INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania

**Minutes of the Mid-Conference Meeting held in Hanoi, Vietnam
23-24 February 2006**

Present
Gary E. Gorman (Chair)
Premila Gamage (Secretary)
Tan Keat Fong (Regional Manager)
Sjoerd M. J. Koopman (Coordinator of Professional Activities, IFLA Headquarters)
Birgitta Sandell (ALP Programme Director)
Hasna Askhita (Member)
Elizabeth Reade Fong (Member)
S.B. Ghosh (Member)
Yumi Kitamura (Member)
Mohd Sharif Mohd Saad (Member)
Eun Bong Park (Member)
Mark Perkins (Member)
Namtip Wipawin (Member)
Rashidah Begum (Corresponding Member)
Russell Bowden (Corresponding Member)

Observer: Patricia G. Oyler, Simmons College, USA

Apologies
Anjali Gulati (Member)
Harrison Perera (Member)
Isabelle de Cours (Member)
Zhu Qiang (Member)
Wang Shan (Member)
Zhang Xiaoxing (Member)
Xiaolin Zhang (Member)
Ashu Shokeen (Member)
Fariborz Khosravi (Member)
Hilda Nassar (Information Coordinator)
Aree Cheunwattana (Corresponding Member)
Shawky Salem (Governing Board Member, Corresponding Member)

1. Welcoming Remarks

The Chair declared the meeting open, welcomed Committee members, members who are participating for the first time, Tan Keat Fong, the new Regional Manager, and Sjoerd Koopman, Coordinator of Professional Activities, IFLA Headquarters. Patricia G. Oyler from Simmons College of USA who is heavily involved in various LIS activities in Vietnam also participated in the meeting as an observer. The Chair also welcomed her to the meeting.

2. Agenda

The Committee adopted the proposed agenda with the addition of Item 8 proposed by Sjoerd Koopman. i.e.

'Report from Headquarters and Regional Office' (Appendix 1)

3. Confirmation of Minutes of the Meetings held in Oslo, Norway, 14 and 19 August 2005

The minutes were confirmed as recorded. (Appendix 2)

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Sjoerd Koopman raised two issues. The first issue was the Standing Committee members' agreement on 'no interest to have more than one regional office'. He requested that this be put on the agenda at Seoul to which the Chair agreed. The second issue was on having few Corresponding Members in the Committee. He pointed out that some sections like Management of Library Associations (MLAS) consider all members that are not in the Committee as Corresponding Members. Russell Bowden, Elizabeth Fong, Rashidah Begum and Mark Perkins responded that there is a difference between ordinary members and the Corresponding Members. For the RSCAO Corresponding Members tend to be individuals identified as having a particular commitment to the work of the Committee as evident in their willingness to actively participate and contribute to the Committee.

5. Financial Reports
5.1. Administrative Budget

Gary Gorman, the Treasurer reported that he had not received any funds and will not receive any in future, as all Section finances are now administrated directly by IFLA HQ. Sjoerd Koopman informed the members that the administrative budget will be the same as in the past. The Chair inquired about the expenses involved in secretarial work. The Committee agreed to the suggestion made by the Regional Manager that the Regional Office could release an advance to the Secretary and then the Secretary could later submit receipts for the expenditure. However, Russell Bowden stressed that previously the Sections had the freedom to operate and administer their own finances and then report back to HQ. He raised the question, that if the thinking behind changing procedures was to ease the problems encountered when reporting finances back to HQ, whether centralisation of finances to HQ will help to solve such problems. Sjoerd Koopman responded to this by

explaining the various problems HQ had to deal with when obtaining the receipts, reimbursements, transferring balances back to HQ for final accounts. Therefore, the Governing Board had to introduce new financial procedures in order to have smoother operations. He also emphasized the fact that the amount of money lost on bank charges for transactions could be avoided through this new system. He further stressed that since this is the introduction of a new system, it has to initially run on trial error basis in order to see how it works. The Chair also stated that having been a treasurer he knows the problems and he thinks that this is a better system.

