STIMULATING IFLA’S ETHICAL CONSCIENCE:

FAIFE 2003-9

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Published in *IFLA Journal*, 35(2), 2009, pp.117-122.

IFLA/FAIFE’s activity 2003-9 continued to be based on three types of activity identified during Alex Byrne’s period as Chair 1997-2003: intervention, education, and advocacy. Although FAIFE is still very much prepared to intervene in cases of threat to the stock, services and staff of libraries this has not been the predominant form of activity during the period. With the aid of a substantial grant from Swedish Sida, FAIFE has developed an education programme consisting of Workshops using specially written sets of Learning Materials. These first dealt with the IFLA/UNESCO Internet Manifesto and Access to HIV/AIDS Information. Further sets of Learning Materials, on Libraries and Transparency, and Public Access to Health Information, have since been developed for the same purpose. A process of using Workshops facilitated by FAIFE trainers as a means of training local trainers, who are expected to disseminate the message more widely in their own country and region has then been built on this. FAIFE’s advocacy work has had the creation of the IFLA Manifesto on Transparency, Good Governance and Freedom from Corruption at its centre. A model of participative policy development, leading into training workshops, and a consequent strengthening of the advocacy capacity of the library profession can now be identified.