

Minutes of the 12th Business Meeting held at the Library of Foreign Literature, Moscow, 16 May 2000

1. Introductions.

Present: Hartmut Walravens (Chair: Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin); Else Delaunay (Bibliothèque nationale de France); Lars Olsson (National Library of Sweden); Mihkel Volt (National Library of Estonia); Henry Snyder (University of California, Riverside); Galina Kislovskaya (Library of Foreign Literature, Moscow); Olga Yadykina, Russian State Library); Beti Jones, National Library of Wales); Else Erdelli (National and University Library, Croatia); Edmund King (British Library)

The Chair welcomed Edmund King to his first Business meeting as Secretary. He wished to record his gratitude for the work of Geoff Smith as Secretary of the RTN. He thanked Galina Kislovskaya and the Library of Foreign Literature for their hospitality.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from: Geoffrey Hamilton (formerly of the British Library); Wilbert Ubbens (Staats-und Universitätsbibliothek, Bremen); Isabelle Rollet (Bibliothèque nationale de France); Majken Berner-Laamanen (Helsinki University Library); Carryl Allardice (National Library of South Africa); Mohamed Belhassen (Bibliothèque nationale, Tunisia); Robert Harriman (Library of Congress); Hans Bohrmann (Institut für Zeitungsforschung, Dortmund); Mary-Jane Starr (National Library of Canada)

3. Approval of Agenda

Item 9 - ICON and Item 11 – IFLANET were not to be discussed. The Agenda was then approved.

4. Minutes of Meetings/ Matters arising

11th Business Meeting, Ottawa, May 3 1999 (RTN 2000/1)

1. IFLANET: The RTN pages had not been updated for some time. The Chair suggested that all members look at the pages and send suggestions for their revision to the Secretary.
Action: Hartmut Walravens and Edmund King to edit the comments and pass these onto Mary Jane Starr for mounting on the RTN pages on IFLANET.
2. Some of the RTN papers presented at the Copenhagen and Amsterdam Conferences are to be published by IFLA HQ as part of the Reports series.
Action: Edmund King and Beti Jones to circulate copies with the next issue of the RTN Newsletter.
3. Hartmut Walravens suggested that Jonny Evardsen be contacted about recent developments on newspapers in Norway.
Action: Edmund King to contact Jonny Edvardson.
4. RTN Action Plan (item 6): This should now be mounted on the IFLA website.
Action: Edmund King to check.

5. Action Plan, Goal 2, Action 1: *Prepare and arrange for publication of French and Spanish translations of the Round Table's "Guidelines for the preservation microfilming of newspapers" (published by IFLA in 1996)*. Else Delaunay reported that there would be no action on the French translation before the Paris Symposium in August 2000. She believed the Spanish translation was well in hand.
6. Goal 5. *Revision of the IFLA Guidelines on Cataloguing Newspapers*. Proposals and suggestions to be filed before the meeting on the 22 August.
Action: All to send proposed revisions to Edmund King. Henry Snyder to send to Edmund King details of work taking place in the U.S.A. on revisions to serials cataloguing for AACR2.
7. It was agreed that further information be sought on the current rules used for cataloguing newspapers in Member organisations.
Action: Edmund King to check with Robert Harriman re. rules used in Library of Congress; Olga Yadykina to supply details of Russian State Library procedures via Galina Kislovskaya; Hartmut Walravens to supply German serials cataloguing procedures, and to take an overview of the situation in August.

IFLA Conference, Bangkok, 1999 (RTN 2000/2)

There were no comments or matters arising from these minutes.

5. Report on IFLA Conference, Bangkok, 1999.

Hartmut Walravens expressed concern regarding the lack of attendance. RTN Business Meetings assumed more importance if Members were not able to attend the full IFLA Conference. He gave thanks to Henry Snyder for taking over the Chair of the RTN Open Session. It would also be useful for the RTN to keep under review the proposed revision of serials within AACR, ISSN and ISBD(S).

6. Membership. (RTN 2000/3)

1. An application was made by the National Library of South Africa to be a Member of the RTN. This was agreed to. However, as Carryl Allardice has now left the National Library, it was agreed to contact them to see if a replacement contact name was available.
Action: Edmund King to write to Carryl Allardice.
2. Professor Bunmi Alegbeleye, Chair IFLA Africa Section, had contacted Edmund King, requesting Membership of the RTN. He discussed the possibility of holding a conference on newspapers in Africa in 2001. His membership of the RTN was agreed to.
Action: Edmund King to write to Prof. Alegbeleye a) confirming Membership of RTN b) requesting a report on newspapers in Africa c) suggesting that it may be better to hold a conference on newspapers in 2002/ 2003, to give more time for it to be organised.
3. Hartmut Walravens is seeking Members from Latin America and from Israel.
4. Australia: Action: Edmund King to approach Alan Howell to join the RTN, in order that RTN may be informed about digitisation work.
5. Russia: Action: Galina Kislovskaya to propose more RTN Members for Russia.