5.2. Meeting Budget

Keat Fong Tan reported that the Section received €4,500 to organize the Mid-conference meeting in Hanoi. She thanked HQ for their efficiency in transferring money within a day to the Regional Office (RO). She further reported that since ALP paid for air tickets, 3 days accommodation and meals for the LFA workshop they organised, The RO only had to pay for the remaining 3 days of accommodation and meals. After the expenses of this meeting, a small amount should remain as a balance in the meeting account.

6. Report from the Chair

Gary Gorman presented the following report:

6.1. Review of the Asia and Oceania Section

Since the Section's last meeting, we have been undergoing a time of consolidation and reflection, in the sense that the Section completed the self-review and submitted it to HQ. The self-review indicates the significant amount of work the Section has done. As reflected in the self-review, the Section can be pleased about what has been achieved in the past and the way the Section's future is being established. This can be seen especially in the new projects received by the Section which have a clear focus on the Section's strategic priorities - Information Literacy etc. The Section is waiting for comments on the self-review from HQ.

The Chair highly commended Dr Aree Cheunwattana's enormous amount of work on the self-review report. He will formally thank Dr Aree Cheunwattana.

6.2. Transfer of Regional Office from Bangkok to Singapore

Although initially the Section received no applications, it eventually, with the aid of some discreet enquiries, received six applications from China, India (2), Singapore, Korea and Sri Lanka. After reviewing the applications, the RO Sub-committee of RSCAO decided that Singapore was the best and most appropriate for the new Regional Office and forwarded the recommendation to HQ. The Chair also reported that the Section is very pleased with the end result, and he has come to know the new Regional Manager very well during the past few weeks and is looking forward to positive and proactive developments emanating from the RO.

6.3. Matters Related to Seoul Conference

The Chair reported that many sections wanted to have a relationship with the A/O Section for the Seoul Conference. Since the Section has already planned joint activities with three other sections (see item 13), the Chair had to decline invitations extended by other sections. He also mentioned that it is good to see that the A/O Section has reached where other sections now regularly approach us for joint activities at the Conference.

6.4. New Secretary

The Chair extended his special thanks to the new Secretary for her efficient work. The previous secretary, Dr Aree Cheunwattana, had set high standards, and the new secretary (Premila Gamage) has maintained these standards – under her stewardship we can be confident of efficient administration of the Section's affairs.

7. Report from the Information Coordinator

The Chair indicated that for health reasons Hildar Nassar, the Information Coordinator, had to cancel her participation at the last minute but she has e-mailed the following report:

The current number of the Asia & Oceania Section Listserv is 256. The number of our subscribers is always between 250 and 300. Sometimes I have to cancel bounced email addresses as they are bouncing all the time and for a long period.

I try to regularly forward to our listserve messages what I receive from IFLA HQ listserv and other listserv to which I subscribe and that I find of interest to the Asia & Oceania members.

I would like to thank all those who send messages directly to the list.

For members who wish to post messages on listserv, please send messages directly to the listserv.

Suggestions about how to make the listserv dynamic and well-used are welcome.

The Chair praised the good work done by Hilda Nassar in developing and handling the Section's listserv. However, the Chair reported that, according to the communications that he has received from Hilda Nassar it may be increasingly difficult for her to continue in this role, partly for health reasons and partly because of her increased workload. Therefore, he proposed to formally contact Hilda Nassar and find out whether she really feels that she wishes to continue in this role. If she cannot, the Committee can be grateful for her sterling work over the past several years. Then formally thank her for the excellent work she has done for many years. The Chair informed the Committee that Hasna Askhita has kindly agreed to step in as the Information Coordinator if Hilda Nassar cannot continue. Committee agreed.

8. Report from the Headquarters (HQ) and the Regional Office (RO)

8.1. Report from Headquarters

In his detailed presentation Sjoerd Koopman described the role and structure of IFLA, the role of the Governing Board, election of Governing Board, Divisions, Sections, annual conferences, elections, membership categories and various useful features and content such as the membership directory on IFLANET. He requested members to see the potential to include more members from the region. He also urged members to replace RSCAO whenever possible with IFLA or use IFLA "Asia/Oceania" – Section or Committee where appropriate. With particular reference to the heading of the Agenda for the meeting, as well as the signage in the venue, he pointed out that "RSCAO-meeting" is only informative for insiders; IFLA- International Federation of Library Associations also has a meaning to outsiders. He further pointed out that, since people already know IFLA, it gives an additional promotional value for RSCAO. He also mentioned that IFLA HQ can provide promotional materials in all IFLA languages and urged members to promote IFLA in members' respective countries.

