Tiwari, India
Fumihiko Kamata, Japan

Chair 2005–2007: Donna Scheeder
Secretary 2005–2007: Margareta Brundin
Information Coordinator 2005–2007: Gro Sandgrind



Elections for the Standing Committee will be held in 2007. The members who are serving a second term 2003–2007 are not eligible for a new term according to IFLA regulations.

Ms. Sara Parker, USA has retired from work and has also resigned from the Section's Committee. Mr. Albert Ntungwa, Head of the Parliamentary Library in Capetown, South Africa, has agreed to act as her replacement, effective immediately. Mr. Ntungwa's contact information is as follows:

email: antunja@parliament.gov.za

post: Library of Parliament, Post Office Box 18, Capetown 8000, South Africa.

Useful information

Preconference

60 participants have registered for the Preconference (in mid-June)

If you have not registered – please do so before July 31! **Please do not leave this until the last minute!** (Registration form included in this Newsletter)

See the Preconference web site www.nanet.go.kr/preifla2006

At the airport

When you arrive at Incheon International Airport, please visit **Reception Counter #39** near the Gate 8. Our dedicated staff will be assisting with currency exchanges, buying a bus ticket, and etc.

Transportation

• From Incheon International Airport

Where to	Bus No.	Bus Stops	Intervals	Fare(Won)	Station	Service Hours
Hotel Prima	Standard Limousine #606	5A, 11B	12-15min	8,000	Hotel Prima	05:30-23:00
COEX Intercontinental	KAL Limousine #3	4A, 11B	30min	13,000	COEX Intercontinental	05:00-22:35
National Assembly Library	Deluxe Limousine	5A, 11B	12-17min	13,000	Lexington Hotel or Yeouido Station	05:40-22:50



• From Kimpo International Airport

Where to	Bus No.	Bus Stops	Intervals	Fare(Won)	Station	Service Hours
Hotel Prima	City Air Limousine	6	15-20min	6,000	Grand Intercontinental	07:35-22:20
	(transfer to) #143,362, 361	Samsung St. Exit #7	2-3min	900	Hotel Prima	06:00-24:00
COEX Intercontinental	City Air Limousine	6	15-20min	6,000	COEX Intercontinental	07:35-22:20
National Assembly Library	take Subway Line #5	-	5-15min	1,000	Yeouido Station	05:34-24:19

Transportation to the conference sites

• From Hotel Prima to the National Assembly Library

During the Preconference, August 16-18 including the city tour on August 19, free shuttle buses will be provided by the National Assembly Library. It will be operated between the Hotel Prima and the National Assembly Library, in the morning, 1-2 times in the afternoon, and the evening. It takes approximately 60 minutes by bus.

• From Hotel Prima to COEX, the venue for the main conference

The Hotel Prima and COEX Intercontinental are in the center of the southern Seoul and within walking distance of the venue for the main conference, COEX. (Hotel Prima 15-20 minutes, COEX Intercontinental 5 minutes) However, a minibus will be running to and from Hotel Prima and COEX during the main conference, August 20-25, several times a day.

General transports

Domestic airlines link 15 major cities of the Republic of Korea. Korea's extensive railroad covers most of the country. The metro system in Seoul is very convenient, efficient and easy for foreign travellers to use. Using the eight metro lines, one can reach every corner of Seoul within an hour. Express bus service is extensive and extremely frequent. Taxis are plentiful.

Registration

Registration will open on August 15, 2006, at the Hotel Prima. For those who arrive on August 15 or before, please register at the registration desk at the hotel lobby. You will be provided with a bag, nametag, and preconference materials.



Meals during the preconference

Three luncheons and dinners will be provided during the Preconference, August 16-18 and a luncheon on the optional tour, August 19 as well.

Seoul

Seoul, the 600-year-old capital city of Korea, is a huge metropolis visited by some five million tourists each year, befitting its reputation as a global IT power. At first glance, the bustling heart of the metropolis with its high-rise buildings and crowds appears to resemble New York, London, Paris or Tokyo. A closer inspection, however, reveals an exquisite charm found nowhere else in the world. We invite you to roam about the many corners of Seoul where high-tech living and Korea's unique traditional culture co-exist, and fully partake in the "joy of discovery."

The name of Seoul comes from the ancient word 'Seorabeol' or 'Seobeol', meaning "capital".

City tour (optional)

We would like to invite you on a guided tour on Saturday, August 19 to the Korean Folk Village. Accompanying persons are welcome to join the group. Please mark YES or NO on your registration form for the Preconference. We will return for the first Standing Committee Meeting which starts at 14:30. Please wear comfortable shoes and outdoor clothes for the tour.

Weather in august

The early autumn season when the Preconference and main conference will be held is the warmest time of the year in Korea. In 2005, the average temperature ranged from 23• to 30•, and humidity reached 80%. Although it is mostly clear in August, there are periods of heavy rainfall, and it is advisable to check the long-range weather forecast before embarking on your journey.

