INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS
AND INSTITUTIONS
Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania
Minutes of the Meetings held in Quebec, Canada 10-14 August 2008

(SC Meeting I—Sunday 10 August 2008—13.45-15.45)

Present
Premila Gamage (Chair)
M. Al Mamun (Secretary)
Roza Berdigalieva (Member)
Daniel G. Dorner (Member)
Hilda T. Nassar (Information Coordinator/Corresponding Member)
Hasna Askhita (Member)
Chihfeng P. Lin (Corresponding Member)
Tan Keat Fong (Regional Manager)
Birgitta Sandell (ALP Programme Director)

Observers
Ho Lian Geok (Singapore), Ruth A. Pagell (Singapore), Eileen Breen (UK), Sue Hutley (Australia), S.L. Sangam (India), Faizaneh Zareif (France), Kerry Smith (Australia), Carol Priestley (UK), Patricia G. Oyler (USA), Ajay Pratap Singh (India), Marydee Ojak (USA), Deva E. Reddy (USA), Kang Mi Hwa (DPR Korea), Pak Yong Hui (DPR Korea), Harry Campbell (Canada).

Apologies
Gary E. Gorman (Corresponding Member), Sanjay Kumar Bihani (Member), Libby Cass (Member), Tendik G. Yermekpayeva (Member), Mark Perkins (Member), S.B. Ghosh (Member), Fariborz Khosravi (Member), Bughdana Hajjar (Member), Yumi Kitamura (Member), Namtip Wipawin (Member), Michael Robinson (Member), Wang Shan (Member), Diljit Singh (Member), Aree Cheunwattana (Corresponding Member). Rashidah Begum bt. Fazal Mohamed (Advisor).

Absent
Anjali Gulati (Member), Eun Bong Park (Member), Mihyang Park (Member), Ashu Shokeen (Member), Xiaolin Zhang (Member)

(SC Meeting II—Friday 15 August 2008 at 08:30-10:30)

Present
Premila Gamage (Chair)
Jennefer Nicholson (IFLA Secretary General)
M. Al Mamun (Secretary)
Daniel G. Dorner (Member)
Hasna Askhita (Member)
Xiaolin Zhang (Member)
Shawky Salem (Advisor)
Tan Keat Fong (Regional Manager)
Birgitta Sandell (ALP Programme Director)

Observers: Eileen Breen (UK), Ho Lian Geok (Singapore)
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<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Minute</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Welcoming Remarks</strong></td>
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<td>The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed the Committee members and observers present, she conveyed apologies from the Committee members who were unable to attend the IFLA meeting 2008. Chair mentioned that due to not obtaining visa some of the committee members are not attending the meeting. For the future, she suggested to the members that if they were to apply for the visa earlier the organizing committee might help them.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Agenda</strong></td>
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<td>The Committee adopted the proposed agenda (Appendix-1)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Confirmation of Minutes of the Meetings held in New Delhi, India, February 12 and 13, 2008</strong></td>
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<td>The minutes of the aforesaid meeting were confirmed and recorded (Appendix-2)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Matters Arising from the Minutes</strong></td>
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<td>The members present did not bring up any issues from the previous meeting</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Financial Reports</strong></td>
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<td>5.1</td>
<td><strong>Administrative Budget</strong></td>
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<td>Premila Gamage, the Treasurer, reported that the sectional finances are now administered directly by IFLA HQ, and the balance money is small since section spent money from the administration budget for this year mid meeting held in New Delhi India. Chair also reported that as decided at the mid-meeting she made a request to HQ asking for an increase to meeting budget but did not receive any reply yet.</td>
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<td>5.2</td>
<td><strong>Meeting Budget</strong></td>
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<td>Keat Fong Tan, the Regional Manager reported that the Section received €4,500 as meeting related budget for 2008. She informed that as per requirements of the Section and after the expenses incurred for mid meeting, there had been balance of EURO 3215.11 that remained in the Quebec meeting account. She submitted a Statement of accounts for the period from 1 Feb 2006 to 30 Jun 2008. (Appendix-3)</td>
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<td><strong>Report from the Chair</strong></td>
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<td>Premila Gamage, the Chair reported that the Section had a very successful mid meeting in New Delhi, India. In this meeting section selected 5 papers for the Quebec Conference, section also selected IFLA ALP scholarship candidates, Training attachment participants and IFLA ALP new projects. In reference from the IFLA GB, the Chair informed the members that IFLA structures has been changed, previously IFLA professional</td>
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structures had with eight Divisions but now it has only five divisions. However, there are no changes in Regional sections, all three sections remain under the Division V. She briefly described all the Divisions five (Appendix-4):

Division I—library types  
Division II—library collections  
Division III—library services  
Division IV—support of the profession  
Division V—region

The Chair reminded all members for the election for Asia Oceania section in the 75th IFLA Conference in Milan, Italy, that would be held in August 2009. She urges to think of this ahead because IFLA changes it structures and it going to be bit different from the previous year. Now section Chair will not be able to serve as Division Chair. She informs that Division chair have to elect among the outgoing section Chairs.

