

## **MINUTES OF THE IFLA AFRICA SECTION MEETINGS HELD IN SINGAPORE DURING THE WLIC CONGRESS:**

**SCI: 13.45 – 15.45, 18 August 2013.**

**SCII: 12:00 – 13:30, 21 August 2013**

### **1.0: Opening.**

#### **1.1: Welcome Remarks:**

The chair of the IFLA Africa Section (SC) welcomed every one present and apologized for the late start due to a mix-up relating to change of venue for the meeting. She thanked all the SC members who worked so hard to ensure that the programmed activities of the section were achieved. She went on to say a big thank you to the outgoing members whose term of office had come to an end. The members included Dr. James Daniel and Ms. Naomi Hassbroek. She went on to emphasize on the importance of communication, stating that communication is very important and that members should do all to communicate always so that views can be shared.

#### **1.2: Introduction and Apologies:**

All members present were called upon to introduce themselves and this was done. Introduction was followed by presentation of apologies. Apologies from, Agnes Chikonzo and Joyce Gozo were presented.

#### **1.3: Announcements:**

Members were informed that the time for the SCII had been adjusted to 12:00 – 13:30 instead of 13:45 – 14:45.

#### **1.4: Adoption of Agenda:**

The agenda for the meeting was moved for adoption by Ellen Namhila and seconded by Ujala Satgoor and Matseliso Moshoeshoe-Chadzingwa.

### **9.0: ALP Update:**

Just after the adoption of the agenda, the members of the Governing Board came in, and the chair, Dr Okojie, called on the members to permit these officers to handle item 9.0 of the agenda, given that they had a very tight schedule and would not be able to stay for the whole meeting period. At this juncture the floor was given for deliberations on item 9.0.

#### **9.1: BSLA Update:**

Fiona Bradley was the first GB officer to present updates on the BSLA. She informed that the BSLA project will no longer be at country level but will take the form of

regional meetings that will begin in February 2014 and it is hoped that this will develop and build networks for IFLA. In relation to this, experts and leaders will be put to work so that they can be of benefit to each other and the regions concerned. The main funding for these activities is from the Bills and Melinda Gates Foundation she said. The dates will be discussed and funds can be applied for by the regions in order to bring as many people together as possible for advocacy and mentorship. After her update, she then opened the floor for questions. People asked to know how to get the programme relating to BSLA and were informed that they could get it from Room 332 (the IFLA Congress Secretariat).

## **9.2: ALP Activities:**

The update on BSLA was followed by updates relating to ALP by Stuarts Hamilton a GB Officer.

- Stuarts brought the success story of the WIPO treaty to facilitate access to published works by visually impaired persons passed in Marrakech – Morocco in June 2013.
- He went on to state that the WIPO treaty on archives and copyright has pressure put by the digital world and this has made it difficult for Africa to benefit from the exceptions and limitations relating to this treaty as their European counterparts. Thus he called on Africans to help advocate for the revision or institution as the case may be for copyright that will permit their countries to have access to knowledge/digital content.
- The situation on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGS) was also presented. To this, the audience was informed that the UN was currently reviewing the MDGS especially given that the goals are expected to be achieved by 2015. It was noted that the role of Libraries must be assured in achieving the MDGS through providing development programmes. IFLA is thus providing materials and examples for Libraries to use and show their good examples that can be taken to the United Nations. The above updates were followed by questions and answers. The first question had to do with the role of Beyond Access. People were referred to the website, “It was added that INASP and IFLA are involved in the Beyond Access activities and that these bodies are working to develop a training module for BSLA and how Libraries fit into the development process.

9.3: Policy and Advocacy: The third GB officer took the floor and talked on the following:

- Informed about the IFLA Disaster Construction Programme. In line with this, a development of a questionnaire is ongoing and will be ready next year 2014 for the collection of data. That libraries will be expected to fill in their inputs and this will be examples that will be recorded in the IFLA register that is currently being built.