Currency

Korea's official monetary unit is the won. It consists of a ten thousand, five thousand, and one thousand won note, and five hundred, one hundred, fifty and ten won coin. Recently, 1 US dollar exchanged for about 1,000 won. Exchange rates may change at any time according to the market conditions. International credit cards such as Visa, Master, AMEX, Diners Club, JCB are widely accepted at major hotels, department stores, and restaurants in Seoul.



Electricity

In the Republic of Korea, 220 volt outlets are most common.

Food

Food in the Republic of Korea is one of the greatest pleasures awaiting all visitors. The term "Food Heaven" may be an apt description for Korea, with its extensive gastronomic repertoire - Western and Oriental, traditional and modern. Exquisite dishes are to be found not only at hotels and luxury restaurants but also at low-priced dining facilities that give an unmistakable character to every corner of the nation.

Hotel

National Assembly Library has made a block reservation for delegates from the Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments at the Hotel Prima, close to the main conference venue, COEX. If you want to stay at the Hotel Prima you should make a reservation before July 31. **Please Do Not Leave This Until the Last Minute!** There will be free shuttle buses to the National Assembly Library during the Preconference and to COEX during the main conference. The Hotel Prima is also a venue of the Workshop Day.

- Reservation must be done in this way:

Complete the hotel booking form which is included in this Newsletter. Disregard the dates on the booking form. Hotel booking covers both the Preconference and main conference.

Send the booking form to:

Ms. Anna Lee
International Affairs Officer
National Assembly Library
1 Yeouido-dong, Yeondeungpo-gu, Seoul, Korea 150-703
Phone: +82 2 788 4143
Fax: +82 2 788 4291
Email: intlcoop@nanet.go.kr

Language

Korean is the official language of the Republic of Korea but a majority of Koreans speak English well.



National assembly

The National Assembly of the Republic of South Korea is a 299-member unicameral legislature. The latest parliamentary elections were held on April 15, 2004. 243 of the National Assembly's seats are apportioned to single-member constituencies, while the remaining 46 are allocated by proportional representation. Members serve four year terms.

Population

Seoul has a population of 10,297,004 as of the end of 2005. This accounts for about a quarter of the total national population.

River

The Hangang (River) bisects the city into two parts: northern part (Gangbuk) and southern part (Gangnam).

Shopping

The Republic of Korea is known as a Mecca for shoppers, offering a great variety of items at reasonable prices. You may purchase many necessities and souvenir items of both domestic and foreign origin tax free at any of the hundreds of shops in department stores and shopping arcades in as well as major cities throughout the country.

Tipping

Tipping is not customary in the Republic of Korea. Sometimes, expensive restaurants and luxury hotels may add a service charge of 10%.

Visa

Foreign delegates having return tickets coming from countries with no-visa agreement with the Republic of Korea can normally stay in Korea up to 30 days without a visa. However, the delegates should check with the Korean Embassy in their country or contact the National Organising Committee. The National Organising Committee for the WLIC 2006 Seoul will assist participants and issue official invitation letters to facilitate their travel allowance and visa application.

Please ensure to contact the embassy as soon as possible to avoid visa problems!



REGISTRATION FORM

(1 of 1)

22nd Annual Conference of Library and Research Services for Parliaments,
IFLA pre-conference 2006
Seoul, Korea, 16-18 August 2006

Please fill in this form and return by no later than 31 July 2006 to:

Ms. Anna Lee
International Affairs Officer
National Assembly Library
1 Yeoido-dong, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul, Korea 150-703
Phone : +82 2 788 4143
Fax : +82 2 788 4291
E-mail : intlcoop@nanet.go.kr

Family Name: _____

First Name: _____

Female: _____

Male: _____

Professional title: _____

Parliament: _____

Chamber: _____

Address: _____

City and postal code: _____

Country: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Special dietary requirements: _____

Other special requirements: _____

Dinner on Wednesday 16th August: Yes / No

Dinner on Thursday 17th August: Yes / No

Optional tour on Saturday 19th August: Yes / No



HOTEL BOOKING FORM

(1 of 2)

22nd Annual Conference of Library and Research Services for Parliaments,
IFLA pre-conference 2006
Seoul, Korea, 16-18 August 2006

Please return this form to:

Ms. Anna Lee
International Affairs Officer
National Assembly Library
1 Yeoido-dong, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul, Korea 150-703
Phone : +82 2 788 4143
Fax : +82 2 788 4291
E-mail : intlcoop@nanet.go.kr

(Hotel booking guarantee: 31 July 2006)

Family Name: _____

First Name: _____

Female: _____ Male: _____

Parliament: _____

Address: _____

City and postal code: _____

Country: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Hotel reservation:

Hotel	Choice	Single room*	Double room*
		(WON)	(WON)
Hotel Prima	_____	130,000	150,000

* All prices are per room, per night, including breakfast, and city tax are in Korean currency

** The National Assembly Library, the Republic of Korea reserves the right to book another hotel for you, should the desired accommodation be fully booked.

Sharing room with _____



Please make sure that only one registered person books the hotel room. The person you are sharing with does not have to book a room. In case you both book a room through this form we will have to charge both rooms.

