

February 2002

IFLA/FAIFE OFFICE Annual Report 2001

**To The IFLA Governing Board,
The IFLA/FAIFE Advisory Board and Committee,
DANIDA and SIDA**

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*Go global
Involve colleagues worldwide
Produce visible results*

Introduction

For IFLA/FAIFE 2001 became a productive year characterized by changes within the organisation, and the election of the new Committee and Advisory Board. Our relations with the City of Copenhagen came to a closure when, from 1 May 2001, the Office moved to new premises at the Royal School of Library and Information Science. We are immensely grateful for all the help and support the City has granted since 1998.

Thanks to the school's interest in our work, close relations and cooperation were initiated from the very beginning. The most significant result of the cooperation so far is the launch of the co-financed PhD scholarship on free information on the Internet connected to IFLA/FAIFE priority 6: Free and equal access to digital information. PhD Student Mr Stuart Hamilton of the United Kingdom undertook his task on 1 November 2001. The first results on Internet access in various countries were presented at an IFLA/Berlin 2003 promoting seminar in January this year and shall be published in *IFLA Journal* in May.

The most outstanding event of the year was, without doubt, the publication of the first *IFLA/FAIFE World Report on Libraries and Intellectual Freedom*. However, the adoption of the seven IFLA/FAIFE priorities 2001-2003 at the Committee meeting in Boston is another milestone: for the first time our priorities are explicitly related to the professional priorities of IFLA.

This report will introduce the cooperation within IFLA/FAIFE, our priorities, and highlight some of the results achieved thus far. Apart from the more positive sides of our work, the report will also state the concerning development of the financial situation that makes the work and the future of IFLA/FAIFE entirely dependent on our success in ensuring grants in the forthcoming years.

IFLA/FAIFE Terms of Reference

In August 2001 the former IFLA Executive Board confirmed the terms of reference of the IFLA/FAIFE Committee, which are:

FAIFE is an initiative within IFLA to defend and promote the basic human rights defined in Article 19 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The FAIFE Committee and Office further free access to information and freedom of expression in all aspects, directly or indirectly, related library and information services.

FAIFE monitors the state of intellectual freedom within the library and information community worldwide, supports IFLA policy development and cooperation with other international human rights organisations, and responds to violations of free access to information and freedom of expression.

How do we operate?

The IFLA Executive Board has appointed a new IFLA/FAIFE Committee for a two-year term from August 2001 till August 2003. We would like to express our gratitude and thanks to the former Committee members for all their support and work.

As some of its first decisions its first decisions the newly elected IFLA Governing Board established the first IFLA/FAIFE Advisory Board on 25th August 2001. The Advisory Board should act as an advocate for the work of IFLA/FAIFE, assist with fund-raising and act as an executive committee. The members are: Alex Byrne (chair), Marianna Tax Choldin (USA) and Winnie Vitzansky (Denmark). Susanne Seidelin provides the secretariat. The Advisory Board works mainly through e-mail correspondence but shall also meet twice during the IFLA conferences, and hold a mid-term meeting once a year.

The new IFLA/FAIFE Committee was officially appointed from the conclusions of the Boston Conference but the new members participated in the business meetings during the Boston Conference as part of the introduction to their new work. The members' list is available at www.faife.dk. The mixture of continuing and new members safeguards the continuity of the Committee's work. It is essential to maintain the level of activity and thus our results that the relations between Committee, Chair and Office are well established, and that members are active as promoters of IFLA/FAIFE related issues in their country and region. Thus, to develop and further the working relations and create more results, the Committee acknowledged the need to establish work teams to progress some of our major projects and priorities such as the *World and Summary Report* series, the development of the *IFLA Internet Manifesto* and the *Glasgow Declaration*. This working method has proved a valuable and effective supplement to the normal e-mail communications within the Committee. The Committee holds two business meetings twice a year during the IFLA conference. A mid-term meeting would be desirable but so far has not been financially feasible.

Budget and Funding

The safeguarding of the budget is more than ever a high priority issue. In September 2001, unfortunately, it became clear that the information provided by the Office in 2000 on the existence of a verbal three-year funding agreement with DANIDA was not correct. According to Ms Anja Moller-Rasmussen at DANIDA no such agreement exists nor has any promises been given. The consequences of this situation may prove very difficult. In case our future applications to DANIDA do not result in grants, IFLA and IFLA/FAIFE may not be able to meet our commitments of the three-year director and PhD contracts. These contracts were made on the assumption that the budget had been secured for 2001-2003.