- After this update, a question was asked to know if this programme was preventive and for resolving disasters and the answer was “Yes”. This question brought the updates by the GB officers to an end and the meeting went back to its agenda.

**2.0: Correction and Adoption of Minutes of the IFLA Africa SC meeting of February 2013, Abuja Nigeria:** The Minutes of the last IFLA Africa SC meeting were examined. There were no corrections as such and they were then moved for adoption by Kathy Mastika and seconded by Abraham Azubuike.

### **3.0: Matters Arising from Minutes**

**3.1:** The chair talked of the newly elected IFLA officers and said more details will be given at the appropriate time.

**3.2: ICADLA:** Members were informed that the 3<sup>rd</sup> ICADLA meeting took place in Morocco as programmed and that a report on this meeting will be presented as the meeting unfolds.

**3.3: AFLIA:** The chair informed that AFLIA was created and installed during the Africa Library Summit in Pretoria in pump and pegendry, together with its interim executive.

**3.4: Poster Session:** The audience was informed that the IFLA Africa Section had a poster session with the stand number, 120. All were called upon to visit this stand and give their appraisal of the poster that will provide elements for improvement in future.

**3.5: Strategic Plan:** A strategic plan for the SC had been done and its implementation will be examined later.

**3.6: Open Forum Paper Presentation at IFLA WLIC 2013.** Members of the meeting were informed that the Africa Section Open Forum was to take place on Wednesday 21, in Room 408 (09:00 – 12:30). That there were three papers to be presented.

**3.7: Africa Library Summit:** The Chair informed that the Africa Library summit held as programmed in Pretoria – S.A. That it was an exciting summit and the workshop presentations and discussions were very rich.

### **4.0: IFLA Election Updates.**

**4.1: SC Africa Section:** The IFLA Africa Section newly elected officers were introduced. Dr. Victoria Okojie was re-elected for her second term as chair and Dr. Rosemary M. Shafack elected as secretary of the Section.

**4.2: GB officers and others:** The newly elected GB member in the person of Ellen Namhila was introduced, Kathy Mastika as the CLM member, Mandiage Ndiage as the IFLA Africa French Language Centre Officer, etc.

**5.0: Reports:** The following Reports were presented:

**5.1: Chair of IFLA Africa Section's Reports:** The Chair presented her report with the following highlights. She welcomed all and talked on the following issues.

- IFLA Africa SC Mid-Term Meeting took place in Abuja, 2013 with 12 members who attended the meeting with the National Librarian and the President of the Nigerian Library Association (NLA) as observers. The meeting offered an opportunity for the organization of a career talk for 60 young Librarians with the presentations made by two veterans in African Librarianship: Dr. Buhle Mbambo – Thata and Dr. Helena Asamoah - Hassan. During this meeting, officers were elected into the Interim Committee of the African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AFLIA).
- **African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AFLIA).**The tenure of the AFLIA Interim Committee is two years (2013 -2015). The following were elected as officers.
 

- President	- Dr. Helena Asamoah-Hassan
- Secretary	- Mrs. Valentina Bannerman
- Central African Representative	- Mr. Alim Garga
- East African Representative	- Mrs. Jacinta Were
- North African Representative	- Dr. Shawky Salem
- Southern African Representative	- Mr. John Tsebe
- West African Representative	- Mrs. Marietou Diop

AFLIA Co-opted members include:

- Mrs. Aissa Missak as the representative of Portuguese – Speaking (Luxophone) countries.
- Dr. Buhle Mbambo-Thata and Dr. Victoria Okojie as the Business Development managers.

AFLIA was officially presented to the public during the African summit in Pretoria in July 2013 and was received and celebrated in a very colourful and impressive ceremony.

