



82nd IFLA General Conference and Assembly, 13–19 August 2016, Columbus, Ohio USA

IFLA National Libraries Standing Committee - Meeting II

Wednesday 17 August 11:30 – 13:00, Room: C224

Minutes

Present: Guy Berthiaume, Chair (Library and Archives Canada), Genevieve Clavel-Merrin, Secretary (Swiss National Library), Melita Ambrožič, Information Coordinator (National and University Library, Slovenia), Renate Gömpel (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek), Hans Jansen (National Library of the Netherlands), Howayda Kamel (The National Library & Archives of Egypt), Angela Maria Monteiro Bettencourt (National Library Foundation / Biblioteca Nacional, Brazil), Isabelle Nyffenegger (Bibliothèque nationale de France), Katarzyna Slaska (National Library of Poland), Mark Sweeney (Library of Congress, Washington DC)

Absent: Aakki Hassan (National Library of Morocco), Nancy Machado Lorenzo (National Library of Cuba), Liudmila Tikhonova (Russian State Library), Han Yongjin (National Library of China), Umutkan Daurenbekovna Munalbaeva (National Academic Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan)

Excused: Roger Jøsevoid (National Library of Norway), Katarina Kristofova (Slovak National Library), Ismet Ovcina (National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Corresponding members: Nafisah Binti Ahmad (National Library of Malaysia), Jaesun Lee (National Library of Korea)

NILP SIG convener: Rocky Ralebipi-Simela (National Library of South Africa)

Observers: Jihye Song (National Library of Korea), Liisa Savolainen (CDNL / National Library of Finland), Winsome Hudson (National Library of Jamaica), Helen Vincent (National library of Scotland), Felene Cayetano (Belize National Library Service and Information System), Frank Biss (Counting Opinions Ltd., Canada), Raissa Teodori (Senate Library, Italy), Driss Chelouati (National Library of the Kingdom of Morocco), Francesco Manganiello (Library and Archives Canada), Maureen Clapperton (Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec), Dennis Nangle (Maryland State Library), Mohammed Alyafei (Qatar National Library), Patrice Landry (Swiss National Library), Claudia Lux (Qatar National Library), Eddy Maepa (National Library of South Africa), Raja Ben Slama (National Library of Tunisia)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the SC members and observers and opened the meeting.

2. Apologies

Three apologies were received, from Roger Jøsevold, Katarina Kristofova and Ismet Ovcina.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted, with the following changes: the addition of a point of discussion with Helen Vincent from the Rare Books and Special Collections Section concerning a potential joint session in 2017. For ease of reading, this is summarized in point 7.

Under AOB, two points were added: Committee on standards and feedback on the worksheets.

4. Report from the special interest group meetings - Library Information and Policy SIG and National Organizations and International Relations SIG

The NILP SIG convener, Rocky Ralebipi-Simela, National Librarian, National Library of South Africa reported that the session on the role of National Libraries in contributing towards the achievement of sustainable development goals was very well attended with good discussion. Interest in the session was underlined by the fact that it was highlighted in the American Libraries magazine blog: <https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/national-libraries-and-sustainable-development/>.

The papers are available in the IFLA Library.

Since the NOIR SIG convener was unable to attend, Genevieve Clavel convened and reported on the NOIR SIG session: How do international relations add value. 69 people attended the meeting. There were no formal presentations, but round table discussions were held with the help of Kelly Moore and Marian Koren who are to be thanked for stepping in at such short notice. A report will follow and be posted on the SIG's web page.

5. Report from the CDNL

The Chair reported that at the CDNL meeting Donna Scheeder, IFLA president, spoke about digital unification and informed delegates that IFLA will develop a background paper and set up a working group on this topic with a view to organising a conference in 2018/2019. This decision arose from the discussion held with representatives of the NL SC, IFLA, CDNL and UNESCO [referenced in the SC I minutes].

Four different units of the Library of Congress presented their activities. Under the theme the digital market, working with the private sector and not-for-profits, a panel discussion was held with representatives. NL, NGOs and commercial organisations. In another session, Brewster Kahle (Internet Archive) gave a provocative presentation.

The Chair encouraged CDNL delegates to fill out the questionnaire on national library functions.

6. Evaluation of the conference program including sessions

Attendees underlined that it was very useful to have time to discuss the survey during the first session and recommended that future meetings follow this model by keeping time available for more in-depth discussion beyond the 'official' business.

The two SIG sessions were successful (see above). The open session was to take place the following day.

7. Activities and actions for 2016-2017

The Chair asked SC members to study the action plan to see if any new actions should be added. It was agreed that the Section should continue the survey, and that it was better to focus on one main activity than to try to be over ambitious in planning. Any suggestion should be sent to the Chair, Secretary and Information officer.

8. National Library Section's program at IFLA 2017. General theme: Libraries. Solidarity. Society. : further discussion and planning

[This point was discussed at the beginning of the meeting]. Helen Vincent from the Rare Books and Special Collections Section informed the SC that her section was discussing holding a satellite meeting on 'what happens when collections cross borders'. This might be also a full day session within the WLIC, but off-site in order to provide a 'safe place' for free discussion. It would be aimed at national library staff from special divisions. The NL SC Chair felt that an additional off-site meeting would be difficult as there is already a full day for CDNL. The question of a mid-term meeting was raised but this also might be difficult. The question remained open. Helen Vincent also reported that the RBSC section is preparing a draft document of guidelines on competencies for special collection librarians and would welcome feedback from national libraries. The section plans a panel in 2018 on future of special collections in cultural heritage institutions and plans to invite representatives from national libraries.

The suggestion of the RBSC was discussed at point 8. Another proposal was: examples of national libraries moved to/from other places. Potential NLs could be Poland, which has a very complicated history, Canada with the example of the First Nations and the Newfoundland archives.

Other suggestions:

- A joint session with IT/IIPC on web archiving
- How to value a collection e.g. for audit purposes, are there any standardized ways
- Libraries against terrorism
- The national domain v. the national bibliography
- National library functions (building on the survey)

Volunteers for the group to decide on a theme: SC members Isabelle Nyffenegger, Mark Sweeney, Renate Gömpel, Melita Ambrožič, Genevieve Clavel and observer NL Tunisia Raja Ben Slama.

9. Elections 2017

2017 is an election year. The Information Officer reminded the following colleagues that if they wish to stand again they must submit a nomination:

- Renate Gömpel
- Roger Jøsevold
- Howayda Kamel
- Nancy Machado Lorenzo
- Katarzyna Slaska

10. Any other business

Feedback on the IFLA worksheets. There were no changes suggested to the replies proposed by the Chair, Secretary and Information Coordinator. Attendees did stress that since members are volunteers and have little time to carry out IFLA activities that HQ should be mindful not to make too many demands for activities, and to keep reporting as simple as possible. The SC agreed to keep using e-mail and the web pages for information, plus Basecamp where appropriate. Communication via Facebook, twitter, blogs, etc. was not retained.

Standards.

The IFLA committee on standards is carrying out an audit on existing and new standards. The NL SC is requested to respond.

Patrice Landry NL Switzerland informed that work on standards for NLs is taking place at ISO (updating ISO/TR 28118 Performance indicators for national libraries).

This will aim to combine relevant performance and impact measures from different ISO standards for national libraries in one document, to introduce new performance indicators and to align indicators to IFLA's national libraries' functions as informed by the current survey though bearing in mind that the inventory is descriptive not prescriptive.

There is no need to carry out any duplicate work.

The SC agreed that it has no current standards under discussion.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked all those present for their input and ideas, reminded all the NL open session would take place on Thursday August 18 at 8:30, and adjourned the meeting.