We have received the Danida grant for 2001 in January 2002. Together with grants from SIDA and IFLA the budget for 2002 is thus ensured. However, the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs is facing quite substantial cuts in their budget, which include that of DANIDA. We shall apply for another grant in August this year but as things stand we cannot be sure of the outcome of the application. At its meeting 25 March 2002 the Advisory Board shall therefore discuss the situation and adopt an action plan. Concrete initiatives of approaching more funding agencies will be taken and potential sponsors will be presented with a range of IFLA/FAIFE projects formulated on background of the strategy and action plan 2000-2003.

Another consequence of the unstable economic situation is that plans of hiring additional staff for the period 2001-2003 are no longer realistic. Alternatively, we will be able to hire staff on hour-based conditions for smaller well-defined projects, e.g. staff from the library school. Also, our expenditures now include costs for renting the premises.

As mentioned in earlier reports, the Office has been understaffed from April 2001 due to our economic responsibilities in connection to Carsten Frederiksen leaving his position. Though we shall do our utmost to fulfil goals and planned actions a revision and adjustment of the strategy and action plan may be necessary. In 2002 the editorial work on the second World report to be published in 2003 will require a three-month full-time employee. We have once again turned to IFLA97 for grants and have received one quarter of the amount on the very sound grounds that IFLA97 has been supporting IFLA/FAIFE generously on previous occasions.

IFLA/FAIFE Strategy and Action Plan 2001-2003

A draft strategy and action plan was presented to the Committee in Boston and was finally adopted in September 2001. The whole document is attached this report as appendix I. In appendix II we present an update on the connected activities and the results obtained so far. It should be noted that the action plan has also been developed on the assumption that the budget was safeguarded for the period 2001-2003.

In general, the plan is a living document that shall be evaluated by the Committee according to resources available and global developments in regards to intellectual freedom. Thus our engagement in library issues related to the consequences of war and conflicts has grown during 2001 and shall continue to do so in 2002. This focus, e.g. on Afghanistan, can still be carried out within the context of the priorities in the action plan.

Priority 1

Concentrate our efforts on libraries and the safeguarding of free access to information for all individuals.

Relates to IFLA Professional Priority: Defending the principle of freedom of information

Goals

All IFLA/FAIFE activities should be noticeable and make a difference. They should focus on the library issues within the context of intellectual freedom and freedom of expression. Thus, we should place our emphasis on **access to information**. Initiatives should be taken to raise awareness of free access to information in libraries that tend to emphasise tangible results. IFLA members should "own" IFLA/FAIFE and translate the Federation's commitment to free access to information and freedom of expression into the work of all sections, divisions and roundtables.

Actions

- **2001:** Develop the draft **Glasgow Declaration**
- **2001-2002:** Develop the co-operation with IFEX
- **2001-2003:** Develop the co-operation with IFLA sections
- **2001-2003:** Through the Network Centres and resource persons develop a corps of translators
- **2002:** Establish a co-project with library schools on developing an IFLA/FAIFE learning package, possibly funded by the EU or other funding agencies
- **2002:** Produce and publish IFLA/FAIFE PR materials

Priority 2

Make IFLA/FAIFE the authoritative source on libraries and intellectual freedom through the World Report and other communication initiatives.

Relates to IFLA Professional Priority: Defending the principle of freedom of information

Goals

The first IFLA/FAIFE World Report was launched in Boston. It represents a significant achievement but covers only 46 countries, about 30% of the countries represented in IFLA. It should cover all those countries and present a reliable and authoritative summary of the state of intellectual freedom in regard to libraries around the globe. The World Report will be published bi-annually. A shorter report on the global status of intellectual freedom and free access to information will be published in the alternate years.

Actions

- **2001-2002:** Formulate principles for the two publications, including design, information requested, review procedure of information received, editing process, production process.
- **2001-2002:** Develop and publish a production plan for both publications, including deadlines for each step in the production process.

Priority 3

Strengthen the process for responding to incidents, including the development of an IFLA/FAIFE alert manual.

Relates to IFLA Professional Priority: Providing unrestricted access to information

Goals

Experience over the last four years has demonstrated that IFLA/FAIFE can respond effectively to reports of incidents and violations despite limited resources. A procedure has been developed and is followed. There is however a need to document that procedure and to integrate it with the alerts process operated by IFEX, which IFLA/FAIFE joined in 2000.