- **African Public Library Summit (APLA):** This summit held as scheduled from 19-21 September, 2012 in Johannesburg, South Africa. With the generous support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, UNISA; IFLA Regional Office for Africa and IFLA Africa Section, over 350 leaders and stakeholders in the public library sector from over 45 countries in Africa and around the world attended the summit. Organized under the theme “Informing Africa, Developing Africa”, delegates had the opportunity to interact with public Library leaders, policy makers and other key stakeholders to explore and engage on matters related to the role of public libraries in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and how public libraries in Africa are successfully contributing to the development priorities of

communities, countries and the continent with one of the key outcomes being the establishment of an African Public Library Network.

- **African Library Summit (ALS):** The 2<sup>nd</sup> ALS was held from 2 – 5, 2013 at the University of South Africa (UNISA), South Africa with the theme, “**African Librarianship: the Horizon and Beyond**”, with the focus on Leadership; Innovation and creativity. Over 300 delegates from over 40 countries took part in the summit. The highlights of the summit included the public presentation of 2 pan-African networks and Association: The African Public Library Network (APLN) is coordinated by Gethrude Mwazinges, National Librarian of Uganda; the Conference of African National Libraries (CANL) is coordinated by John Tsebe, National Librarian of South Africa and the African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AFLIA) has Helena Asamoah – Hassan as Interim President. Another key outcome was the inauguration of a programme for 30 emerging young leaders in the public library sector in Africa which was generously supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Global Libraries Africa Advisory Committee:** In April, 2013, the Gates Foundation Global Libraries (GL) programme appointed 10 Africans into an African Advisory Committee to work with the GL to align the priority needs of the Africans in a manner that also contribute to GL’s strategic goal, “to ensure that all people, especially those in disadvantaged communities around the world, have access to information through technology in public libraries”. The 10 members include, Dr. Victoria Okojie; Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata; Gethrude Mwazinges ; Vero Abibu; Alli Mcharazo; etc. The committee had its first meeting in Windhoek, Namibia June 2013 and plans to hold the last meeting in October, 2013 in Uganda.
- **ICADLA – 3:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> ICADLA conference coordinated by Abraham Azuibuike and Feox Ubogu was successfully held in Marrakesh, Morocco in June, 2013.
- **IFLA Africa Section Poster, IFLA WLIC, 2013:** The theme of the 2013 poster is “Emerging Initiatives in African Librarianship” and listed as poster no. 120.
- **IFLA Africa Section Open Forum, 2013 theme is, “Future African Libraries: Innovation and Creativity in Services”.** This forum will take place from 9:30 to 11:30 on Wednesday, 21 August, 2013 at the Exhibition Hall 406, with the following presentators, Stephen John Agbenyo and Aaron Kuwonu, Jean Pierre Diouf; Victoria Okojie and Oladeke Omotoso; and Zakari Mohammed.
- **IFLA Awards:** The Chair reminded members of the Africa Section to nominate Africans who have made significant contributions to the development of librarianship in Africa and beyond. Members were urged to visit the IFLA website regularly to know when the Awards are advertised.
- **IFLA Africa Section Officers Election 2013:** The chair presented the newly elected IFLA Africa Section Officers that took place this year 2013. Dr. Okojie was re-elected as the Chair for a second term and Dr. Shafack as Secretary. The

chair on behalf of herself and the secretary expressed profound gratitude for the confidence reposed in them and promised that they will continue to do their best and went ahead to solicit for the Section members' full support and cooperation. She equally welcomed four new members into the Section's SC and these include: Ujala Statgoor; Rachel More; Nthabiseng Kotsokoache and Bongwiwe Magocha. A message of good bye and thanks was extended to the SC members who have served the Section meritoriously in the last 8 years and have completed their terms. They are Naomi Haasebroek who served as chair and Dr. James Daniel who served as secretary.

Dr. Okojie ended her report by encouraging all members of the Africa Section to attend all the activities of the Section, including the SC meetings as well as the activities of the SIGs such as ATINA and LIS Education in Developing Countries.

