



## **Meeting Notes SC I: Standing Committee First Session**

### **79. IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Singapore IFLA Standing Committee on Law Libraries Section**

Saturday August 17, 2013, 15:15-17:45, Room 310, Suntec Convention Center  
Chair: Claire Germain

#### **S.C. Members:**

*Present:* Claire Germain, Marisol Floren-Romero, Blair Kauffman, Robert R. Newlen, Radu D. Popa, Pascal Sanz, Donna Scheeder, Edita Bačić, Carole Hinchcliff, Caroline Ilako, Sonia Poulin, Lilia (Lily) F. Echiverri, Sarah (Sally) Holterhoff, Margo Jeske,

*Observers:* Uma Narayan, Arlene Y. Bacayo, Claudia Davies, Megan Fitzgibbons, Karine Delvert, Lidia Namugera

*Absent:* Valérie Alonzo, Jeong-Kwon Cho, Angeline Djampou, Henning Frankenberger, Dominique Lapierre, Elizabeth Naumczyk, Virginia C. Thomas, Pedro Padilla-Rosa

#### **1. Call to order and welcome**

Claire Germain, IFLA Law Libraries Section Chair, welcomed all participants at the 1th Standing Committee meeting. A list of participants was sent around to all to fill out their information.

#### **2. Introduction of attendees**

The attendees, members of the committee and observers, introduced themselves (all together 20 participants). Claire introduced Donna Scheeder, IFLA president - elect to all participants and congratulated her on the election. Claire said that Donna has done a lot for our Section. All participants wished Donna much success.

#### **3. Role and responsibilities of SC members**

Claire reminded the audience that this was an election year for the Standing Committee. The SC members are elected for a 4 year mandate, so some of them are still members until 2015, but after the latest elections (2013 – 2017) the Standing Committee has some new members.

Claire Germain welcomed new SC members and said that our Section was founded in 2007 and still is one of the youngest IFLA Sections - therefore all Standing committee members should continue with

serious work to fulfill the Strategic plan and achieve the goals and mission. She emphasized that the Standing Committee finally filled its membership with representatives of the section from many different countries. This is an advantage, she said, which provides more opportunities for collaborative work and joint action. Each member has personal responsibility to work on the promotion of the Section and its mission.

#### **4. Election of Officers**

Claire Germain said that the Law Libraries SC should elect its officers for the period 2013 - 2015.

##### *Chair of the Section*

Claire Germain, chair of the Section will continue her position - chair of IFLA Law Libraries Section for next two years. All members unanimously voted for Claire and congratulated her on the election. Claire said that Claire has done an excellent job in the last two years and that this is a great opportunity for the Section that Claire continues with this function.

##### *Information coordinator*

Sonia Poulin was a candidate for the position of the new information coordinator and she was unanimously appointed for that position.

Claire Germain congratulated Sonia and expressed appreciation to Valerie Alonzo for previous work.

##### *Secretary*

Caroline Ilako, Robert R. Newlen and Edita Bačić were candidates for the election of the position of secretary. After all candidates presented themselves, Robert R. Newlen decided to withdraw from consideration. He said that he wanted to leave this opportunity for new members, and that he could work for this Section in other ways.

The election procedure was conducted by Blair Kauffman. Edita Bačić was elected for the position of secretary by a majority of votes.

After congratulations, Claire Germain thanked all the candidates and expressed appreciation to Dominique Lapierre for her previous work in the position of secretary. Claire said that Dominique had done a great job for the Section.

Claire asked the new officers to attend the officers' training session(s) – Tuesday 20 and (or) Wednesday 21 August.

#### **5. Approval of the agenda, last-minute changes**

The agenda was fully accepted.

#### **6. Report from the Secretary**

Dominique Lapierre was unable to attend the meeting, but Claire Germain pointed out that Dominique had written very detailed minutes from the previous meetings which is very useful to have a clear picture about past events.

Marisol and Sally presented their work on the preparation of the Report on Access to Digital Legal Sources in South America. For this Report, they used studies presented in Puerto Rico and official websites of each country. All members agreed that the Report was very useful and that the SC should continue with this kind of work. Radu Popa said that this is a very good first step to more complex further work on the Index.

Caroline pointed out that it would be important to have this kind of report for African countries, and some colleagues indicated that it would be important also to have this kind of report for South Pacific Countries.

Robert R. Newlen suggested that the Standing Committee should continue to work on this kind of reports in collaboration with the Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section.

Sally Holterhoff, with the help of Marisol Floren-Romero and other members, will continue to work on the index and contact Stuart Hamilton of FAIFE to discuss the matter of the standards.

Claire Germain concluded that this is really important work and also serious and demanding work which should be continued. She proposed a new working group: *Working group on Access to official and authoritative legal information*. Working group members are: Sally, Marisol, Uma, Lilia, Carol and Robert.

Robert will contact the Section for the Library and Research Services for Parliament.