Sjoerd Koopman reported that a MoU was signed between IFLA HQ and the Regional Office (NLB Singapore) on 17th February in Singapore and that the former Regional Manager, Pensri Guaysuwan, handed over the office to the new Regional Manager and that HQ is looking forward to working with Keat Fong Tan, the new Regional Manager.

Report from HQs generated the following discussions, comments and suggestions:

In responding to Russell Bowden, Sjoerd Koopman confirmed that the IFLA Members Directory is no longer to be published but could be accessed over IFLANET.

S.B. Ghosh commented that members are trying to promote IFLA in their respective countries, but at the same time national associations also expect IFLA's support for issues like 'Asian Aspects of Open Access Initiatives'. Sjoerd Koopman responded that most of the time IFLA takes action on issues like this. IFLA has already issued joint statements with organisations such as International Publishers' Association (IPA). He confirmed IFLA's support and advice whenever national associations need it.

Regarding the recruitment of new members, Russell Bowden suggested that one of the first priorities of the Regional Manager should be to try and recruit members from countries in the Asia and Oceania region that we have little contact with such as the former Soviet Union republics in North Asia. He stressed that countries like Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, which belonged to the former Soviet bloc, are now independent countries within Asia, and they formerly had good library associations. The RSCAO needs to move towards that area. A second priority should be to work very closely with the Section of Management of Library Associations (MLAS). He also emphasised that within IFLA itself and within our region we should try to assist library associations to more effectively manage their work. Patricia Oyler suggested

that this could be done through a mentoring programme and that she is trying to develop such a programme for Vietnam.

The Regional Manager responded that Regional Office would first study the current list of members/countries and then try to promote membership in the countries that have poor representation.

The Chair informed that he had already discussed with Hasna Askhita about looking at recruiting members from West Asia because we have no members from several Middle Eastern countries such as Saudi Arabia and Jordan. She had agreed to start working on it. The Chair also mentioned that we are already trying to recruit members from the countries we have contacts with and that he is using his personal contacts to try to recruit members from Vietnam and Laos. As it is an important part of our work, the Chair encouraged Standing Committee Members to actively persuade libraries and library associations in their countries to become members.

In response to Hasna Askhita's enquiry about the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) conference, Sjoerd Koopman said that IFLA had been lucky to partner with Bibliotheca Alexandrina in organising the pre-conference which was attended by all stakeholders and was a great success. Alex Byrne, IFLA President, was invited to address the Civil Society Plenary Session, and made a thorough presentation elaborating on IFLA's work.

The Chair thanked Sjoerd Koopman for his very useful and informative presentation.

8.2. Report from Regional Office

Keat Fong Tan, the new Regional Manager gave her thanks for the nomination the National Library Board of Singapore as the new Regional Office and reported the following:

- The RO transfer took place in Singapore on 17th and 18th February 2006. An official opening will take place in the first week of April by the IFLA President and the Secretary General on their way to Seoul.
- The CEO and the National Library Board have already confirmed their fullest cooperation towards the work of the RO and have provided the necessary infrastructure, including staff.
- In order to improve communication it is planned to set up a RSCAO/RO wiki/blog which allows members to add and edit content collectively.
- Planning to redesign the RSCAO Newsletter from its next issue
- Establishing an IFLA Clearing- House in Singapore
- Briefly summarised and distributed the report prepared by Pensri Guaysuwan on the Regional Office. This includes 1) Work with the RSCAO and the RCB in carrying out IFLA activities in the region; 2) Support provided to library associations in the region; 3) Information dissemination; 4) Standing Committee meetings; 5) Newsletter and other communication; 6) Seeking funding sources; 7) Liaison with IFLA ALP and other IFLA professional units; and 8) Membership recruitment. The working timetable was also reported. (Annex 3)

The Chair emphasised that one of the roles of the Regional Manager's is to explore funding sources and design and encourage project proposals that are likely to be funded. The Chair also highlighted the importance of the Regional Manager's contribution, support and input to the strategic plan and to making the plan operational. Since the Regional Manager is an experienced person, especially in international relations, the Chair requested her valuable support for this. The Regional Manager responded that she has already discussed this matter with her CEO and she will try to identify possible sponsorships and assistance and come back to the Committee with a strategy for their comments.

