



**Minutes of Second Standing Committee Meeting of
Government Libraries Section, IFLA
18th August 2015, Cape Town, South Africa**

Present: Sanjay K Bihani - Chair (India), Anoja Fernando – Chair-elect (UK), Beacher Wiggins (USA - Member), Maria Goeckeritz (Germany - Member), Pavel Kiselev – Secretary-elect (Russia - Member), Reyna Josvah-Rabiazza (Madagascar - Member), Winny Nekesa Akullo (Uganda - Member)

Apologies: Guillermo García-Capcha– Information Coordinator (Peru), Jerry Mansfield (USA - Member), Miguel Navas-Fernández (Spain - Member), Elina Kähö (Finland - Member), Inger Jepsson (Sweden - Member), Duncan Omole (World Bank), Jérôme Fronty (France – Corresponding Member), Magdalena Biota and Fatima Alloul, Muireann Tóibín (Ireland) (Corresponding Members), Maria (Maimen) Díez-Hoyo (Spain)

Guests Present: Dr Satendra Singh Dhaka (India), Niels H. Jensenius (Denmark), James Church (USA), Adetoun Philisiwe Maphiri (South Africa), Noluthando Ketshengana (South Africa), Dorothy Mathebla (South Africa), Peniel Hloele Phafoli (Leshoto), Hedeya Alameri, (United Arab Emirates), Brian Mwale

1. Welcome: Chair Sanjay K Bihani welcomed the Standing Committee members and guests to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.
2. Agenda: The remaining agenda items were accepted and the meeting commenced.
3. Cape Town Conference Programme: Session 096 Government Libraries Section Monday 17 August 2015 13:45 - 15:45 at Auditorium 1.

Theme: Networks of Government Libraries – providers of access to Information

Sanjay recorded his thanks to all the speakers for their contribution and to Guillermo for his excellent coordination with different speakers, including IFLA HQ, to make it a success. It was a well-attended session, given the size of the auditorium. There were nearly 80 people in the audience. Niels H. Jensenius (Denmark) volunteered and managed to get names and email addresses of 25 attendees. It was, however, difficult to get names of all attendees because it would have distracted the speakers. Sanjay invited members to give feedback on the session. Animated discussions surrounding the session ensued and it was generally accepted that the 1st presentation was too long! This in turn, impacted on the following speakers with the final speakers being disadvantaged. They were duly thanked for adapting the presentation to the situation. Maria Goeckeritz (Germany) & Elina Kähö (Finland) were complimented for working together across countries to ensure the programme schedule was implemented.

Everyone agreed that timing and speaker numbers were fundamental to the success

of the sessions and agreed that presentations should be strictly limited to four speakers for IFLA Columbus, USA, 2016.

- 4 Finalization of GL Section Programme for 82nd IFLA General Conference and Assembly: 13-19 August 2016, Columbus, Ohio, USA.

Congress theme: Connections. Collaboration. Community.



Following discussion the final theme for GLS is:

Government Libraries as innovators: supporting communities of interest

Options for collaboration with other Sections were considered and Sanjay indicated that as Chair-elect, it will become Anoja's responsibility to take these conversations forward with the Information co-ordinator and to keep the Secretary and the Standing Committee informed.

- 5 Election of New Members and Officers 2015-18: Sanjay formally handed over the responsibilities of Chair to Anoja, who thanked Sanjay for his illustrious service to GLS and said it will be a hard-act to follow. Anoja said GLS was in a period of transition. Given the void left behind by two experienced Standing Committee Members and the difficulties experienced in recruiting new Members to the Committee; Anoja had consulted IFLA during Conference and invited Sanjay to remain in GLS in an Advisory capacity. Sanjay graciously accepted. Anoja will also be inviting Jerry Mansfield to join GLS in a similar capacity.

Beacher Wiggins (USA), Maria Goeckeritz (Germany) and Niels H. Jensenius (Denmark) have agreed to become Corresponding Members. Sanjay welcomed and thanked them. Jérôme Fronty (France – Corresponding Member) leaves GLS as he left Bibliothèque de l'Hôtel de Ville this summer. He has moved to work in another sector and sent his salutes to the Standing Committee. In return the Standing Committee thanked Jerome for his past contribution to GLS and wished him well in the future.

Anoja will be contacting GLS Member organisations with a view to increasing Standing Committee Membership.

- 6 IFLA 2017 Wrocław, Poland: Maria Goeckeritz (Germany) was enthusiastic to organise a pre-conference Satellite meeting in Berlin. The Committee agreed this would be an excellent idea and offered to support Maria in her endeavours. This was seen as an opportunity to encourage new Membership to GLS and the Standing Committee.
- 7 On that happy note - the meeting concluded.

Minutes prepared by Anoja Fernando (Secretary)