Single Double Non-smoking Late departure

Early arrival Late arrival Wheelchair accessible

Date of arrival (dd/mm/yyyy) _____ Date of departure (dd/mm/yyyy) _____



HOTEL BOOKING FORM

(2 of 2)

Payment Information Hotel Booking

(Hotel booking guarantee: 31 July 2006)

Guarantee

_____ Please use the credit card below to guarantee the hotel booking.

Following details are required:

Type of Card: _____ AMEX _____ VISA _____ Mastercard _____ Diners Club

(no other credit card will be accepted!)

Card number: _____

Expiration date (mm/yy): _____ Security code (last 3 digits on the back of the card) _____

Card holder's name: _____

Signature card holder: _____

Hotel reservation cancellations and refunds

Changes and cancellations of reservations should be made directly to the National Assembly Library, the Republic of Korea in writing only. If notification of cancellation is received in writing by the National Assembly Library **before 1 August, 2006** we will not charge your credit card for the cancellation. If you have to cancel after the deadline 10% of the total reservation costs will be charged

Confirmation

Within six weeks after receipt of your hotel reservation form with credit card information, you will receive a confirmation of your hotel reservation including name, address of your hotel and costs per night. If you have not received any confirmation six weeks after reservation, please contact the National Assembly Library, the Republic of Korea.



IFLA 2006 Seoul Korea

Transportation to the conference sites.

During the preconference, August 16-18 and city tour on the 19th, free shuttle buses will be provided by the National Assembly Library.

They will be operated between Hotel Prima and the NAL, in the morning, 1-2 times in the afternoon, and the evening. (It takes about an hour from the hotel to the NAL)

For the main conference, there will be a small shuttle running to and from COEX several times a day for the Section members. COEX is a 15-20 minutes walk from Hotel Prima for those who like exercise.

Pre-Conference at National Assembly Library of South Korea, final program and the section's program during main conference at coex

Wednesday, August 16, 2006 to Friday, August 25, 2006

1. The 22nd Annual Preconference of Library and Research Services for Parliaments National Assembly Library, Seoul, Korea, August 16-18 2006

The Conference will take place in the National Assembly Memorial Hall

Program

Theme: The Role of Legislative Information Service – Beyond Asymmetric Information and Uncertainty

<i>Location: Korean National Assembly, National Assembly Memorial Hall</i>	
Wednesday, August 16 th	
Time	Program
09:45-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:30	Opening Ceremony - Opening Address: National Assembly Librarian - Congratulatory Addresses:



	National Assembly Speaker IFLA PAR Section Chair
10:30-12:00	Presentation by the National Assembly Members
12:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:00	Introduction to the National Assembly & Legislative Support Organizations National Assembly System & National Assembly Secretariat National Assembly Budget Office National Assembly Library
15:00-17:00	Guided Tour of the National Assembly Building and the National Assembly Memorial Hall
18.30-20.30	Welcome Dinner
Thursday, August 17 th <i>Location: Korean National Assembly</i>	
Time	Program
10:00-11:30	Legislative Information Services and the Core Activities of the National Assembly Library
11:30-12:00	Presentation by the Vietnamese Delegates: the Current ONA's Information, Library and Research Services
12:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:00	Historical Overview and Current Status of the National Assembly Digital Library
15:00-17:00	Guided Tour of the National Assembly Library
18.30-21.00	Dinner including Korean Traditional Cultural Event
Friday, August 18 th Research Day <i>Location: Korean National Assembly</i>	
Time	Program
09:00-09:15	Welcome
09:15-10:30	Session 1: Librarians and researchers: working together -- or not



	<p>Chair: Dan Mulhollan (USA)</p> <p>Panel: Katherine Close (New Zealand)</p> <p>Elisabeth Malmhester (Sweden)</p> <p>Guido Williams (Chile)</p> <p>There are many different practices and models for how researchers and librarians can work together or separately. Panelists will discuss the various options and the pros and cons of each. We will not just look at the variety of organizing research and library services but also at what people actually do. Also, what do we mean by ‘research’ and “reference”, How do we distinguish between the two? Among the options for organizing research and reference services are: Separate units within the parliament but they cooperate together. Separate units and little/no cooperation. Librarians work in research service in a support role. Part time researchers who are outside the library and who are academics the rest of the time. Research is contracted out. Researchers and librarians working together in teams as equals</p> <p>Prior to the conference we will conduct a survey of practices. The results will be revealed at the conference.</p>
10:30-11:00	Break
11:00-12:30	<p>Session 2: Developing a research service – essential elements</p> <p>Chair: Janet Seaton (Scotland)</p> <p>Panel: Susan Swift (Canada);</p> <p>Gloria Sarku (Ghana)</p> <p>Ellie Valentine (DAI)</p> <p>In this session, panellists representing different sizes of research service and at different levels of development will look at what you really need to run a research service. How do you get support to start a service? What are the staff skills that are needed and the ideal mix of staff? It will look at non-staff resources, especially information resources. And what research and information needs of parliamentarians should a new or developing research service concentrate on meeting as a priority? What kinds of products are going to be most useful to busy parliamentarians? How will you</p>