9. **ALP Report**

Birgitta Sandell, ALP Programme Director, provided the following verbal report at the meeting:

Financial situation

The ALP Office does not know how much money they will receive for 2006 and that the financial situation is not healthy. They have approached many libraries and other bodies seeking assistance, but have not had much positive response. However, funds are available for projects and scholarship programmes; funds have not been received for the training attachments programme.

New application/reporting system

Birgitta Sandell, reported that a new application and reporting system has been introduced by SIDA using the Logical Framework Approach (LFA) method and matrix. They have already conducted a training workshop on LFA in Africa and just finished the workshop for A/O members in Hanoi from 21 to 22 February.

She further stated that ALP has had problems with the reporting, especially when submitting financial reports. In some cases ALP does not receive any reports, and in other cases money has not been used according to the project budget. Therefore, guidelines are needed with the information such as what should be included, who has sponsored the event – acknowledgement to the donor (SIDA through IFLA ALP), other sponsors, how many attended the event, level of improvement, to whom should reports be sent (i.e. to ALP with a copy to RO). Financial reports need to be detailed and include copies of receipts. This information should also be included in the contract.

LFA meeting in Uppsala

Birgitta Sandell reported that a seminar was held for FAIFE and ALP in Uppsala between October 24 – 26, 2005. The aims of the seminar were to introduce the Logical Framework Approach as a tool for project planning and implementation and connect this to the SIDA-financed IFLA project and to identify common areas for collaboration, as SIDA has expressed that it wants to see more cooperation between FAIFE and ALP. Birgitta Sandell further reported on ongoing FAIFE projects.

During the ALP report, following comments were made:

The Chair mentioned that FAIFE/ALP seminar was useful in some ways and a good opportunity to meet FAIFE. However, he felt that FAIFE does not understand the region and that the two sides have rather different agendas. Birgitta Sandell responded that, though the FAIFE and ALP work differently, their goal is the same. With particular reference to the Internet guidelines project, Russell Bowden pointed out that FAIFE's principles are good, but how these guidelines are going to be practised in Asia is a problem.

10 Asia and Oceania Section's projects

10.1 ALP Projects
10.1.1 Current Projects
Birgitta Sandell submitted the following report:

Project 271 - International Symposium on the Research and Utilization of Chinese Local Chronicles.
Awaiting the final report. Person responsible cannot be contacted. The Chair and Regional Manager informed the Committee that they will try to contact the person responsible for the project.

Project 264 - Mekong Regional Network for LIS Training.
Awaiting the final report.

Project 265 - Information Management Curriculum Development in Vietnam.
Has taken place.

Project 275—Empowering 8' Workshop: Applying the Problem-Solving Model for Schools in South and Southeast Asia.
ALP is pleased with the reports and projects.

Project 280 - Building learning communities through libraries.
Working well and have received the progress report.

Project 284 - Scholarships in information literacy.
The Chair reported some problems in managing the IL Training Course at Victoria University of Wellington. Last year only 3 participants attended the training because: the Burmese candidate was unable to attend at the last minute, and the female Bangladeshi candidate simply 'disappeared'. Since some of the trainees had a low level of English, they could not understand the lessons and could not work well with the group. Therefore, in future the course managers will contact candidates for a telephone interview to assess their knowledge of English before accepting them. This was agreed by ALP

Project 285 - In-service training, attachments for middle staff in Asia and the Pacific
ALP has not yet received funds for 2006.

Project 287 – Empowering Library Associations for effective management in Asia.
Received interim and final reports and ALP is very pleased with the project.