Actions

- **2001-2002:** Develop an IFLA/FAIFE Alert Manual
- **2001-2003:** Expand the co-operation with other library and human rights organisations to co-ordinate actions and responses to incidents

Priority 4

Establish a Network of IFLA/FAIFE Centres.

Relates to IFLA Professional Priority: Defending the principle of freedom of information

Goals

Develop a formal network consisting of small numbers of **IFLA Centres for Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression** around the world operated by Associations or Institutions members of IFLA.

Actions

- **2001:** Submit proposal for a formal network of **IFLA Centres for Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression** to the Governing Board.
- **2001:** Develop call for expressions of interest and review process for potential hosts
- **2001-2002:** Establish pilot-projects in two regions
- **2002-2003:** Evaluate the projects
- **2002-2003:** Identify regions suitable for further Network Centres

Priority 5

Heighten the importance of bridging the digital divide.

Relates to IFLA Professional Priority: Supporting the role of libraries in society

Goals

In an increasingly interconnected world, information is more than ever crucial. Heighten awareness of the digital divide and its implications for free and equal access to information. Special awareness towards disadvantaged groups such as handicapped, and women in developed and undeveloped countries.

Develop strategies to heighten awareness of the digital divide and its implications for access to information and promote responses to it. Develop a position and recommended strategies that can be put to governments and publishers.

Actions

- **2002-2003:** Develop strategies to heighten awareness in cooperation with relevant IFLA sections and other Core Activities
- **2002-2003:** Promote responses to it
- **2003:** Develop a position and recommended strategies that can be put to governments and publishers

Priority 6

Free and equal access to digital information

Relates to IFLA Professional Priority: Supporting the role of libraries in society

Goals

Internet censorship has been implemented or is being contemplated in countries around the world. It is necessary to develop a statement on filtering and outline guidelines for libraries and librarians on free and equal access to the information on the Internet. Develop an **IFLA Internet Manifesto** mirroring the manifestos for public and school libraries.

Actions

- **2001:** Develop an **IFLA Internet Manifesto**
- **2001-2003:** Arrange and participate in activities, seminars and meetings on the issue
- **2001:** Establish a PhD co-project on free access to Internet information in a global perspective with The Royal School of Library and Information Science, Denmark
- **2001-2003:** Ongoing presentation of the results of the PhD project

Priority 7

Build the funding base for IFLA/FAIFE

Relates to the IFLA policy for Core Activity funding

Goals

Strongly supported in its first years by the Danish Library Umbrella, City of Copenhagen and Danish Government, the Office is now mainly supported by SIDA and DANIDA. This support has made possible the achievements described in the report to Council 2001. However, it renders the initiative vulnerable to the discontinuation of that funding after the current period. To safeguard the future of IFLA/FAIFE a broader based financial support must be achieved to safeguard the initiative and to confirm its global status.

Actions

- **2001:** Outline a funding policy and the future funding procedure in co-operation with IFLA HQ
- **2001:** Establish an IFLA/FAIFE funding work team
- **2002:** Develop an action plan for funding activities

IFLA/FAIFE Activities in 2001

Introduction

All IFLA/FAIFE activities should be noticeable and make a difference. Focusing on the library issues within the context of intellectual freedom and freedom of expression IFLA/FAIFE should place our emphasis on **access to information**. Initiatives should be taken to raise awareness to free access to information in libraries that tend to emphasise tangible results. IFLA members should "own" IFLA/FAIFE and translate the Federation's commitment to free access to information and freedom of expression into the work of all sections, divisions and roundtables.

Related to these objectives the main focus in 2001 was put on the production and publication of the first IFLA/FAIFE World Report; investigations in regards to free access to information in Cuba; Kosovo; Zimbabwe; East Timor, and Afghanistan; the drafting of an IFLA Internet Manifesto and a declaration for the IFLA Conference in Glasgow 2002; the PhD scholarship and other aspects of free access to information on Internet. These projects are explained further below.

The IFLA/FAIFE World Report Series

The IFLA/FAIFE priority two reads: "Make IFLA/FAIFE the authoritative source on libraries and intellectual freedom through the World Report and other communication initiatives". To support this ambition the Committee decided to establish an editorial work team. The team will work on issues such as a new editorial policy and processes, and establishing contacts that will help further the contributions to the 2003 World Report.