	<p>know if you are meeting those needs? How to inform parliamentarians about what you do? How do you get the best value for money?</p>
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:15	<p>Session 3: Non-partisanship, Ethics, Inappropriate Requests and Other Issues</p> <p>Chair: Lynn Brodie (Canada)</p> <p>Panel: Innocent Rugambwa (Uganda)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Anita Dudina (Latvia)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Jarle Skjorestad (Norway)</p> <p>In this panel representatives from various services around the world will discuss difficult and sensitive issues that they have faced and how they handled them or how in retrospect they should have handled them. Members of the audience will be invited to comment and offer their suggestions.</p> <p>Topics include; how to maintain non-partisanship in a partisan environment; should we prepare “point of view” papers; ethical issues affecting research services; how to handle requests for personal work; saying “no” to clients; key qualities to look for in hiring staff.</p>
15:15-15:45	Break
15:45-17:00	<p>Session 4: Open Session - Updates from Research Services</p> <p>Chair: Keith Cuninghame, (UK)</p> <p>This session is designed for research services to update colleagues on important changes to their service, new services they are offering, new tools or free and - inexpensive tools, the use of new technologies such as in communications and research. or any other important item that would be of interest to colleagues. This session is not a forum to describe your service. Please submit a sentence or two about the news you will be describing to the chair in advance of the session. Each participant is limited to 5 minutes.</p>
19:00-21:00	Dinner



Saturday, August 19 th City Tour (Optional)		<i>Location: Korean National Assembly</i>
Time	Program	
09:00-12:00	City Tour	
12:00-	Arrival at Hotel	
2.		IFLA MAIN CONFERENCE 19-25 August 2006
Saturday, August 19 th		<i>Location: COEX Convention & Exhibition Center</i>
Time	Program	
14:30-17:20	Standing Committee I for Library and Research Services for Parliaments, Room 203 at COEX	
Sunday, August 20 th		<i>Location: COEX Convention & Exhibition Center</i>
Time	Program: See schedule issued at registration for additional events	
12:45-13:45	Special Session for Standing Committee Members ONLY.	
13:45-15:45	Newcomers Session for first-time attendees at the conference	
Monday, August 21 st		<i>Location: COEX Convention & Exhibition Center</i>
Time	Program	
0:45-12:45	<p>10.45-12.45, Monday</p> <p>87 Library and Research Services for Parliaments with Government Information and Official Publications (part 1)</p> <p><i>The Model e-Parliament: dynamic engine for democratic engagement</i></p> <p>Maintaining Resources through Parliamentary Cooperation: The Joint Czech and Slovak Digital Parliamentary Library KAREL SOSNA (Parliamentary Library of the Czech Republic, Czech Republic) and EVA MALACKOVA (Parliamentary Library of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Republic)</p>	



	<p>Sharing best technology practices around the globe: Initiatives of the global center for information and communication technology in parliament ANDY RICHARDSON (Parliamentary Resource Center, IPU) TBA TBA</p>
<p>13:45-15:45</p>	<p>13.45-15.45, Monday</p> <p>93 Library and Research Services for Parliaments with Government Information and Official Publications (part 2) <i>Technology Strategies and Tools for Dynamic Information Delivery</i></p> <p>Content Creation and Management: What's Next for Government Libraries and Information STEPHEN ABRAM (Sirsi Dynix and Special Libraries Association)</p> <p>Improving the User Experience: Tips and Strategies for Success JANE DYSART (Dysart Jones and Associates)</p> <p>Policy issues regarding web accessibility in Japan TAKASHI KOGA (National Institute of Informatics, Japan)</p>
<p>16:00-18:00</p>	<p>16.30-18.00, Monday</p> <p>100 Library and Research Services for Parliaments with Government Information and Official Publications (part 3) <i>Government Information, Dynamic Success for Business:</i></p> <p>The contribution of government information in attracting foreign direct investment in Africa ABRAHAM A. AZUBUIKE (Systems and Information Resources Development)</p> <p><u>Better for Business: How the Welsh Assembly Government Library and Publications Service has transformed its services to fit business policy/programme delivery and business people in Wales</u> REBECCA DAVIES (Assembly Library and Publications Service, Welsh Assembly Government/Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru)</p>



	<p><u>The YritysSuomi (EnterpriseFinland) portal as one-stop-shop for public information to small and medium sized enterprises in Finland</u></p> <p>JAANA KAAKKOLA (Prime Minister's Office, Finland)</p> <p>Government Information and Business and Legal Centers in Russia</p> <p>EMMA VASKONIAN (Department of Official Publications, Russian State Library)</p> <p>Statistics for Decision-making: Building Awareness and Facilitating Access.</p> <p>VICKI CROMPTON (Communications and Information Services/Communications et services d'information, Statistics Canada/Statistique Canada)</p>
Location: COEX Convention & Exhibition Center	
Tuesday, August 22 nd	
Time	Program: Suggested Programs of Interest
08:30-10:30	Statistics and Evaluation with Division of General Research Libraries
10:45-12:45	Social Science Libraries with Government Libraries
13:45-15:45	National Libraries
Location: Prima Hotel	
Wednesday, August 23 rd	
Time	Program
08:30-	Workshop Day
Location: COEX Convention & Exhibition Center	
Thursday, August 24 th	
Time	Program: Suggested Programs of Interest
08:30-10:30	Information Technology with National Libraries with Academic and Research Libraries and Knowledge Management
13:15-14:45	Closing Session
Location: COEX Convention & Exhibition Center	
Friday, August 25 th	



Time	Program
14:00-16:50	Standing Committee Meeting II – Library and Research Services for Parliaments, Room 321 at COEX



News from the section

Australia

Roxanne Missingham has been appointed new Librarian of the Parliamentary Library of Australia.