7. IFLA Conference Programmes

a) Jerusalem 2000

The RTN Open Session is to be held on Wednesday 16 August at 3.30-6.00pm. The Workshop is provisionally set for Thursday 17 August, p.m. There are two confirmed speakers for the Open Session, and two confirmed speakers for the Workshop.

Action: Henry Snyder to use contacts in U.S.A. to see if speakers can be arranged for the Open Session; Galina Kislovskaya to use contacts in Russian to see if a speaker can be found from Israel. Else Delaunay to use contacts to see if a speaker can be found for the theme of Arabic Newspapers. Edmund King to contact BL Colleague about a speaker on Egyptian newspapers.

b) Boston 2001

Henry Snyder proposed a tour of the American Antiquarian Society, instead of holding a Workshop. The Tour would be a whole day, and take in the newspaper collection of the AAS. This was agreed. The Open Session would be on the theme of "Newspapers of the Americas"; Speakers would be sought for the topics: The AAS; newspapers in the USA since 1876; Latin American newspapers; Canadian newspapers.

c) Glasgow 2002

The theme of the Open Session would be "Newspapers of the British Isles". Edmund King to begin to organise speakers and to see if a Tour could be organised, instead of a Workshop.

8. New Projects.

8.1 Guidelines for newspaper microfilming: supplement on best practice for microfilming of newspapers in preparation for possible future digitisation. It was agreed that these needed to be ready for the next Business meeting in Paris in August.

Action: Majken Bremer-Lammanen.

8.2 Survey of newspaper collections: Edmund King reported that he had received from Geoffrey Hamilton the list of addresses and a summary of the results of the questionnaire, expressed in percentages. It was agreed that further information on the Survey would be sought from Geoffrey Hamilton. The results the RTN had to date would be mounted on the RTN portion of the IFLA website. The original questionnaire would be reviewed, made simpler and put on the Web. (E.g. Name, Contact, Hours Open, Collection Policy, Citation for fuller information)

Action: Edmund King to write to Geoffrey Hamilton; Beti Jones/ Else Delaunay to send copies of the questionnaire to Edmund King. Edmund King to revise questionnaire and send to Henry Snyder and Hartmut Walravens for comments.

8.3 Other New Projects

All Members agreed to propose new projects. Themes discussed: Access to library contents; newspaper indexes; limitations of keyword searching on websites; censorship.

10. Round Table Newsletter.

Beti Jones was congratulated on the latest RTN Newsletter (no. 8 May 2000) It was agreed that there would be another Newsletter produced in 2000, if possible to be distributed at the IFLA Jerusalem Conference. It was also agreed that two issues per year would be produced. The likelihood was that £500

would be needed to produce the Newsletter in 2000/01, with some £200 needed for 2001/02 production. These estimates were agreed to.

12. Financial Report. (RTN 2000/5)

The Chair drew attention to the rules of IFLA HQ on the submission of accounts for projects. It would be necessary to spend the sums allocated to projects in 2000/01, or else the monies could be taken back by HQ. The accounts would be presented again at the Business meeting in August.

Action: Edmund King.

13. Next Business Meeting.

a) **13th Business meeting, 2001.** An invitation from Henry Snyder to hold the next full Business Meeting in Riverside California was accepted.

b) **Paris: August 2000.** It was agreed that there were a number of matters which should be progressed at an Extraordinary Business Meeting. This will be held in Paris on the Tuesday the 22 August 2000 at 4.30pm.

Action: Hartmut Walravens to issue an invitation to all RTN Members to attend. Edmund King to draft the invitation. Else Delaunay to book a meeting room.

Agenda items are:

1. Translations of *Guidelines for the preservation microfilming of newspapers*. Dr. Kutvania is prepared to provide a Slovakian translation of the *Guidelines*.
2. *Revision of the IFLA Guidelines on Cataloguing Newspapers*.
3. *Supplement on Best practice for microfilming of newspapers in preparation for possible future digitisation*.
4. RTN Brochure: revisions previously circulated to be agreed.
Action: Members to send Edmund King proposed revisions to the brochure by the end of July.
5. The 13th RTN Business meeting in California in mid-April 2001. Update from Henry Snyder.
6. RTN Accounts: second draft to be prepared before submission of accounts to IFLA HQ in Autumn 2000.

14. Any Other Business

1. Hartmut Walravens has details of the Newspaper Symposium held in Berlin in 1999.
2. Hartmut Walravens notified Members that a Regional RTN for Berlin was being established.
3. Else Delaunay asked for continued publicity for the Symposium in Paris this August.
4. Members agreed a vote of thanks to Galina Kislovskaya for all the work she had done in organising the 12th Business Meeting.