

# IFLA - Information Technology Section

## Standing Committee Meetings, Helsinki, Finland

### Minutes of meetings

#### Standing Committee Meeting - 11 August 2012

##### Presiding Officers (3):

Alenka **Kavčič-Čolić** (Slovenia), Chair; Frank **Cervone**, (United States), Secretary; Edmund **Balnaves** (Australia), Information Officer

##### Standing Committee members present (6):

Emmanuelle **Bermès** (France), José Luis **Bueren Gómez-Acebo** (Spain), Mikhail **Goncharov** (Russian Federation), Nina **Hyvönen** (Finland), Shawky **Salem** (Egypt), Lars G. **Svensson** (Germany),

##### Apologies for absence received from (3):

Giuliana de **Francesco** (Italy), Alexeis **Garcia Pérez** (United Kingdom), Zhixiong **Zhang** (China)

##### Other Standing Committee members absent (14 - including incoming and outgoing members):

Jonas **Ahlberg** (Sweden), Antonin **Benoit Diouf** (Senegal), Nazha **Hachad** (Morocco), Karen **Keiller** (Canada), Tiina **Ison** (Finland), Annika **Lund** (Finland), Vivekanand **Jain** (India), Lesiba Steve **Ledwaba** (South Africa), Belén **Llera Cermeño** (Spain), Andrea **Marchitelli** (Italy), Penny **Robertson** (United Kingdom), Sue **Stimpson** (Canada), Dawei **Wei** (China), Hee-kyung **Yoo** (Republic of Korea)

##### Guests (11):

Roberto **Arayen** (Chile), Vincent **Boulet** (France), Marianne **Clatin** (France), Cindy **Hill** (USA), Barbara **Lazo Rodriguez** (Cuba), Manuel Fidel **Manassa**, Neil **Nel** (South Africa), Jeremiastimo **Teo**, Paul **Tereshchenko** (Russian Federation), Andrey **Zagstev** (Russian Federation), Christian **Zeising** (Sweden)

#### 1. Welcome and introductions

Alenka Kavčič-Čolić opened the meeting at 9:45 am. The meeting began with each of the members introducing themselves and identifying some of the critical issues they are working on:

- Digitization and collaborative initiatives in smaller institutions
- Interoperability at a technical level (Z39.50 and OAI/PMH)
- Integration of sources from museums, libraries, and archives – using metadata to coordinate collection descriptive information
- Optimization of the presentation of digital materials
- Digital rights management
- Movement from closed (proprietary) systems to open solutions
- Work on open data, both creating and consumption, i.e., semantic web services
- Metadata conservation and restructuring for digital objects
- Delivery of information to mobile platforms when there is no standard platform
- Digitization services and information technology in emerging economies
- Interoperability of digital objects and the ability to move them from one software platform to another
- Use of open source as a means for enabling technology in small and mid-size libraries
- Standardization of digital preservation policies and technologies

#### 2. Approval of the agenda – the agenda was approved with no amendments

#### 3. Approval of Puerto Rico minutes – the minutes were approved with no amendments

#### **4. ITS activities 2011-2012 / SIGs**

- a. Sessions and activities at IFLA
  - i. Joint session on accessibility on Monday (August 13)
  - ii. Joint session on professional development on Tuesday (August 14)
  - iii. Program on disaster recovery and organizational continuity (August 16)
  - iv. Semantic web SIG meeting on Wednesday (August 15); will include an overview of what the semantic web is as well as informal presentations by institutions active in this area on their work and research related to semantic web activities
  - v. RFID SIG meeting and program (August 15); program will focus on standardization of hardware, software, and data standards
- b. Impact of IFLA budget reallocation plan on section
  - i. Administrative budget has been reduced to 400 euros for each section
  - ii. Were able to change IFLA policy to allow for free registration for people who are only speaking at the conference

#### **5. Decisions on the SC website / information platform**

- a. At the last conference, IFLA requested sections to stop printing newsletters
- b. IT section moved the newsletter online
  - i. Rejuvenated the content to focus more on initiatives of members in the section rather than just information about the section itself
  - ii. Section used admin funds to develop a new layout for the newsletter online
  - iii. Ran into an issue with IFLA HQ and the IFLA CMS. Will only allow us to use the “official” template which does not lend itself to newsletter format.
  - iv. As an interim measure we have published the newsletter in the standard layout as an index to the content which is hosted externally
  - v. Need to work with IFLA technical staff to address this issue of templates
- c. Ideas for content in upcoming issues
  - i. Traditionally, the December issue focused on reports of activity at the annual conference. However, this material is now posted directly to the IFLA IT web site, so both issues of the journal will now feature articles on project profiles and country profiles. Articles may be submitted by any interested party.
    - 1. Material for December issue is due at the end of October so review/amendments/corrections can occur in November.
  - ii. “News flashes” – short articles on emerging issues, activities, and questions people may have
- d. Group agreed to the renaming of the journal to “Trends and Issues in Library Technology”