Project 288 - A workshop to train library association leaders in the Pacific Islands in library advocacy and policy development.
The money will be sent as soon as possible.

Project 290 - Information Literacy Workshop on the preparation of information literacy modules for primary and secondary schools in Malaysia and Southeast Asia.
Project is functioning as planned.

Project 291 - Enhancement of the Roles of Distance Education in Library Science in Asia and Oceania.
ALP has received the reduced budget for the project.

10.1.2 Future Projects

The Regional Office received six project proposals and circulated them among the members prior to the meeting (Appendix 4). The Committee discussed and evaluated all the proposals at the meeting. Two projects were selected and four projects were rejected:

Project 296 - Modelling Information Literacy: Developing a Contextually-Based Training Programme for a Less Developed Country in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (University Library National University of Laos, Mr Chansy Phuangsouketh) - approved for 2007.

Project 297 - Education for Information Literacy: Developing and Implementing a Contextually-Based Training Programme (Documentation Centre, Pedagogical Research Department, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia, Ms Yim Mory) - approved for 2007.

Project 299 - International workshop on Information Literacy, Bangladesh (Independent University, Bangladesh, Muhammad Hossam Haider Chowdhury & Mohammed Abu Khaled Chowdhury) – Committee appointed Gary Gorman to be mentor and assist in reworking the submission along the lines required by the Committee and thereafter to re-submit it for future financial support.

Project 601 - Bringing IT to the Rural Poor: the role of public libraries in India (Dr John M, Riley & Ms Anjali Gulati) – was rejected in its present form. The Committee appointed Prof. Ghosh to be a mentor and he was asked to contact Ms Gulati to see if the project could be reworked as the basis was good.

Project 602 - Information skills assessment of librarians and usability assessment of libraries in the Southern Tagalog Region (Philippine Librarians Association, Vilma G Anday) - rejected.

Project 603 - Developing information policy: with particular emphasis on information literacy (Korea Educational and Research Information Service, James Henri, Lourense Das and Yoon-ok Han) - rejected.

During the evaluation and selection of projects, the following suggestions were made:

- Move up the final submission date from 31 December to 30 October. This allows more time to go through the proposals, and if changes/clarifications are required send them back to submitters for revisions and resubmit them before the mid-conference meeting.
- Try to provide mentoring for project proposals. Mentors can communicate with submitters and assist them when preparing proposals
- Send revised guidelines to members for their comments and then publish new guidelines on the IFLANET

11 ALP Scholarship in IT Selections

From 27 scholarship applicants (Appendix 5) a sub-committee selected five candidates and three reserves for ALP 2006 scholarships.

The five candidates selected include:
Ms. Lu Xiaohui, China
Mr. R.P.P. Ranaweera, Sri Lanka
Mr. Vaykhoun Keochandy, Laos PDR
Ms. Natalia V. Delos Reyes, Philippines
Ms. Pham Binh Minh, Vietnam

Three reserves include:
Ms. Wipa Jareevongpiboon, Thailand
Mr. Muhammad Khalid, Pakistan
Ms. Dini Rahmiati, Indonesia

The Chair reported his experiences when the selected candidates were from countries such as Myanmar. Because these candidates could not obtain passports/get clearances from the authorities, they could not attend the programme. He further stated that since the candidates informed the organisers of these problems at the very last minute there was no time to accommodate the reserves. Rashidah Begum suggested giving them a deadline to submit their passport details etc., and if they are unable to submit that in time then it will be possible to include reserves.

12 ALP Training Attachments Selections
From 23 training attachment applicants (Appendix 6), the sub-committee selected three individuals, and two reserves, for ALP 2006 training attachments.

Three individuals:
Ms. Sadia Paracha, Pakistan

Dr. Suresh Jange, India
Ms Heidi Kalayaan M. Dizon, Philippines

Two reserves:
Ms. Anju Rajbanshi (Baidhya), Nepal
Mr. Mok Rasy, Cambodia

However, Birgitta Sandell requested the Committee not to inform the candidates yet, since ALP has not received money for 2006. She thanked Daruna Sombookan for her excellent job in handling the ALP Training Attachments all these years. Daruna Sombookan will handle it for 2006 with the new Regional Manager, and from 2007 the Regional Manager will take care of organizing the training attachments.