**5.2: Report of the IFLA Africa Section Manager:** Lindi Nhlapo started her report by underlining the main role of the regional office which is to provide an enabling environment for Section's activities. She added that the activities of the office have brought lovely outcomes. She reported the Annual Public Lecture on Africa Day Celebration with Dr. Asamoah-Hassan as speaker on 23 May 2013. That the ICADLA III meeting took place in Morocco and Lindi was the only one who represented the section besides the convener Abraham Azubuike. Members were informed that the next ICADLA meeting (IV) will take place in Ghana. IFLA has moved from country to regional events, members were informed. They were thus called upon to inform the Regional Office of all events taking place so that the Regional Office together with IFLA can contribute to their success. The Regional officer called on Africans to join the IFLA membership and went on to thank those who have made the effort to renew their membership with IFLA. She added that information on details and conditions of membership can be gotten from the IFLA website. She went on to request on Africans to provide articles for the Section's newsletter. That there was need for the articles to reflect all of Africa and not just a particular region always. That there are the December and June issues and members should send articles for publications on these. She called on members to send information on Library Associations and Library Schools in their countries for the building of the Directory that is ongoing.

**5.3: ATINA SIG:** The Convener in the person of Abraham Azubuike took the floor and indicated that it was only early this year that the actual handover was completed. He said not much has been done this year but that good preparations are being done for Lyon-France next year, 2014. He hoped that participation in ATINA activities will increase especially from Francophone Africa. He said the activities will be announced early enough in order to get full and better participation. The social media will be used for advocacy and he called on more people to join the work of ATINA given that his work with the UN does not allow the use of advocacy.

**5.4: LIS Education:** Dr. Abulai presented the LIS Education activities. He informed that the second meeting of LIS Education took place on 13 August 2013. That there were 13 papers presented and divided into seven sessions with 2 papers per session with ideas and challenges discussed. There were 30 participants who attended this meeting and were from Africa, Asia and Oceania. The meeting was very successful, he reported. He added that the future of LIS Education was not clear as it has been taken off Division V. This raised enormous issues.

**5.5: Report on AFLIA:** Dr. Asamoah-Hassan made a presentation on AFLIA stating that it was launched in SA during the African Library Summit in July 2013. During the launch a total of \$380 was raised in cash besides pledges. An AFLIA account has been opened. A total of 10,000 Rand was pledged and 30 Associations and Institutions registered with AFLIA. She added that registration forms can be collected from the Secretary, Valentina Bannermann. A website was being developed for AFLIA, she added and that in 2015 there will be a conference and election of new AFLIA officers or executive.

**5.6: Conference of Africa National Libraries (CANL):** Only Africa did not have this structure. Having one now is breaking new grounds which is very good.

**5.8: African Public Library Network (APLN):** A network of APLN has been setup and countries with public libraries are called upon to join this network. The network just as the Conference of Africa National Libraries was launched during the Africa Library Summit alongside AFLIA.

Flowing the above reports were questions and Discussions as follows:

- The first speaker Kay Raseroka, started by extending congratulations to the IFLA Africa Section officers for the amount of work achieved so far and wished them all the best in their new term. She added that there were challenges but she believed in the officers' hard work to be up to the task. The Regional Officer Manager was appreciated for all the work and the success that has been recorded thanks to the office's investment. This speaker went to request the chair of the section to write an official letter to the host of the Regional Office thanking them for all the investments. Kay went on to talk about the problem relating to the Special Interest group for developing countries. In conclusion, she requested for a committee to be set up to work with the Convener of the Special Interest group of the LIS Education to discuss this problem on LIS, seized from Division V and put under IFLA programmes. She added that this was such an important programme to be taken away from Division V. Abdulai was very happy with Kay's ideas and requested that she should volunteer to be part of the proposed committee as its chair. In addition to Kay, Jacinta Were was nominated to join Kay in the committee. Other members were called upon to join this committee.

The second intervention was that of Ellen Tise: She congratulated the Section Officers, Regional Office and the Host of this office for all the good work. She requested that a letter be written to the Governing Board (GB) to show appreciation for all the support the work of the Section. The second intervention of Tise was a question asked to know the membership of IFLA Africa Section. She equally asked to know if print copies of the Section's Newsletter were still made available. She recommended that the social media be used for communication. She equally wished to know what is happening at the National Associations level. She volunteered to create a bloc for the Africa Section to share all that there is to share on the continent and to create a social media platform to share information.