Roxanne is said to be a ‘super networker’ and a person of enormous energy and enthusiasm, with a great knowledge of libraries, research and technology issues. She was earlier the assistant Director-General, Resource Sharing at the National Library of Australia.



Katriina Arte, Parliament of Australia, our price winning editor of the Section Newsletter, had a baby on 3 December 2005 – a girl named Violetta Ella. Both baby and mother are well. Our warmest congratulations!



Canada



William R. Young

William R. (Bill) Young was appointed Parliamentary Librarian in late November 2005. He assumed office on December 12, 2005.

During the past 18 years at the Library of Parliament, Dr. Young occupied the positions of Director, Political and Social Affairs, Principal and Senior Research Officer. He also served four years in the public service on two different assignments.

As a professional historian, Dr. Young has written several books as well as academic and popular articles. He has taught senior courses and seminars at McGill, Simon Fraser and York universities. He also held an appointment as Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto.

He has served as a member of the Conservation Review Board of Ontario and of the Board of Directors of the Economists', Sociologists' and Statisticians' Association (currently the Canadian Association of Professional Employees - CAPE).

After receiving a B.A., Combined Honours (History and Political Science) at York University, Dr. Young went on to earn his M.A. (History and Political Science) and Ph.D. (History) at the University of British Columbia.

In May 2006, the Main Library will re-open after four years of conservation, rehabilitation and upgrade work.

This year also represents the 130th anniversary of the Library of Parliament and, together with the recent arrival of a new Parliamentary Librarian, there is an opportunity for the Library to pursue and celebrate renewal in a broader sense, throughout the coming year.

Although the legislative mandate of the Library of Parliament has not changed over the years, the way we are doing business and delivering services continues to evolve. The Library, as always, supports parliamentarians in their work as legislators and with their public outreach efforts. As for many other libraries world-wide, new technologies are helping us move forward with better ways of serving our clients.

Striving to continuously improve itself, the Library of Parliament has undertaken a series of assessments to identify opportunities for service enhancement. A new strategic plan to guide the organization for the next three years is being developed.



EU-Parliament

Dick Toornstra, European Parliament, has been unanimously nominated by the Bureau of the European Parliament as responsible for all activities related to parliamentary capacity building, democratisation projects and all aspects regarding e-government, e-democracy and e-parliament. This will become effective as from 1 August 2006 and he will then leave the Library of the European Parliament.

In order to exchange ideas and best practises, Dick would very much like to get in touch with all colleagues who are active in the above fields of competence, be it persons working in library and research departments or other areas of the parliamentary organization.

Upon the departure of Mr Dick Toornstra, the responsibility for the Directorate will be conferred upon Mr Sven Backlund, Head of Library Legislative Assistance Unit. Mr Backlund and Mr Iain Watt, Head of Library Operations Unit, are in charge of the Library management.

Ireland

Madelaine Dennison has been appointed Head of Library and Research Services, Office of the Houses of the Oireachtas, the Irish Parliament. Madelaine was previously the Information manager in the Office of the Attorney General. **Maura Corcoran** has been appointed Head of the Library. Maura previously held the post of Librarian in the Oireachtas Library. **Maria Fitzsimons** has been appointed Head of research. Maria was previously the Law Librarian in the Chief State Solicitor's Office.

(Irish Library News No. 260 May 2006)

Italy

Italy has two parliamentary libraries, one for each chamber (*Senato della Repubblica*, and *Camera dei Deputati*). At the moment the two libraries do not have formal Head and are directed by the two oldest (as career) librarians, **Sandro Bulgarelli** for the Senate, and **Fernando Venturini** for the Camera dei Deputati.

UK

In 2004 **John Pullinger** was appointed new Librarian of the Library of House of Commons, UK. In order to present himself, he has written the following letter to the Section:

“It has been a great privilege to be appointed to the post of Librarian in the UK House of Commons. The Library is greatly loved by Members for the library, research and information services they receive themselves and also for the work we do in public education and outreach. In this article I will share with you my first impressions



and what I think are big challenges for the future. Perhaps there will be some things you recognise from your own Parliaments.

As a newcomer to Parliament the first thing that struck me was the feeling of commitment to the institution. A sense of people wanting to be here because it matters. Each person cares about its success.

There is a common set of values and a warm welcome for the outsider wishing to share in them.