13 World Library and Information Congress: 72nd IFLA General Conference Programme, Seoul, 20-24 August 2006

13.1 Asia and Oceania Section Programme

The theme of the programme is *'Promoting the Implementation of Open Access'*. Professor Peter Jacso, University of Hawaii, has agreed to be the keynote speaker. In addition to the keynote speaker, five papers were selected from different countries in the region and one paper was selected as a reserve.

1. Keynote Address: Open Access Scholarly Databases – A Bird's Eye View of the Landscape – Prof. Peter Jacso (Hawaii)
2. The Open Access Movement in the Korean R & D Environment - Hyekyong Hwang and Dr. Heeyoon Choi (Korea)
3. D-Collection: Open Archive Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting - Dr. Hong Seok Park and Guem Yeon Jang (Korea)
4. Open Access and Institutional Repositories - a Developing Country Perspective: A Case Study of India - Prof. S. B. Ghosh and Anup Kumar Das (India)
5. Open Access – Philosophy, Policy, Practice - Wang Xuemao and Liu Wei (China)
6. Comparing Three Chinese Preprint Systems - Liu Yi and Gao Yi (China)

Reserved paper:
'D-Space@University of Hyderabad: Open Access Institutional Repository'
- Dr. Ravi Basaiah and Pradeep Cheemalavagupalli (India).

B. Sandell informed the Committee that IFLA ALP provides three speaker grants for each region. However, the speaker grantees are required to meet the following criteria: age under 45, not a regular attendee of the IFLA Conference, and not a member of the Standing Committee.

13.2 Co-Sponsoring Satellite Meeting with the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL). The theme of the meeting is 'Scholarly Information on East Asia in the 21st Century'. The Chair requested Eun Bong Park to attend the meeting on behalf of the Section.

13.3 The Joint Satellite Meeting with Preservation and Conservation Section (PAC). The theme of the Meeting is 'Preservation and Conservation in Asia'. As this is held in Tokyo**,** the Chair requested Yumi Kitamura to attend the meeting on behalf of the Section.

13.4 Joint Session with Section of School Libraries and Resource Centres. The theme of the session is **'Information Literacy for Young People: Evolving Models in a Changing World'.** However, The Chair reported that he has not received any communications from them. The Chair suggested that the Secretary should inform them that if the A/O Section does not receive any communication it will have to withdraw its participation from the joint activity. The Committee agreed.

13.5 Programme with Division VIII: Regional Activities. The theme is **"Information Literacy for the Knowledge Society".** The Chair reported that papers have been selected and are awaiting the approval from the Division VIII Chair.

13.6 Social Event
The Committee discussed arranging a social event in Seoul. It was felt that, if sponsorship could be arranged, then a function should be held.

14. Constituent Act of the Caucus of Countries of the Third World in the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)
The Committee expressed its unanimous disagreement with the proposal to form a 'Third World Caucus' and agreed to send the following resolution to the Chair of Division VIII.
'The Committee believe that this would be an unnecessarily political move, that it would be divisive of the unity we are achieving in Division VIII, and that it would be counter-productive to omit those developed countries in our regions which may be working with less developed countries to help solve their problems'.

15 World Library and Information Congress: 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council, Durban, South Africa, August 2007

The theme of the Congress is 'Libraries for the Future: Progress, Development and Partnerships'. The Committee members discussed and agreed that 'Libraries Serving Rural and Remote Communities' would be a possible programme for the Section. The joint programme could be worked out with Public Libraries Section, National Libraries Section or LIASA. This would be further discussed and planned in the meeting at WLIC Seoul.

The Committee discussed organising a Social Event in Durban. The Chair informed that he will contact a person in Durban regarding this.

16 Section Review 2001-2004

The Chair reported that, as illustrated in the Section Review, the Section is strong but that we cannot afford to rest on our laurels – there are new fields, new programmes and new members to be dealt with in the coming years. Sjoerd Koopman reported that the Committee will be meeting in mid-March and after the Committee meeting he will be able to report back to the Sections.