- In reply to Tise's questions, the IFLA Africa Section officer, Lindi Nhlapo had this to say:
  - That by 2012, there were 120 National Library Associations with five African Library Associations paid for by Europe.
  - She informed that the Section's newsletter was no longer printed but available on the website.
  - That the Africa Section had a blog twitter account and there was a list serve in use used to communicate.
  - That, there was a social media account and called on members to use it to communicate. That, it was important for members to engage and use the social network.
  - That the Africa Section by July 2013 had 150 members
- Jacinta Were took the floor and commented on the following:
  - She informed that she was the brain behind having LIS Education from IFLA to Division V as a member and was surprised to know that it has gone back to IFLA.
  - She invited members to attend information Fora at regional levels and discussed a lot to solve Division V problems. She added that, there is a lot that can be done at the regional level on LIS. She volunteered herself to join Kay on the committee created earlier.
- Ellen Namhila, took the floor next and noted that the same fate has happened to many committees like LIS Education in IFLA. She promised to make her staff involve in LIS activities. She added that it is good to have other organizations that are active in Africa outside IFLA that can be very useful on the continent.
- Abdulai informed that LIS papers for Division V are on the IFLA website.
- The Ghanaian delegation present at the meeting, express gratitude for the birth of AFLIA and appreciated the appointment of the interim president and secretary all Ghanaians. They pledged their support to the executive and as host of the first office.

It was added that Ghana was ready to midwife AFLIA and to ensure that it does not fail

- Helena Assamoah – Hassan announced that the anniversary of the consortium of Ghana will be celebrated next year 2014 in July and people were all invited to attend.
- Mandiaye Ndiaye the new coordinator of the IFLA French Translation Centre in Dakar – Senegal requested for information on all IFLA Africa Section activities to be sent for translation and sharing on the IFLA website. He added that IFLA key documents have already been translated and are found on the IFLA website.

This point brought the first SC meeting to an end and an announcement was made with respect to the SCII meeting billed for 21 August 2013 at 12:00 – 13:00 in Room 333, a change from what obtains on the official programme. Members were requested to take note and make this adjustment on their programme and make it a duty to be part of this second meeting.

## **6.0 IFLA WLIC 2014, FRANCE**

**6.1 Update:** Members were informed that the next **IFLA WLIC will take place in Lyon – France from 16 to 22, August 2014**. The theme of the congress is, **“Libraries; Citizens, Societies, Confluence of knowledge”**.

**6.2 Poster Session:** It was decided that the theme of the poster will be gotten from the WLIC theme.

**6.3 Open Forum:** Theme and Sub-Theme for 2014: Members were informed that there was a call for a joint forum with the coordinator of the IFLA section on Children and Young Adults. This collaboration was endorsed and considered a pertinent sector to collaborate with. Theme of the forum is, **“Children and Young Adults Reading in Africa”**. A call for papers was to be announced by 15 November 2013. The search for a key Note Speaker was to commence immediately after the 2013 Congress. Members discussed on the importance of the theme, given that Africa had just pockets of reading culture with no standards set. This discussion led to the remark on non-appearance of paper presenters even after confirmation. This received hot views and the conclusion was that people should send in proposals for a way forward.

**6.4 Pre-Conference.** It was decided that there will be no pre-conference in 2014 but that there will be in 2015. Members were requested to propose contacts and sponsors that can give support for the pre-conference in 2015.

**6.5 Africa Caucus.** Members were encouraged to make an effort to increase membership of Africans in the various IFLA Standing Committees as well as the IFLA Governing Board (GB). They were reminded that, for this to be possible, it was very indispensable for the membership to IFLA itself to increase.