#### **6. ITS Strategic Plan 2012-2013 – priority actions**

- a. Strategic plan needs to be updated. Plan to update last year was deferred as section was waiting further direction from IFLA on overall changes to strategic planning process.
- b. Current plan focuses on Web 2.0, which made sense at the time but needs to incorporate newer initiatives such as RFID and semantic web activities.
- c. Additional ideas to add to strategic plan other than those identified during introductions: crowdsourcing and its effects on library IT initiatives
- d. Proposals for new working groups
  - i. Open source

- ii. Working with national library organizations to collaborate on developing a guide to implementing technology based on the parliamentary libraries guides (that was created in conjunction with UN)

**7. Helsinki 2012**

- a. IT sessions – last settings / coordination
- b. Last arrangements / information / Report from the Coordinating Board

**8. Ideas for programs at WLIC 2013**

- a. How organizations can get to “state of the art” with technology
- b. Multimedia preservation
- c. Open source
- d. Digitization
- e. Semantic web
- f. Interoperability
- g. Multilingual approaches to library systems

**9. Satellite Conference in Singapore 2013**

- a. User interaction based on linked data

10. **SC IT social event** – Wednesday evening. Details to be worked out and discussed at Wednesday morning meeting

**11. Mid-term meeting**

- a. Virtual meeting in November
  - i. Finalize strategic plan and program for WLIC 2013
- b. Will use technology hosted by Russian Presidential Library
  - i. Will have test group look at technology implementation in September

**12. Cooperation with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: ATLA (Access to Learning Award) program**

- a. Steve Bergen from ATLA
- b. \$1,000,000 award for hardware and software to facilitate access to learning and access

## Standing Committee Meeting – 15 August 2012

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### Standing Committee members present (6):

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### Guests (11):

Natasha **Bergson-Michelson** (USA), Raimo **Houleanen** (Finland), Mohammad Mahdi **Jahani Yekta** (Iran), Juliann **Makeri**, Neil **Nel** (South Africa), Irena **Petrijevčanin Vuksanović** (Croatia), Li **Wang** (New Zealand), Andrey **Zagstev** (Russian Federation), Jasenka **Zajec** (Croatia)

1. **New guests presentation** - Irena Petrijevc̃anin Vuksanović presented to the SC members the Open Source Center of the National Library of Croatia.
  - a. Discussed the experiences of the center and possible applications in other nations
2. **Adoption of the new strategic plan**
  - a. Because there was no quorum, the strategic plan could not be adopted. It will be discussed via e-mail and adopted by e-mail vote.
3. **Discussion of Standing Committee members who are persistently absent**
  - a. Will use IFLA procedures to purge members who do not participate and do not indicate an intention to participate in the future. This will give other members who want to participate the opportunity to do so.
4. **Paper nominated by the ITS SC for publication in the IFLA Newsletter**
  - a. Frank will send out a list of the papers that are eligible for nomination for publication in the IFLA journal. The SC members will need to vote on the papers and send that info to Alenka or Frank by a deadline to be determined once we have the date from the IFLA office
5. **Professional resolution to allow for greater flexibility in publishing on IFLA web site**
  - a. Need the ability to use a template that is designed for newsletters and not just accept having to force the content of the newsletter into a template is not designed for newsletters.
6. **Planning for WLIC 2013 (Singapore)**
  - a. The theme of WLIC 2013 is “Future libraries: Infinite possibilities”
  - b. Because of changes to the way IFLA handles satellite meetings, it is late in the process to propose an additional satellite meeting. However, Lars, Nina, and Emmanuelle will work with representatives from Singapore to see if the National Library will help support a satellite meeting for the IT section based on the topic “User interaction based on linked data” (fill in details)
  - c. Will work with preservation and conservation section on a program related to digital preservation. (Emmanuelle, Alenka, Neil Nel)
  - d. Ideas for main program

- i. “innovations from the developing world” (Neil Nel, Shawky Salem) would focus on the ways in which libraries are developing open source support communities; possible linking into ideas of bringing in venture capitalists to help libraries think about how to develop a business model for developing software possibly linked into the idea of “what the developing countries can offer the developed world”
- ii. “taking digital resources to the next level” (Alenka and Edmund) looking at the taking digital repositories to the next level and allow a deeper level of information discovery through rich markup, web services, integrating with multimedia information retrieval, mashing up related items; for discussion with Multimedia and Parliamentary libraries sections
- iii. Inspiring solutions emerging from the developing world, building support communities for IT/open source projects, linking into non-library centric open source communities, experiences in technological "leap frog"

#### **7. Planning for WLIC 2014**

- a. We need to reserve space for a satellite meeting at the 2014 congress soon as the process should begin two years in advance. The general topic will be on the semantic web and the satellite meeting will probably be held in Paris, perhaps at BNF.