For the procedures of the election of the Section standing committee members, Chair and Secretary, The Chair informed that IFLA HQ will send call for nominations for Standing committee members, so at first members have to get themselves nominated to the Standing Committee member. Then send nominations to the section when the section calls for nominations for the Posts of Chair and Secretary.

As discussed at the GB meeting, Chair also informed that the 'Information Coordinator' is not currently an IFLA Officer. Several GB members suggested that Information Coordinators should be given the 'IFLA Officer' status considering the amount of work (such as editing Section's Newsletter etc.). Chair added that this is not the case for Asia and Oceania section, as the Regional Manager is responsible for the Newsletter. However, in recognition of the contributions of Information Coordinators in several other ways, she personally suggested that they should give the status of an Officer. She will send out an email for members’ opinion on it and inform the IFLA HQ about the decision of our section/division accordingly. The members present at the meeting were in the view of that Information Coordinators should be given the 'IFLA Officer' status.

7. Report from the Information Coordinator (Appendix-5)
Hilda T. Nassar, Information Coordinator, presented the following report:

The current number of RSCAO listserv subscribers is 246 after cancelling 4 subscriber whose email account were bouncing. The number of the listed subscribers is always between 240 and 300. She tried to regularly forward the mail when she received listserv messages from IFLA HQ listserv and other listservs to RSCAO members.

In the report she thanked all of those members who sent messages directly to the list. She invited the members who wish to post messages on listserv, and send directly to the listserv.

The Chair thanked the Information Coordinator for disseminating information in time and maintaining the Section’s listserv very lively.
Report from the Regional Office (RO)

Keat Fong Tan, the Regional Manager reported the following and the detailed progress report is attached (Appendix-6):

IFLA Membership for Asia and Oceania
As of June 2008, the membership stands at 57 member countries and 295 members including 23 new members. During the Standing Committee meetings, the Regional Manager further encouraged the Committee Members to assist in recruiting new members from their own countries.

IFLA 10th Interlending and Document Supply Conference (ILDS) Conference in Singapore - 29 to 31 October 2007
A total of 220 delegates (including 140 international delegates) attended the ILDS Conference held at the National Library Singapore. The Regional Office managed the social programmes and library visits for the ILDS Conference.

IFLA International Newspaper Conferences and Newspapers Section Business Meeting in Singapore - 1 to 3 April 2008
The Regional Office supported the IFLA Newspapers Section Business Meeting held at the National Library Singapore on 31 March 2008. Regional Office also supported the International Newspapers Conference 2008 held at the National Library from 1 to 3 April 2008.

IFLA Conference 2010 - Brisbane
In view that Brisbane is within the Asia and Oceania Region, Regional Manager has communicated to Ms Roxanne Missinham, ALIA that the Regional Office will provide support, if ALIA required.

Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania Section

IFLA Conference Poster Session at Quebec, Canada - August 2008
The Regional Office produced a poster titled "IFLA activities in Asia and Oceania: The Impact" for the IFLA Conference, Quebec.

IFLA Standing Committee Web Forum
The Regional Office has sent the login identity and password to all members. This would enable them to access and view the scholarships, training attachments and projects online to facilitate communication and information.

Other Sources of Funding and Projects
The IFLA Editorial and Production Committee secured two advertisements for the Newsletter from two publishing companies namely, K. G. Saur and Emerald Group Publishing Limited for the June 2008 newsletter. Regional Manager inform that as at June 2008, SGD$2200 was collected and the advertising revenue would be used to sponsor IFLA committee members for the Section meetings.

Financial Statement
As of June 2008, there was a balance of EUR 3215.11. A statement of accounts for the period from 1 Feb 2006 to June 2008 has been submitted.
Other IFLA Projects
The National Library Board, Singapore (NLB) and IFLA Working Committee met on September 2007 to explore feasible projects that the NLB could work with IFLA for mutual benefit. One of the projects to be considered was E-learning for Information Literacy Programme with the support of ALP funding. This programme could be placed on the Web to train about 150 trainees from the region per year. During the Mid Year Conference meeting on 12 February 2008, members of the Standing Committee supported the idea and considered it a good project to explore. The Regional Manager has asked NLB to submit the proposal as an ALP project 2009 for the Standing Committee's review.

The Chair thanked the work done by the Regional Manager and her team.

