Mission

To promote and support the advancement of the library and information profession and services in Africa in accordance with the objectives and priorities of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).

Objective

The Africa Section exists among other things to:

a. Promote and strengthen Library Associations, the profession and Library/Information Services in Africa.

b. Create and maintain links with other Sections of IFLA as well as related bodies/institutions/organizations for the benefit of the profession and services in Africa.

The Section has identified 8 Goals to help in realizing the above stated mission and objectives in the planned period. The goals and associated priority activities in line with the IFLA Strategic Plan 2010-2015

IFLA AFRICA SECTION PRIORITY ACTIVITIES: 2012-2015

The IFLA Africa Section’s three priority activities are outlined in the table below which demonstrates the relationship of each priority activity to the Strategic Direction, relevant Goals and Priority Activities in the IFLA Strategic Plan for 2010-2015.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IFLA Africa Section Priority Activity</th>
<th>IFLA Strategic Direction</th>
<th>Relevant goals</th>
<th>Priority Activities</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action 1:</strong> To collaborate with the section CHILD to host a joint Section in 2014. Section Officers will meet and discuss with the Section in Singapore</td>
<td>Transforming the profile and the standing of the profession</td>
<td>Goal 3b</td>
<td>Priority Activity 3.2</td>
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<td><strong>Action 2:</strong> To collaborate more closely with the Women, Information and Libraries Interest Group to identify groups working on women’s issues.</td>
<td>Representing the interests of IFLA’s members and their users throughout the world</td>
<td>Goal 4a/b</td>
<td>Priority Activity 4.7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome:</strong> List of women’s group in diverse countries in Africa that can be used for advocating for and promotion of information on women’s issues through libraries.</td>
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<td><strong>Action 3:</strong> To participate in the implantation of the BSLA and by identifying further Library Associations in the region who would benefit from the programme</td>
<td>To implement the Building Strong Libraries Programme</td>
<td>Goal 2d/2f</td>
<td>Priority Activity 2.4</td>
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<td><strong>Action 4:</strong> Build a legal, technical and professional base that enables libraries to play a major role in collecting, preserving, and offering wide access to all types of physical and digital materials in this evolving digital information environment.</td>
<td>Empowering libraries to enable their user and communities to have equitable access to information.</td>
<td>Goal 4 Goal 1e/1f</td>
<td>Priority Activity</td>
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<td>Action 5: promote the role of libraries in the Information Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goal 3 Goal 4a, 4b, 4d</td>
<td>Priority Activity 4.1, 4.4,4.7</td>
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Goal 1
To promote and support the development of the profession in the region through the strengthening of Library Associations.

**Strategic Direction:** To implement the Building Strong Libraries Programme

Goal 2d/2f/Priority Activity 2.4

**Outcome:** Effective and strong library associations in the region

**Actions**

1.1 To implement the Building Strong Library Association (BSLA) programme.

1.1.1 To identify Library Associations in the region who would benefit from the programme and extend it to countries surrounding them.

1.1.2 To establish an African Library and Information Associations & Institutions.

Goal 2
To promote and support development programmes that focus on improved information use, reading and literacies in Africa.

**Strategic Direction:** Empowering libraries to enable their user communities to have equitable access to information.

Goal 1c/Priority Activity 3.2

**Outcome:** Increased awareness of the role of libraries in promoting literacy and reading and skills development in this area.

**Actions**

2.1 Organize national regional workshops to develop strategies for creating partnerships for promotion of literacy and reading culture: Libraries, NGOs, ICTs, and Telecentre.

2.2 Organize a regional workshop for public libraries on their new roles in society through Public Libraries Summit.

To plan a workshop on sustainability of electronic library services in public libraries: electronic infrastructure issues, costing, effective management.

To support efforts on closing the digital divide.

2.3 To create awareness on the role of libraries in promoting literacy and life-long learning through Library Associations and /or National Libraries.
Goal 3

To promote the role of libraries in the Information Society

**Strategic Direction:** Representing the interest of IFLA’s members and their users throughout the world.

Goal 4a, 4b, 4d/Priority Activity 4.1, 4.4, 4.7

**Outcome:** Launch the AfLIA and the African Public Libraries Network

**Actions**

3.1 Organize 2015 African Library Summit in Ghana
3.2 Organize 2015 first AfLIA Conference in Ghana
3.3 Support the African Public Library Network

Goal 4

To drive access to content and digital resources for library users.

**Strategic Direction:** Empowering libraries to enable their user communities to have equitable access to information.

**Actions**

4.1 To organize an international conference on Africa Digital Libraries and Archives (ICADLA-4) in Ghana, 2015.
4.2 To advocate for the adoption and promotion of Open Access Policies.
4.3 To work collaboratively to build a legal, technical and professional base to enable libraries play a major role in collecting, preserving and offering wide access to all types of physical and digital materials.
4.4 To participate in the UNESCO Memory of the World Project.
4.5 To build capacity on the continent on digital preservation of indigenous knowledge and develop guidelines for digital preservation of IKS

Goal 5

To promote education and continuing professional development for the library and information profession in Africa.

**Strategic Direction:** Transforming the profile and the standing of the profession

Goal 3b/Priority Activity 3.2
Actions

5.1 To participate in the review of curricula in library schools in Africa to accommodate emerging developments.

5.2 To compile a Directory of Library and Information Science Schools in Africa.

5.3 To input information on Africa into the IFLA World Report and create a link between the Section's Web page and the report.

5.4 To encourage the organization of at least one continuing professional development programme at the national level for LIS professionals.

5.5 Capacity building

Goal 6

To promote documentation and preservation of indigenous knowledge and to advocate for moral rights, intellectual property and copyright for indigenous knowledge.

Strategic Direction: Empowering libraries to enable their user communities to have equitable access to information.

Goal 1a, 1b, 1c, 1e Priority Activity 1.2,1.3,1.5

Outcome: A set of guidelines for the digital preservation of IKS.

Actions

6.1 collaborate with organizations working on Indigenous knowledge and creating a database.

Goal 7

To support the IFLA Presidential Theme.

Actions

7.1. Circulate information about the presidential theme; publish the symposium proceedings in form of articles.

7.2. Organize Satellite meetings on Presidential theme.


Goal 8

To advocate for improved access to information and knowledge for development in Africa.

Strategic direction:
Empowering libraries to provide their user communities the avenues for timely and reliable access to information and knowledge to enable them to grow and thrive in their various endeavours.
Goal 1a/Priority Activity 1.1.
Outcome:
The existence of an active global network of professionals, that effectively advocate for adequate access to information and knowledge for development in Africa.

Actions

8.1. To sponsor and support the activities of Access to Information Network-Africa=Reseau d’acces a l’information en Afrique (ATINA/RAIA), the Section’s Special Interest Group on broadening access to information.
8.2. To support reading for people with special needs and minority groups
8.3 To support the public library Network
8.4. To support reading for people with special needs and minority groups