The second thing I felt is that we are good at doing what we promise, and we promise a lot. High performance is the norm. We go out of our way to deliver an excellent service and are recognised for doing so. The ratings we get from Members in feedback surveys are higher than I have seen anywhere else. We meet stretching targets for delivery of services to Members and to the public day in day out.

Thirdly our people have a real depth of knowledge. Researchers with knowledge of their subject. Library staff with expertise in indexing and information management. There are many others with special skills developed and put to good use. We cherish expertise and knowledge. We work hard to provide opportunities to develop professional and other skills.

These three things, commitment, performance and expertise, are a fantastic asset for Parliament. They provide the bedrock of the Library's outstanding reputation. We must continue to cherish them. They set alongside three further voices that came to me as a newcomer. First I feel that there is an antipathy to the idea of seeing the Library as a business. In part this is the language. Consultant speak has given good management a bad name. I was told that lots of ideas get generated but decisions never quite seem to get made. Whilst we do not like the idea of the Library as a business there are benefits if we can be more businesslike.

The second voice is about communication. We are great on paper. We are great on process. There is extensive consultation and feedback. Yet when I talk to people it feels like there is a lack of clarity about what change "means for me". People feel in the dark. Some of this is inevitable. It is a feature of the human condition to struggle to communicate well with each other. Within the Library I sense that for some at least change has been seen as something being done to us rather than about a means for us each to improve the quality of what we do every day in our work.

Finally, and I have left it until last, is technology. Not all staff see technology as a liberator from onerous or boring tasks. Not everyone sees that technology provides the potential for radically improved performance for our customers. Rather I hear that technology has put a barrier between us and customers - we never see Members any more. It is all e-mail. Technology is a threat to our jobs. Technology is making our jobs more difficult. I am in no doubt that technology is central to our continued success and future job satisfaction.

So what do I learn from first impressions? We provide a fantastic service that is well appreciated. If we are to continue to provide a fantastic service, however, we need to



change. We need to change to keep up with technological innovation in the world around us.

We need to change to keep abreast of changing expectations, especially amongst Members. We need to change to make sure that the skills of all our staff are developed and everyone has the chance to contribute their best to the success of Parliament.

Sadly I will not be able to make it to Seoul in August but I hope to meet many of you in the years ahead and share thinking on how we can each make a unique contribution to well informed democracy in our respective countries."

Best wishes
John Pullinger



Post-WSIS Follow-up and meeting on Parliament and the Information Society

During the World Information Society Week in Geneva in the middle of May two meetings - on 16 and 17 May - were solely or partly about parliament and good governance by the use of new technology.

Consultation Meeting on Action Line C1

On 16 May UNDESA had summoned for a “Consultation Meeting on Action Line C1 - The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development” The purpose of the meeting was to exchange information and to discuss possible cooperation modes for the implementation process. The meeting was attended by representatives from governments (15 UN member states), civil society, academia, international organizations (including UN agencies) and private sector.

UNDESA organized the meeting since it has been designated interim moderator/facilitator for Action Lines C1, C7egov and C11. Mr Patrizio Civili, Assistant-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UNDESA, presented and commented on the Action Line C1 and its targets: National e-strategies (here both local, regional and national needs should be taken into account and the private sector should be engaged), partnerships (both public/private partnership or multi-sector partnership), portals for indigenous people (at the national level), ICTs for sustainable development, mainstreaming ICTs (international organizations should publish reliable information on successful experiences), investment and investment promotion (e.g venture capital investment, government investment funds, support of research and development networks).

Thereafter it was time for exchange of information. The participants gave a presentation, some longer and other shorter, a few including reports of what have been done in line with Action Line C1. Among the themes that emerged in the presentations were:

The role of Parliaments in the promotion of ICTs for development and inter-parliamentary cooperation: Pan African Parliament reported about the experiences of ICTs and the consequences of the fact that the parliaments are on different levels in their development. The Global Centre representative underlined that parliaments have an important role in promoting the use of ICT. Unfortunately parliaments have become marginalized in this area, but they have a lot to contribute. Camera dei Deputati representative likewise stressed that parliaments have an extensive experience and a special role in the WSIS implementation and the strengthening of the information



society. IFLA, Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments held forth the importance of technology for librarians and researches in parliaments and the interest of the Section for cooperation with the Global Centre.

National e-strategies formulation and implementation: E.g. a delegate for the Italian government reported about e-government initiatives such as deregulation and broad band. From the Egyptian People's Assembly there was a report about its initiative to introduce e-services to the citizens.

Foreign Direct Investments and investment promotion in the ICT Sector: UNCTAD representative reported about UNCTAD's search for investors in ICT world wide. EU Commission delegate underlined that EU has a long tradition of information society and that there are ongoing investments in this area by European Investment Bank.

Public/Private Partnership and Multi-Sector Partnership: Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne reported about a course in managerial and ICT skills given in collaboration with several other universities all over the world. Microsoft representative/technical officer working with UN reported about the "connected government framework". Microsoft has cooperated with British government and worked through the government's processes and built "The UK Government Gateway". The connected government framework doesn't imply that Microsoft technology has to be applied; it's about processes and innovations. Microsoft cooperates with the UN University in this work.