9. Report from ALP

Birgita Sandell, ALP Programme Director, reported in this meeting that the contract with Sida ends in December 2009, she reminded all the members, all projects have to be carried out and reported before the end of 2009. She needs the reports from all sections about their projects by December 2009; ALP has to report to Sida and IFLA for the whole period before the end of January 2010.

She mentioned the project 291 (Distance education in library and information science in Asia and Oceania) has been continuing for few years, since organizers wanted to make this project more innovative and effective. However, she reminded the organizer of this project that the program should finish in time.

10. The Asia and Oceania Section's Projects

Birgitta Sandell reported list of approved projects and planned activities prior to the meeting as follows:

**Project 291**: Distance education in Library and Information Science in Asia and Oceania (Prof. Chutima Sacchanand, Thammathirat Open university, Thailand)

*ALP has received progress report.*

**Project 296**: Modelling Information Literacy: Developing a contextually-based training programme for a less developed country in Laos (Mr. Chansy Phuangsouketh, National University of Laos)

*It has already started and going well.*

**Project 297**: Education for Information literacy: Developing and implementing a Contextually-Based Training Programme (Ms Yim Mory, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia)

**Project 298**: Scholarships in information literacy (Tan Keat Fong, Regional Office for Asia Oceania)
Financial report received in January 2008 and money has been sent. Following persons have been selected for 2008:

- Nicholas C. Rubosa (Solomon Islands)
- Kambampati Praveen Kumar (India)
- Duong Khanh Linh (Vietnam)
- S.A.D.H.N. Suraweera (Sri Lanka)
- Fairunizan Akbar Malik (Malaysia)
- Neela Tamang (Nepal)

**Project 299**: International workshop on Information Literacy, Bangladesh (Muhammad Hossam Haider Chowdhury and Mohammed Abu Khaled Chowdhury, Independent University, Bangladesh)

*It will start this year.*

**Project 604**: In-service training “attachments” for middle or senior staff in Asia and Oceania (Tan Keat Fong, Regional Office for Asia Oceania)

Following persons have been selected for 2008:
- Ms. Chamari Yapa, Sri Lanka
- Mr. Shehbaz Husain Naqvi, India
- Mr. Guruge Roshan Eshantha Fernando, Sri Lanka

The Chair informed that for this programme applications were received only from India and Sri Lanka. Therefore, the Regional Office and members should try to publicise widely.

**Project 605**: Digital Libraries in the Arab countries (Dr Fawz Abdullah, Lebanese Library Association)

*Money has been sent and communication is going as planned.*

**Project 606**: International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management - ICIKM 2007, Nepal. (Mr. Krishna Mani Bhandary, Tribhuvan University Central Library, Nepal)

*In March 2008 it has been held successfully. ALP received preliminary report on May 2008.*

**Project 609**: Workshop on Information Literacy (Hanna Latuputty, Indonesia)

*It has taken place successfully some weeks before and ALP received report.*

**Project 610**: A regional workshop to train library association leaders and professionals in library advocacy and policy development (Piyadasa Ranasinghe, Sri Lanka Library Association)

*Everything is going well and it will start on January 2009.*

**Project 611**: Bridging the gap: networking of LIS education in developing countries
It was approved and some changes have been made and it is now new title “Capacity building in the knowledge environment”, and it is about training in information literacy skills.

New project proposal received:

Birgita Sandell informed that the following new project proposal has been received from Palestine:

Training Workshop in Library Skills for Palestinian Teachers in the West Bank and Gaza, Submitted by Dr. Ghassan Abdullah (Director), Center for Applied Research in Education (CARE).

This project is approved for funding in 2009. The preparations have already started.

11. **World Library and Information Congress: 74th IFLA General Conference Programme, Québec, Canada 10-14 August 2008**

11.1 **Asia & Oceania Section Programme** (Tuesday 12 August 2008, 08.30–10.30)

Theme: From me, to you, to us: how libraries in the Asia and Oceania region contribute to global understanding

- Keynote Address- Libraries and Disaster Recovery: A Framework for Regional Co-operation in Digital Preservation and Recovery - Prof. N. Varaprasad (National Library Board, Singapore)


- The Tele Cottage Approach to the Community Development in the Rural Karnataka, India – Prof. S.L.Sangam (Karnatak University, India)

- Designing of Cultural Knowledge Portal: A South East Asian Experiment - Dr. Ajay Pratap Singh (Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India)


11.2 **Division of Regional Activities and ALP Open Session** (Monday 11 August 2008, 13.45-15.45)

Theme: *Indigenous Knowledge: language, culture and information technology*.