The first *IFLA/FAIFE World Report on Libraries and Intellectual Freedom* was launched at the IFLA Conference in Boston 2001. It represents a significant achievement but covers only 46 countries, about 30% of the countries represented in IFLA. The report should cover all those countries and present a reliable and authoritative summary of the state of intellectual freedom in regard to libraries around the globe. In the future the World Report will be published bi-annually.

A shorter report, *The IFLA/FAIFE Summary Report* on the global status of intellectual freedom and free access to information will be published in the alternate years. On the basis of the conclusions of the previous World Report, the IFLA/FAIFE Summary Report should generally update the state of access to information and intellectual freedom. The Report should also focus on the international political situation in terms of its impact on IFLA/FAIFE key areas and the development of the international library and information community. Thus the Summary Report should identify areas of special interest and concern.

The title for the first summary report 2002 is *The IFLA/FAIFE Summary Report 2002: Libraries, Conflicts and the Internet*. The report will cover issues such as: Internet accessible information and censorship; an overview of the global situation relating to libraries and intellectual freedom; the Internet: the information tool of the 21st century; libraries and conflicts; and how to respond when the intellectual freedoms are at stake? The Summary Report will be published in August 2002 and launched at the IFLA Conference in Glasgow.

Cuba

In connection with the ACURIL conference in Havana Secretary General to IFLA Mr Ross Shimmon and IFLA/FAIFE Director Ms Susanne Seidelin visited Cuba 23-30 May 2001 on a mission to investigate the situation regarding free access to information in Cuban libraries, and to follow up on the status of the so called independent libraries. The visit presented excellent opportunities to engage in a constructive and open dialogue with Cuban government representatives and colleagues representing both the official and the alternative library community. Also colleagues from the American Library Association (ALA) were visiting the country at the same time. Thus in view of shared interests the two delegations established a very productive cooperation that, no doubt, has benefited the outcome for both parties. Also in Cuba was Mr Stuart Hamilton, Brighton Public Library, UK who was investigating the independent libraries for his MA at the Department of Archive and Information Studies at University College London. Mr Hamilton joined the team on visits to some of the 'Independent Libraries'.

The result of the visit to Cuba was the *IFLA/FAIFE report Libraries in Cuba. An IFLA/FAIFE Report on Free Access to Information in Cuba* was discussed by the IFLA/FAIFE Committee in Boston and later published on www.faife.dk and on the IFLANET. The ALA report is available on www.ala.org

Also an IFLA/FAIFE panel discussion on Cuba was held at the IFLA Conference in Boston August 2001 to let colleagues with different views on free access to information in Cuba debate the issue further. The panellists were: Director Mr Eliades Acosta of the National Library of Havana, Mr Robert Kent of Friends of Cuban Libraries, Mr Stuart Hamilton of University College London, and Susanne Seidelin, IFLA/FAIFE.

The debate on Cuba was taken to IFLA Council II in Boston where two resolutions were presented and discussed. Both resolutions included the effects of the US blockade on free access to information in Cuba. The first resolution was proposed by Alex Byrne, Chair of the IFLA/FAIFE Committee and seconded by Glenys Willars, Chair, IFLA Section on School Libraries and Resource Centres. The second resolution was proposed by John W. Berry, President of the American Library Association and seconded by Eliades Acosta, Director of the Biblioteca Nacional José Martí, Cuba. During the debate a homologated resolution was proposed by Bernard Margolis, President of the Boston Public Library, USA and seconded by James Neal, Dean of the University Libraries, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA. This resolution was a homologated version of two resolutions on the same subject and was adopted by 553 votes in favour and 54 against. There were 12 abstentions. The resolution is available on www.ifla.org.

During autumn and winter 2001 Friends of Cuban Libraries represented by Mr Robert Kent has reported several incidents of harassment of 'Independent Libraries and librarians' in Cuba. Due to our policy IFLA/FAIFE has consulted independent agencies such as Amnesty International for confirmation and if obtained we have responded to the incidents. (Reference www.faiife.dk)

However, important as the issue of free access to information in Cuba is our resources are limited and must be used in the widest possible way according to our priorities and the many problems that are daily reported from all over the world. Therefore, compared to the number of incidents reported by Mr Robert Kent we are only able to respond to a fairly limited number.