## **7.0 IFLA HQ UPDATE.**

**7.1 IFLA Governing Board Update.** There was a new member of the IFLA GB from Africa in the person of Ellen Namhila.

**7.2 Division V Update.** The new secretary of the IFLA Division V was the Chair of the IFLA Africa Section, Dr. Victoria Okojie.

**7.3 IFLA Strategic Plan and Key Initiatives.** Members were informed of the Building Strong Library Association (BSLA) an IFLA project in its strategic plan that has moved from a country level project to a regional project with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The treaty on E-lending relating to persons with disabilities was a key initiative of IFLA. The Trend report presented by the IFLA outgoing president was a laudable achievement.

**7.4 International Leadership Programme.** Members were updated on the activities of the IFLA International Leadership Programme. IFLA was receiving the reports of its first year activities and programming those of the second and final year.

## **8.0 Africa Section Strategic Plan**

The printed copies of the Section Strategic plan made up of 8 goals was presented by the chair and all the 8 goals were examined to see how far they had been executed. A summary of the discussion of the goals is presented as follows:

- **Goal 1: To promote and support the development of the profession through strengthening of Library Associations:**
  - **1.1** The Building Strong Library Association (BSLA) Programme started off very well with three African Countries benefiting, Botswana, Cameroon and Madagascar. The programme is still on going and will now be done at regional levels.
  - **1.1.2** The establishment of the African Library Associations and Institutions as reviewed in the plan has been born with the acronym, IFLIA.
- **Goal 2: Improved Information use, reading and literacies in Africa**
  - **2.1.** A Pre-conference at the African Library Summit was organized on Digitization. Many activities on improved information use, reading and literacies are ongoing. Children and young adults reading in collaboration with the African SC will be organized next year 2014.
  - **2.2.** A public library Network had been formed and launched to promote this.
  - **2.3.** A National Library Forum for Africa has been formed to promote this.

- **Goal 3: Promote the role of libraries in the information society**
  - **3.1.** The Second Library summit organized in 2013 in Pretoria – South Africa to promote this.
  - **3.2.** Item 3.2 of the plan is ongoing.
  - **3.3.** Library and Archives networks were established and launched in Pretoria – South Africa during the second Africa Library Summit.
  - **3.4.** This was established and launched during the 2013 Africa Library Summit. Has an executive that has settled down to serious work.
  
- **Goal 4: Drive access to content and digital resources for library users.**
  - **4.1.** ICADLA – 3rd meeting took place in Morocco in 2013.
  - **4.2.** The Berlin – 10 meeting took place in South Africa with lots of Africans attending workshops and meetings on Open Access. This has resulted in some African Institutions signing the Berlin Declaration on Open Access.
  - **4.3.** ICADLA has been promoting item 4.3.
  - **4.4.** Point 4.4 has been effective and the chair of AFLIA is the chair of UNESCO memory of the world.
  
- **Goal 5: Promote education and continuing professional development for the library and information profession in Africa.**
  - **5.1.** Nigeria is reviewing the library school curricula to accommodate emerging developments. This is equally being done in Kenya, South Africa and other parts of Africa. INASP will be undertaking the same activity in East Africa.
  - **5.2.** A directory of Library and Information Science Schools in Africa is being developed.
  - **5.3.** Continuing professional programmes are ongoing already in parts of Africa e.g., Uganda, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, etc.
  
- **Goal 6: Promote Documentation and Preservation for Moral Rights, Intellectual Property and Copyright for Indigenous Knowledge (IK).**

It was remarked that a number of IK projects were going on in the continent and members were encouraged to promote such projects and initiate new ones where they do not exist in order to preserve indigenous knowledge. Kay Raseroka was cited as a Senior Professional who has as her key area of interest IKs. She was requested to see how she could help in the promotion of this sector.
  
- **Goal 7: Support the IFLA Presidential Theme.**

Members were informed that support for IFLA Presidential theme has been ongoing. That there will be the symposium in Namibia which is directly linked to the IFLA Presidential theme.