The following paper from Asia Oceania section was present:
• Indigenous knowledge and the role of information literacy education - Dan Dorner and G.E. Gorman, Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand)

11.3 Asia & Oceania Social Event
The social event was held on Monday, 11 August at the Delta Hotel from 18.30 to 21:00 pm. There were around 45 guests at the event. The event was sponsored by Emerald, which wishes to continue sponsorship in the future.

11.4 Coordinating Board Meetings: Division VIII (CB I—Friday 08 August 2008 from 15.00-18.00 and CB II—Friday 15 August 2008 from 17.00-18.30)

The Chair attended the two CB meetings and the Secretary attended CB II.

11.5 Caucus: Africa, Asia & Oceania and Latin America & Caribbean
The Caucus meeting was held on Saturday 9 August 2008, from 18.00 to 19.00. Premila Gamage, The Chair, presided the meeting. A good number of members participated in the meeting.

11.6 Officers Training Sessions
Regional Manager and Secretary attended the Officers training session on Monday 11 August 2008 from 10.45-12.45

11.7 Other programmes:

Poster Session
A poster titled ‘IFLA activities in Asia and Oceania: the impact” was presented by the Regional Office. It covered mission Activities, and strategies of IFLA Asia Oceania section.

12 World Library and Information Congress: 75th IFLA General Conference and Council, 23-27 August 2009, Milan, Italy

The theme of the Congress is "Libraries create futures: building on cultural heritage". The Committee members discussed and agreed that “Preserving the past - creating the future” would be theme for the Asia Oceania Section open session.

The members welcomed and agreed to call for papers with the following sub-theme:

• Creating oral history collections
• Literacy of old people
• Digital heritage
• Media on audio visual heritage
• Access of networking

Chair informed that she has received a proposal from the IFLA Education and Training Section for a joint programme for Milan conference.
### Confirmation of Date and Place for Mid-conference Meeting 2009

The Chair and the present members discussed about the venue of the mid-conference meeting 2009. Chair reported that the Section has already received two applications from Namtip Wipawin, Bangkok, Thailand and Roza Berdigalieva on behalf of National Academic Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan. As per decision taken in the Delhi meeting both of them submitted applications including tentative budget with the related information on accommodation, transportation, etc. which were distributed among members for their comments and suggestions to select the venue.

After discussion among members, it has decided that the tentative date of the next mid-conference Meeting on 9-10 February 2009, and will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, organized by Thai Library Association. Thai Library Association will also organize a workshop following the mid-conference meeting.

### Other Business

**Video presenting/virtual meeting arrangement for absent member:**

On behalf of Libby Cass, RSCAO member who was not present in the Quebec meeting, the Chair invite comments about the proposal on video conferencing. Libby Cass proposed to arrange Live video conferencing of the meeting events to make it more fruitful for not attended members. While discussion, some issues like time, costs etc were raised. Due to less member presented in the Quebec meeting, the Chair and other members were agreed to discuss about this issue in future meeting, probably held in Bangkok, Thailand.

**Message from IFLA HQ**

Jennefer Nicholson, IFLA Secretary General, was present in the second meeting. Premila Gamage, Chair, welcomed her in the meeting on behalf of the Asia and Oceania Section.

The Secretary General, Jennefer Nicholson, had talked about the advocacy framework for IFLA. The advocacy framework is currently in unstable shape. IFLA HQ wants to make a flexible structural shape by adding various scopes and plans. She added that as there are lots of advocacy works going on in IFLA in versatile ways in different places, it is prudent to add up all these resources together. She also suggested on conducting lots of workshops and training conducted by IFLA, but not centered only in IFLA HQ. This will help the advocacy to be decentralized.

She reminded that pull-out of all the works should be completed by the year 2010, since Sida funding ends in 2009. On this issue, she emphasized on putting more effort and consideration on the advocacy framework. She hopes to have a clear idea of how IFLA wants to go ahead and start conversation with other funding bodies by early 2009.

She added that IFLA website will ensure a better platform for fund searching. Evaluating activities on advocacy done through the website will increase IFLA’s credibility to the funding authorities. She also
offered all to give inputs by making project proposals, observations to add value for next session.

Through the Chair IFLA RSCAO, she invites and hopes that the Asia and Oceania section would take specific initiatives for advocacy framework. She added Asia and Oceania Section would be the priority area for advocacy framework. She wishes to attend in the next Asia Oceania Section mid-meeting in Bangkok, Thailand and talk about this issue and looking forward to get a specific feedback on advocacy framework.

15 Close of Meeting
The meeting closed around 10:45 am on 15 August 2008.

Appendix

1. IFLA RSCAO Meeting Agenda, Quebec 2008
2. Minutes of the Meetings held in New Delhi, India, 12 and 13 February 2008
4. IFLA new professional structures
5. Report from Information Coordinator
6. Report from Regional Manager