## **7. Report from the Information coordinator**

Valerie Alonzo was unable to attend the meeting, but Claire Germain reported about everything that was done. During the past years, Valerie Alonzo regularly updated the website. She put the list of the standing committee members with a GoogleMap. She put up various announcements including the call for papers (Helsinki), which was an innovation for the Section, the minutes and a photo of the Standing committee members. Last year, in collaboration with Claire Germain, Valerie Alonzo edited the first issue of the Law Library Section Newsletter.

Claire called on all members to cooperate with the information coordinator and Sonia added that she is very open to collaboration. Sonia also said that she already has some ideas about a marketing approach of editing web pages.

## **8. Report from the Treasurer**

Claire Germain pointed out that the Section does not have available a huge budget, but it is possible through new projects to seek funding from IFLA. After a short discussion some members decided to work jointly on this issue (Blair, Marisol and Radu Popa).

### **9. Events in Singapore 2013.**

Claire invited all SC members to attend events in Singapore especially our Section program which will be held on Tuesday, 20 August. *Session 126:*

*Congress track 1: Open access and digital resources.*

- Indian initiative to provide free access to authentic legal information  
UMA NARAYAN (High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Mumbai, India)
- Free access to law in Malaysia  
RAJESH C. MUTTATH (MKMS, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)
- Hong Kong moves towards open access to authenticated legal information  
IRENE SHIEH (Lui Che Woo Law Library, University of Hong Kong Libraries, Hong Kong, China) and  
JOHN BAHRIJ (Lee Quo Wei Law Library The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China)
- Open access to official and authenticated legal information in Vietnam
- LÊ THỊ HẠNH (The Library and Information Center, Hanoi Law University, Hanoi, Vietnam)
- Researching Australian, New Zealand and Papua New Guinean law  
CAROLE HINCHCLIFF (Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia)
- Researching Singapore law  
CHARLOTTE GILL (Singapore Management University Libraries, Singapore)

Claire Germain thanked especially Marisol Floren- Romero and Charlotte Gill for organizing it.

Claire also invited SC members to attend:

*Session 166:* Government libraries as voices for open government – Government libraries with Law Libraries and Government Information and Official Publications which will be held on Wednesday 21 August.

Claire also announced the Reception for the Law Libraries Section which will be held on Monday, August 19, and said that SC members are very grateful to Charlotte Gill for making all the arrangements.

The Second Law Library Section Standing committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, 20 August at 15:00 – 16:30 (Room 309).

### **10. Planning programs for Lyon, France 2014.**

Pascal Sanz, Valerie Alonzo, Karine Delvert (Working group for Session proposals for IFLA Lyon 2014) have prepared a written proposal about their work - *Theme proposal for the session organized by the Law Libraries Section.*

Their general proposal is: to echo the Congress theme “Libraries, Citizens, Society: Confluence for Knowledge, chosen for IFLA 2014, the Law libraries section could organize a session on digital law libraries. Such a session could be set up in collaboration with other sections, such as, for instance:

- Section (17) “Government Information and Official Publications”: the issue of official publications and their access by the general public in a comparative and international perspective could be extremely stimulating
- Section (3) “Library and Research Services for Parliaments” or Section (4) “Government Libraries” could provide an opportunity to widen the vision of the services and contents provided to patrons.

They also included the proposal to launch a call for papers and contributions.

Pascal said that it is important to have a call for papers because it is good for the promotion of Law libraries section and is also a sign of democratic approach.

Marsiol mentioned that last year Elizabeth suggested that we have to contact various international organizations in term of advocating for the interest of our section and law libraries.

In addition to the Joint Program with Library and Research Services for Parliaments, a mention was made of a possible cooperation with FAIFE on the general topic: free access to legal information.

Robert Newlen will contact colleagues from that section.

After a short discussion, some members decided to have an additional meeting on Tuesday morning before our Session (Pascal, Karine, Robert, Sonia, Carol), about their proposal. They will inform the Standing Committee at the 2nd SC meeting (Tuesday, 20 August).

Claire added that we have to finish this proposal by the end of September and asked who wants to work in Call for Papers Selection Committee. Interested members are: Pascal Sanz, Karine Delvert, Valerie Aonzo, Sonia Poulin, and Robert R. Newlen.

#### **11. Possible projects for 2014.**

Claire Germain reminded us that the Standing Committee members even in previous period were recognized the need for a better representation of the Section through social networks (twitter, facebook, blog...). Sonia said that she would continue to work on it and also that she will verify if the Law libraries section list-serv is in function.

#### **12. Recruitment of new members**

Claire Germain recommended to all SC members to try to recruit potential new members in their national environment among colleagues that they already know from their national associations.

Claire also pointed out how it will be important for this purpose that each of Standing Committee members write an article about Law libraries Section and publish that article at home in a national professional journal or newsletter.

Sonia will try a better promotion of the Law libraries section through the Newsletter.

Members of the Standing Committee who will work in this Working group for recruitment of new members for Law libraries section are: Sonia, Margot, Caroline.

*Respectfully submitted by: Edita Bačić, secretary*