Since the need of creating multi-sector partnerships was one of the objectives of the meeting, the questions what to do as a team and how to communicate was on the agenda. There was a proposal that the projects should be clustered in advanced, medium and beginners in order to avoid the digital divide. One communication channel could be the UNPAN site (<http://www.unpan.org/post-WSIS-C1.asp>). On this site there is a discussion forum about the WSIS implementation where interested partners can register. Another channel is the Stocktaking database at the ITU web site where information about more than 3000 projects is published: <http://www.itu.int/wsis/stocktaking>. Shareholders may register themselves and find information about who does what with whom. In order to avoid reinventing the wheel UNDESA declared that it will look for that these two forums will be linked. The website IT4ALL was presented as an example of good communication tool. It is an instrument designed to ensure the effective cooperation of Local Authorities around the World (cities, regions and other authorities of the decentralized Administration) to enable all people to access the Information Society, promoting e-inclusion policies and decentralized cooperation in digital terms. The IT4ALL Network represents today more than 1.5 million people. UNITAR is promoting the project. At the site one can make a self-assessment and find out where its weak points are when it comes to e-democracy. Another feature is that once registered on the site you may find contact information to persons involved in related projects or ventures: <http://www.it4all-regions.org/>



The participants covered the whole spectrum of partners. It was obvious that there are a great variety in scope, objectives and levels among those who attended. But unquestionably some interesting partnerships have been created, for instance that between Microsoft and UN, between Microsoft and UK Government. The question of finding the most effective communication channels is - as always - a great challenge. The websites mentioned above should be monitored, especially the on-line discussion board on the UNPAN website, since it is on this site the exchange of ideas shall take place.

Parliament and the Information Society: Enhancing the cooperation and building partnerships

The meeting on 17 May was arranged by UNDESA, IPU and the initiative “The Global Centre for ICT in Parliaments” which was launched in November 2005 on the World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis. All stakeholders had been invited to share information and exchange views, but not so many turned up.

Mr. Patrizio Civili, UNDESA stressed that all the work should be done in the spirit of WSIS and that the Global Centre is dependent on partners. His message was: Encourage everybody to actively participate in this. Mr. Anders B. Jonsson, Secretary General of IPU, said in his opening remark that the UN have had problems in understanding the work of parliaments (with some exceptions), but that this attitude is changing now. A recent survey about parliaments and democracy in 75 countries shows that there is a lot of engineering going on in every part of the world. How to create effective laws? How to represent the people? ICT may play an important role here. A short presentation on the outcome of the Action Line C1 meeting the day before followed. As a result of the meeting e-parliament shall become a sub theme within Action Line C1.

Mr Gherardo Casini introduced the Global Centre. The big challenge is all the not connected actions that are going on all over the world. By voluntary stakeholders' engagement the Global Centre could become a hub of information about what is going on in parliaments. Everything which one considers to be of interest should be sent to the Center (for more information about the Center: <http://www.ictparliament.org/>). There are four main activities of the Global Centre: Analysis and Research activity, Networking and Coordination activity, Advocacy, Awareness and Information activity and, finally, Technical Assistance. The idea of technical assistance has its origin in the Africa i-Parliaments Action Plan where it became evident the need of partnership with parliaments in order to help parliaments in Africa. There is a need of sharing experience, sharing databases, multilingual thesauri, etc. The organizers stressed that Global Centre is about initiatives run by parliaments, for parliaments. It is not international organizations that are in charge.

Some of the participants made a short presentation. IFLA, Section on Library and Research Services stated that 1) the very purpose of the section is to promote understanding and cooperation between legislatures, and to provide advice assistance



and shared experiences to parliamentary libraries and research services; 2) the members are dependent on technology to provide services to their parliaments and our meetings and communications increasingly reflect that; 3) the section is interested in exploring partnerships with the Center.

Except for UNDESA and IPU, a couple of national parliaments have been working for the Global Centre initiative, mainly Camera dei Deputati, Italy and the Parliament of Egypt. At the meeting representative from Camera dei Deputati underlined the pivotal role of parliaments in the WSIS implementation and how important it is to circulate the ICT-initiatives. The role of the parliaments is still even more important in the developing countries and in countries in transition.

Several speakers held forth the importance of not losing the MPs out of sight in this initiative. If the Global Centre forgets about the MPs it will not be successful. Bureaucrats cannot by themselves attain the objective of e-democracy and e-parliament.

A couple of representatives from the private sector attended the meeting. One supplier presented a work for the Irish Government and wished to know if there is a need of software development within parliaments too. Mr Casini reported that software for a parliamentary system for Africa is being created (release in the end of 2006).

Mr Doidge, MP of the Parliament of South Africa made a presentation of the parliament's history and current situation. One goal is to take the parliament to the people. Another is to lessen the gap between those who represent the voters and those who represent them. It's a young democracy and the people feel enthusiasm about what is going on in the parliament. As an MP he has seen the advantages of ICT, e.g. the PDA that makes it possible to have the office with him wherever he goes. The parliament has been a forerunner when it comes to usage of ICT and it continuously puts the level higher. According to Pan African Parliament the Parliament of South African is a model. It is very difficult to be a multilingual country; but it can handle this. Other African countries struggles with two difficulties: the people are not interested in the parliament and the politicians are not interested in the people.