Kosovo

For the last two years the reconstruction of library services in Kosovo has been on the IFLA/FAIFE agenda. In the spring 2001 the library mission to Kosovo and the plan of the reconstruction library services were followed up by an IFLA/FAIFE report on alleged destruction of books in Mitrovice, and an UNMIK-JIAS Culture Department report on assessment of books in Mitrovice City Library. The reports are available at www.faiife.dk. On 8 March 2001 a one-day seminar was held for Kosovar library professionals and other interested partners in the library field of Kosova organised by the Kosova Library Consortium representing Unesco, CoE, OSI / KFOS, UNMIK, IFLA and the National and University Library.

Due to his IFLA/FAIFE experience and connections in Kosovo Mr Carsten Frederiksen was asked by UNMIK to draft a new library law proposal. The project was not in other ways connected to IFLA/FAIFE and consequently CF was granted a leave from the Office in the spring.

Zimbabwe

In May British Council had to close their library services in Harare until further notice. The background was continuous incidents of harassment inflicted on staff and users on the grounds

outside the library. Consequently staff could no longer be protected and were hindered in fulfilling their daily tasks. The chair of the Committee wrote a letter to President Robert Mugabe stating the severe consequences for students' access to library information and services. Read the letter at www.faife.dk

Mr Frode Bakken, Chair of the Norwegian Library association and member of the IFLA/FAIFE Committee from August 2001, attended the ZIBF seminar in August on "Libraries and Intellectual Freedom". Frode Bakken was also representing IFLA/FAIFE introducing our work and wish to cooperate with the African region, and encouraged our African colleagues to report incidents and submit to future World Reports.

By end of the year, 15 high school students from Zimbabwe visited Denmark to be introduced to the Danish democracy. Due to a last minute changes in the program, IFLA/FAIFE was asked to lecture on our work and activities. The PhD project and Internet accessibility in Africa and thus the focus on their own region was especially popular and led to discussions on the nature of power, censorship, the lack of electricity as hindrance to the net etc. We were impressed by their engagement and to-the-point questions that gave excellent opportunities to discuss mutual values, international cooperation, IFLA and FAIFE objectives, actions etc. on basis of questions such as: "Do you really believe that letters to governments and presidents make a difference?" "Don't you do anything concrete?" "Why do IFLA and FAIFE not support projects financially?" "Western values differ from the rest of the world, how do you solve that problem?"

East Timor

IFLA/FAIFE has established contact to colleagues in East Timor in regards to the re-construction of the university library that was destroyed during the Indonesian-sponsored militia attacks. A support group has been gathering funds and materials. It is clear that the needs of East Timor are much more extensive and include the development of a national model for library provision. However, there seems to be little coordination of the needs for national, university, polytechnic, school, public, law and medical libraries. With special attention to this project, we are currently looking into possibilities on how best to support the library services in the country. To this end we have consulted UNESCO who recommended that the Government of East Timor to formulate a project proposal for their consideration. In 2002 we shall continue this work.

Afghanistan

In December, under the heading Libraries and Conflicts, we began collecting information on the situation in Afghanistan. In January 2002, the first internal report was submitted to the Committee and the organisations we had been working with on this issue. Through our connection in UNESCO we learned that the organisation would send a team mission to the country. A short report on this mission is available at www.unesco.org. Also in January this year, UNESCO asked IFLA and IFLA/FAIFE to formulate two project proposals in regards to the re-construction and development of public, school and university libraries and library services in Afghanistan. With two days allocated to do the job, we chose to base the projects on the recommendations in the Kosovo report. At a meeting in UNESCO headquarters earlier this month, we were asked to find two experts to be ready to join the UNESCO Team Mission on Education in March. This done, we are currently awaiting the decision of Afghan Government.

Glasgow Declaration

To celebrate the 75th anniversary of IFLA in 2002, it was decided that IFLA/FAIFE should take a leading role for the drafting of a declaration for the Glasgow Conference. The declaration is related to IFLA professional priority "defending the principle of freedom of information". The first draft was reviewed by the IFLA/FAIFE Committee, IFLA Professional Committee, and Governing Board and is presented for adoption at its March meeting, and for the final adoption at the Council meeting in Glasgow.