- **Goal 8: Advocate for Improved Access to information and knowledge for Development in Africa.**

Activities have been carried out under ATINA which is the Section's Special Interest Group on broadening access to information. Many activities and meetings are ongoing on the continent to promote access to information. These activities are carried out by Library Associations and IFLA Regional Programmes such as the Africa Library Summit to name just these.

## **10.0. Africa LIS Conferences: Reports and Announcements.**

### **10.1. African Library Summit, UNISA, Pretoria, South Africa July 2013**

The African Library Summit took place as programmed with 33 countries represented. The summit had great outcomes. The proceedings will be published soon. There were many in attendance. The summit saw the birth of 30 young leaders from the continent who were groomed to become emerging leaders. This programme was coordinated by Mrs. Ujala Satgoor who is the President of the South African Library Association. It was emphasized that there is need to develop young leaders who will take over and ensure continuity of the profession. This programme was possible thanks to funding from Global Libraries. The summit equally gave birth to AFLIA as indicated earlier. A question was asked to know about the state of the proceedings of the first African Library Summit. The response was that this will be published alongside the second proceedings by December 2013.

### **10.2. ICADLA Morocco, 2013**

ICADLA – 3 was held in Morocco in May 2013. The theme was, “Digital Libraries and Archives in Africa – Changing Lives”. There were 100 participants in attendance. It was remarked that apart from the IFLA Africa Regional office manager, no SC member attended. The convener said it was quite disappointing that people do not attend these meetings. Secondly, the database is not used by Africans and greatly used by Europeans and Americans despite the quality of papers. To these regrets, it was stated that the ICADLA conference coincided with the E-Lending African conference and it became difficult for many to attend. That it was important to ensure that meetings to be attended by the same persons do not coincide in future planning. Notwithstanding, it was emphasized that ICADLA is an important IFLA Africa project that has been so successful and should be given great importance.

### 10.3 Namibian Library Symposium

Members were informed that there will be the Namibian Library Symposium in October from 7 – 9. That the theme of the symposium is, “Strong Libraries, Strong Society: Role of Libraries in National Development”. It was equally indicated that the IFLA President will be taking part in this symposium and people were encouraged to attend.

### 10.4 Others

- **AFLIA.** The AFLIA chair informed that a two page document will be passed round for information about AFLIA on its objectives and other aspects. Members were informed that when once your institution registers the full details about AFLIA will be gotten. That there will be an AFLIA conference in 2015.
- It was remarked that the South African Library Association meeting coincides with the Namibian Symposium. The chair of the IFLA Africa Section called on all to please send an E-mail on any activities they intend to organize to the Secretariat, IFLA Africa Section so that the information can be circulated and this will help to reduce clashes.
- **Library of Alexandria French Centre.** The francophone centre of the Library of Alexandria was introduced and it was said that this centre was ready to support LIS activities especially in francophone countries.
- The Alumni of Library Schools were challenged to provide information about the existing Library Schools on the continent to help facilitate the compilation of the directory. A proposal was given for one person to be appointed per country to submit a list of Library schools.
- Members indicated that, this was the first time they were hearing about this. It was thus decided that SC members will be identified to ensure that forms on library schools were filled and sent back.
- Members were equally requested to send suggestions on how the directory on Library schools can be better coordinated.
- There were printed forms on this available for members to pick and complete.

**11.0. Next Meeting.** The next IFLA Africa SC meeting was scheduled for Ghana 2014 from 6 – 8 February. That a workshop on BSLA was going to hold back to back with the SC meeting.

### 12.0. Any Other Business

- The African Children Book Award to take place in Washington - DC was announced, with a flyer on this circulated. Members were informed that there was need for African scholars to help review books on children.

### 13.0 Closing Remarks – Chairperson.

The Chair of the IFLA Africa Section, gave her closing remarks, thanking all for their attendance and active participation. She wished everyone well and a safe trip back to their various countries.

#### **14.0 Adjournment.**

The meeting was moved for adjournment by Ujala Satgoor.