Since this was the first ICT Parliament meeting concrete questions like how to go further, when the group could meet again and how to ensure that information will come to the Global Centre were discussed. The Global Centre is envisaged as a clearing house, but how shall it receive the latest, most updated information about specific topics or resources? Global Centre is planning a portal where certain institutions have the right to put in information. The Global Centre is dependent on everybody. It must get to know who is engaged in e-parliament, who is engaged in applications, and so on. Software vendor stressed that it is not the institutions that owns the knowledge, but the persons; therefore it is important that persons are linked to each other. Camera dei Deputati representative underlined the central role of the IFLA Section on Library and Research Services in Parliaments in this work. It has the



necessary tools to collect information.

Global Centre also wished that the question about the relationship between parliament and media and which role does ICT play should be discussed. There were some comments on it. Most seemed to agree that the media – if a bit reluctant when the parliaments starts publish the news by themselves – soon finds it very good to have reliable information ready; it makes the journalists' job easier.

One of the participants from a parliament commented that many parliaments were missing on the meeting, e.g. from Europe. European parliaments have already other forum for cooperation (e.g. ECPRD) so the crucial question is how to make them participate? How to make them realize that the Global Centre has something that they will gain from?

Mr Casini rounded up the meeting by stating that he felt confident that by building on MPs, committees, institutions, organizations the Global Centre will become a knowledge sharing tool and will be able to give technical assistance to parliaments.

My impression is that the initiative to create the Global Centre is good. The question is of course if it is possible to realize its objectives on a global scale. The task to establish an e-parliament index is attainable if it receives necessary input from partner organizations that can assist in conceptualizing this index. The objective to improve the exchange of information on the use of technology in legislatures and at facilitating implementation of innovative technological solutions could be more difficult, at least if there is an ambition to cover a majority of the parliaments. A global network on IT-experts in parliaments that will seek to help parliaments to modernize their information means that parliaments must be ready to allocate some resources for time to time on this. To conclude, what will become of the Global Centre initiative depends on the active engagement on behalf of parliaments, as Mr Civili underlined. But to try to connect the not connected actions going on in parliaments all over the world is anyhow worth while and the Section has a lot to contribute. Many of the participants expressed their interest in coming into contact with the Section.

Elisabet Lindquist Michailaki
Riksdag Library
Swedish Parliament



Letter from Andy Richardson, IPU

UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

Geneva, 21 February 2006

Global Centre for Information and Communication Technology in Parliament

Please allow me to take this opportunity to bring to your attention the Global Centre for Information and Communication Technology in Parliament, which was launched in Tunis in November 2005 within the framework of the World Summit on the Information Society. The Global Centre is joint initiative of the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

The objective of the Global Centre is to contribute to the empowerment of legislatures around the world to better fulfil their democratic functions by reinforcing Parliaments' capacity to harness ICT tools and to place them at the service of the institutional process, citizens' access to parliamentary activities and of inter-parliamentary cooperation.

The Centre will act as a catalyst and clearing house for information, research, innovation and technology in Parliament, as well as a hub for technical assistance in this area, with the purpose of greatly enhancing the sharing of experiences, the identification of best practices and the implementation of technical solutions. The aim of the Centre is not to substitute and overlap with autonomous activities or organizations but rather to multiply the effects of the existing ones, enhance their visibility, expand the space for knowledge development, and create the conditions to support legislatures that intend to use new technologies as instruments for democracy and good governance.

The leading parliamentary sponsors of the project are Mr. Pier Ferdinando Casini, Speaker of the Italian Chamber of Deputies and President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and Mr. Ahmed Fathy Sorour, Speaker of the Egyptian People's Assembly. Contacts with a number of Presidents of national and regional parliaments have confirmed a high level of interest. The President of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliament, Mr. Anders Forsberg of the Swedish Riksdag, has also been briefed on the initiative. The Committee of Promoters of the Global Centre is scheduled to meet on March 2 2006, where the workplan for the first year will be established.

We would be very keen to raise awareness of the Global Centre among parliamentary libraries and research services, and to develop ways of incorporating their experience and best practices into the work of the Global Centre. We would therefore welcome



the opportunity to present a paper on the Global Centre's objectives, goals and areas of work either at the 2006 IFLA Conference, as part of the session on 'The Model E-Parliament: Powerful Force for Positive Change in the Knowledge Society', or as part of the Preconference of Library and Research Services for Parliaments. The presentation would be made in English. Handouts would be available in English and, to the extent possible, French.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at:

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Yours faithfully,
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Head, Parliamentary Resource Centre



IFLA South Africa 2007

World Library and Information Congress: 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council

"Libraries for the future: Progress, Development and Partnerships"

19-23 August 2007, Durban, South Africa

The Pre-Conference of the Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments will take place at the South African Parliament in Capetown.