17 Strategic Plan 2005-2007

The Committee agreed not to modify the Strategic Plan until 2007.

18 Other Business

Rashidah Begum enquired whether it is possible to publish the agenda and minutes in the Newsletter. As minutes can be accessed via IFLANET, the Committee decided not to publish them in the Newsletter.

Russell Bowden raised two issues. The first issue was that although a number of information literacy models have been developed in the Region in the last few years there are difficulties in effecting implementation in the countries because of the need to work with many other groups such as principals, education administrators - at local and national levels, curricula developers etc. The influence on them of the LIS profession is often too weak to be successful. This problem and the manner of seeking solutions need to figure largely when the next Strategic Plan is developed. Similarly future librarians need to understand information literacy, and its teaching needs to be 'enfolded' into the curricula and course content in departments of LIS. To do this a Regional Conference of heads of library schools should be held. It will be expensive and monies cannot come from ALP / SIDA. A source will need to be found from within the Region. The Regional Office Manger and Russell Bowden agreed to explore further.

Sjoerd Koopman announced the availability of a donation IFLA HQ has received via the American Library Association on behalf of a group of US Agricultural Documentation Centres. The money is to be contributed to one or more viable relief/restoration projects in the Tsunami area. The donation amounts to approx. USD 1,100. He requested information about viable projects in Sri Lanka and Indonesia. Russell Bowden and Premila Gamage provided information about the projects carried out by the Sri Lanka National Library and the Sri Lanka Library Association, while Mohammed Sharif and Yumi Kitamura provided information about the projects in Indonesia.

Sjoerd Koopman also, announced the Management Innovation & Library Services: The Third Shanghai International Library Forum, which is scheduled to be held in Shanghai Library, P. R. China between 17th and 19th August He requested members to participate in this useful conference.

19 Confirmation of date and place for the Mid-Conference Meeting 2007

The venue of the next mid-conference meeting in 2006 was considered. The Chair reported that the Section has received the following two invitations from Pakistan to host the 2007 mid-conference meeting:
- Department of Library and Information Science, Punjab University, in Lahore, Pakistan - Dr.Kanwal Ameen, Assistant Prof.
- Pakistan Library Association in Islamabad, Pakistan. - Anwar Ejaz, Secretary, Pakistan Library Association (Federal Branch)

The Chair reported that due to the prevailing situation in Pakistan, it would be prudent to consider another venue for the 2007 meeting. Russell Bowden and Rashidha Begum responded that in their experience, an IFLA activity, wherever it is held, has energised the profession of the host country. Therefore, they urged reconsidering the Pakistan invitations. The Regional Manager offered to have the next meeting in Singapore. However, the venue for next meeting was not decided at the meeting.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair thanked Dr Ta Ba Hung, Director of the National Centre for Scientific and Technological Information (NACESTI), and especially Mrs Tran Lan, Head of International Relations, NACESTI, and her team for organizing the Mid-Conference Meeting. Also, he expressed sincere thanks to Prof Dr Nguyen Van Khanh, Rector of University of Social Sciences and Humanities (USSH), Vietnam National University (VNU), and Dr Tran Thi Quy, Dean of Faculty of Library and Information Science (FLIS) and Mr. Thi Thuy Han, Lecturer, FLIS, USSH, for organizing the one-day Workshop on Information Literacy. He expressed thanks and appreciation to Mr Khang, Director General, and to the staff of National Library of Vietnam (NLV) for inviting members to visit NLV and hosting a dinner.

20. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 4.30 pm. on 23 February 2006.

Appendix

1. IFLA Asia and Oceania Section. Regional Standing Committee Mid-Conference Meeting Agenda – Hanoi, 23-24 February 2006
2. Minutes of the Meetings held in Oslo, 23 and 28 August 2005
3. Report from the IFLA Regional Office for Asia and Oceania, January 2005 – February 2006
4. ALP Project Submission (Project No. 296, 297, 299, 601-603)
5. List of Applicants for ALP Scholarships in 2006
6. List of Applicants for ALP Training Attachments in 2006
7. IFLA Members Registered for Section 26 Asia and Oceania