The Internet and free access to information

With the implementation of the PhD scholarship IFLA/FAIFE has decided to focus on Internet issues related to free access to information for the next three years. We have taken an active part in the formulation of the project and have been consulted during the evaluation of project proposals and in the case of appointing the right candidate. The PhD appointment was announced on 25 October at www.ifla.org and Mr Stuart Hamilton in his new job on 1 November. On a regular basis, project results will be published in reports, articles and at meetings and seminars.

Concerns on the growing tendencies to censor and filter information on the Internet in libraries around the world were discussed at the Boston conference both at IFLA/FAIFE meetings and in the Internet Discussion Group, see reports at www.ifla.org. The Committee decided to set up a work team to draft an IFLA Internet Manifesto to be presented for adoption at the Council meeting in Glasgow, and for adoption by UNESCO. During the drafting process PB, GB and the American Library Association have offered valuable comments and suggestions to the work team.

In the wake of the 11th of September terrorist attacks in the US, the so-called terrorist acts have passed parliaments in many countries with the effect that access to the Internet suffers further restrictions along with violations of users' privacy. To this end the *IFLA Statement on Terrorism, the Internet and Free Access to Information* was issued on 4 October on IFLANET. In the statement IFLA "proclaims that the libraries and information profession of the world will respond to these tragic events by redoubling our efforts to see free access to information and freedom of expression worldwide".

Contacts and Cooperation with other organisations

It is essential to IFLA/FAIFE to build solid networks with other organisations representing the human rights, freedom of expression and library organisations worldwide. This year we have been working to further these relations.

We are attending meetings in the Danish Library Umbrella and the International Committee of the Danish Library Association. The Norwegian Library Association is playing a very active role in the Bibliotheca Alexandria Project and IFLA/FAIFE has been appointed member of the Database Steering Committee. We have had a meeting with Teresa Hackett, the Director of EBLIDA to discuss our future cooperation and the EBLIDA initiatives in regards to censorship in the Front Nationale governed municipalities in Southern France. In the case of the closing of British Council library services in Harara, Zimbabwe we have also developed our relations to this organisation further and have consulted them in the case of Afghanistan.

The Chair of the Committee attended the IFEX annual conference 2001 to establish closer working relations, e.g. mutual support of action alerts whenever relevant. In connection with the UNESCO preparations of the World Summit on the Information Society IFLA/FAIFE attended a consultation meeting on freedom of expression in February this year. The occasion provided excellent opportunities to meet other members of organisations such as Article 19, International Association for Media and Communication Research, International Federation of Journalists, International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX) and the newly appointed Director Mr Joel Ruimy, International Publishers Association, Internet Society, Reporters sans Frontières, World Association of Newspapers, and World Press Freedom Committee. The Consultation Meeting was to give input to a declaration and action plan and our contribution was concentrated on affecting the general parts of the declaration, which went well. Prior to the meeting we had arranged to meet with colleagues from IFEX and Amnesty International.

Conclusively, the work around the Afghan project proposals, the Glasgow Declaration and the Internet Manifesto has obviously given us much better and closer contacts within UNESCO.

We have also tried to establish contact to the International Communication Forum so far with no results but we shall continue the work this year.

Conclusion

Looking back, 2001 turned out a busy and exciting year. Considering the limited staff resources available we have achieved results that will hopefully be regarded both visible and significant in relation to the goals the Committee has identified. No doubt, we would have liked to pay more attention and produce more results in areas such as basic research activities and more frequently published office reports. However, to promote the values and work of IFLA/FAIFE we have concentrated our efforts on projects that help engaging colleagues worldwide in the issues on free access to information: The World Report, the Glasgow Declaration, the Internet Manifesto, and the implementation on the PhD scholarship are all examples of such activities.

In regards to 2002 the Strategy and Action Plan outlines most activities. However, due to the developments in Afghanistan and East Timor the focus on libraries and conflicts will be more explicit than stated in the action plan and shall be included as a theme in the Summary Report.

To supplement the action plan and make our activities more visible we shall, for the first time, issue an IFLA/FAIFE Calendar on the website. Our ambition is that the calendar should provide a picture of all IFLA/FAIFE activities in 2002 and inform on meetings, seminars and other events that the Chair, Committee and Office shall arrange or participate in. To this end we would encourage Committee members to submit information to the calendar on a regular basis.

However, despite our plans and good intentions all IFLA/FAIFE activities depend heavily on the financial resources available to us.

The Office would like to thank the Chair, the Advisory Board, the work teams, and colleagues within the Committee, IFLA and other organisations for all their support and hard work in 2001.