



23rd IPA IFLA Meeting Agrees Work Plan for 2008

Geneva, 16 January

The IFLA IPA Steering Group met for its first meeting in 2008, its 23rd meeting overall, at the American Library Association Meeting in Philadelphia.

At the meeting the working group agreed to explore the extent that librarians and publishers around the world share views on key issues that affect both sectors.

IPA and IFLA agreed to work together on promoting national book culture and will encourage UNESCO to organise an international conference on this theme. Common projects are envisaged in the area of national and international book statistics and developing standards for author information.

Open access was, as usual, an important area of debate. A shared responsibility was acknowledged to ensure that the debate does not become unnecessarily polarised. Legal deposit and preservation archiving are also areas where IFLA and IPA have agreed to explore the extent of their concurrence.

The group will also revisit the issue of orphan works with a particular view to developing a joint position on mass digitisation projects conducted for the public interest. This follows on from a joint declaration on orphan works. Joint activity in 2007 in areas such as World Book Day, the designation of the next World Book Capital cities, VAT, and collective licensing, will be followed up.

To achieve this work plan the group agreed to have two more meetings this year, in June and December.

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