

**IFLA REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND OCEANIA
PROGRESS REPORT 1 SEPTEMBER 2019 - 29 FEBRUARY 2020**

Key Facts and Figures

1 IFLA Asia and Oceania Membership Statistics

- 1.1 Membership and member countries for the region stood at 369 and 50 respectively as at 7 February 2020. These represent an increase of 103 members (39%) and 7 member countries (16%) over the 266 memberships and 43 member countries as at 31 July 2019.
- 1.2 The Indonesia Library Association had applied to join IFLA as National Association member in February 2020.

Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO)

2 RSCAO 2020 Mid-term Meeting and Half-Day Seminar

- 2.1 RSCAO Chair agreed that Singapore would replace Lebanon as the venue for the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania 2020 Mid-term meeting and Half-day Seminar in March 2020. This is for safety reason due to the civil unrest in Beirut.
- 2.2 The National Library Board Singapore and co-organiser, the Library Association of Singapore went ahead with the preparation for the Mid-term meeting and half-day Seminar. The theme of the Seminar was set as "*Beyond Borders, Above Crises: Libraries as Resilient Beacons of Hope, Inspiration and Sustainability*".
- 2.3 However, due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak that affected countries globally, the meeting had to be cancelled and RSCAO would instead conduct an online meeting via ZOOM on 17 March 2020.

3 Statement of Accounts for the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania

- 3.1 Regional Office (RO) had used the fund balance of S\$132.95 from the RSCAO 2017 Mid-term meeting to print "*IFLA ALP International Advocacy Programme*" brochures with IFLA HQ's approval in July 2019. As such, there is no more funds in RO's account as of January 2020. See Annex A for the detailed Statement of Accounts.
- 3.2 IFLA Headquarters has set aside a budget of €5,500 annually for the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania Mid-term meeting in March 2020. IFLA informed in 2018 that this fund is only for RSCAO Mid-term meeting and they will not be transferring the meeting fund to the RO as was done previously. As such for 2020, the funds would not be utilised. Please see Annex B for the detailed Statement of Accounts.

3.3 IFLA informed that the previous practice of using fund balance from meeting budget to defray partial airfare cost of meeting participants is not allowed and was discontinued from 2018 onwards.

3.4 The RSCAO Handbook was updated in 2019 on the above financial arrangements.

4 Library Map of the World (LMW) and United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Stories

4.1 RO has been encouraging members from Asia and Oceania region to showcase what the libraries have done and are doing to support the SDGs and contribute their stories in the LMW as part of the United Nations 70th birthday.

4.2 RO had prepared a deck of SDGs slides and libraries could request for a set to better understand LMW and UNSDGs. RO had presented the LMW and UNSDG to the National Library of Indonesia in September 2019 and Librarians Association of Malaysia in November 2019.

5 IFLA Asia and Oceania Regional Quarterly Newsletter

5.1 RO has published the October 2019 and January 2020 issues of the electronic newsletters and disseminated these to IFLA HQ and Members in the region. Besides reports on events and activities in the region, the newsletter included introduction of new Chiefs and Directors, and publicity of upcoming seminars and conferences in the region.

6 IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) 2019, Athens

6.1 RO Manager attended the IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in Athens in August 2019 and the Asia and Oceania Section SC I & II Meetings and Open Session. She made a presentation in Mandarin at the Chinese Caucus in Athens on activities happening in the Region and upcoming events. She also shared on IFLA Strategy and encouraged more participation from the Chinese libraries.

7 Malay Caucus at the IFLA WLIC 2020 in Dublin

7.1 IFLA has agreed to support a Malay speaking caucus during its World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) 2020 in Dublin. This will be the first Malay Caucus at IFLA WLIC. The objective is to attract more Malay speaking participants to join WLIC and IFLA. Malaysia would lead in the organisation of the Malay Caucus.

Other Activities by the IFLA Regional Office for Asia and Oceania

8 Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania (CDNLAO) Meeting and Forum on the Silk Road International Library Alliance

8.1 The 28th General Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania (CDNLAO) Annual Meeting scheduled in Bali, Indonesia on 17-20 February 2020 and

the 3rd Forum on the Silk Road International Library Alliance have been postponed to later date due to the COVID-19 crisis.

9 Information Collation for IFLA and responses to queries from the region

- 9.1 RO assisted IFLA HQ to contact National Library Associations in the region to update their contact details and conduct research on new library associations formed. RO contacted the newly formed Mongolian Library Association, and updated information from various countries in the region.
- 9.2 RO linked the Biodiversity Heritage Library in the United States with the National Science Library in the Chinese Academy of Science on collaboration and participation of the biodiversity project from China.
- 9.3 RO provided guidance to librarians from Australia on attendance at the Public Librarian Conference in Manila, Philippines and librarians from the National Library of Korea regarding on participation in IFLA Sections and international conferences.

**Statement of Accounts for IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania
29 February 2020**

	SGD
Balance brought forward	
Balance brought forward on 1 January 2020 ¹	0.00
Balance as at 29 February 2020	0.00

Financial Notes:

- ¹ RO used the fund balance of S\$132.95 from the RSCAO 2017 Mid-term meeting to print "*IFLA ALP International Advocacy Programme*" brochures with IFLA HQ's approval.

Soh Lin Li
Regional Manager
Regional Office for Asia and Oceania

Date: _____

Tina Yang
Section Chair
Regional Standing Committee for
Asia and Oceania

Date: _____

Statement of Accounts for IFLA Asia and Oceania Section Mid-Term Meeting 2020

SGD

IFLA Budget for Mid-term Meeting 2020¹ 5,500.00

Financial Notes:

- ¹ Due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis that affected countries globally, the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania 2020 Mid-term meeting has been cancelled and RSCAO would have an online meeting via ZOOM on 17 March 2020.

Soh Lin Li
Regional Manager
Regional Office for Asia and Oceania

Date: _____

Tina Yang
Section Chair
Regional Standing Committee for
Asia and Oceania

Date: _____