In this number it is worth mentioning the United Nations Conference on Development and Environment — ECO92, that took place in Rio de Janeiro, June, 1-12. This Conference, also named World Conference (Earth Summit) or Rio-92, was of utmost significance, since for the first time in the history of mankind, all governments decided to participate in a meeting aimed at finding common actions to solve problems that affect each human being. Many subjects were debated such as: ozone layer holes, greenhouse Effect deforestation, climate changes, biodiversity and many others.

Simultaneously with the Conference The Global Forum took place including a series of events of the non-governmental organizations, which are independent from official governments. All groups, institutions and individuals could freely express their points of view and their willingness to participate in a real change that could benefit all.

Within the spirit that involves the world after these events, participation is our appeal to the Standing Committee Members, to the Special Counselour, to all members of our section. Send us news for the Newsletter, intended to be an agent of communication and transformation in our Region.

NEWS IFLA AND ITS SECTIONS

- General Secretary of IFLA

The executive Board appointed Mr. Leo Voogt to the position of Secretary General, starting on October 1, 1992. Born in 1959, Leo Voogt is Dutch and holds a position at the National Library of Netherlands.

We welcome Mr. Voogt with the Latin America and Caribbean warmheart.

NEXT CONFERENCES

"Library and information policy perspectives"
For further information please contact:
• Pre-session Seminar: “The status, reputation and image of the library and information profession”, intended for developing countries.

The following people from the Region were selected by the Secretariat: Ms. M.A. Mejía, Colombia; Mr. O.G. Lorenzo, from Cuba; Mr. M. Toacias, El Salvador; Mr. R. Matute, Honduras; Ms. M. Escobar, Panama; Mr. A. Richards, St. Martin. The RO indicated Ms. M. Romanelli, Brazil and Ms. M. E. Zapata was invited by IFLA, as well as Mr. A. Miranda, Brazil and Ms. N. Amenu-Kpodo, Jamaica. Due to limited funds, IFLA’s invitation is not a promise for the payment of expenses.

• Programme of the Section of Latin American and the Caribbean for the Meetings in New Delhi.

Theme: Encounter of cultures after 500 years: the Latin American and Caribbean libraries.

Title of presentation and speakers:
University Libraries in Latin America, the Mexican case, by Adolfo Rodríguez Gallardo, Mexico.

The public libraries in the context of ABIPALC, by María Elena Zapata, Venezuela.

Information Networks in Latin America and the Caribbean, by Ivone Talamo and Elizabeth M.R. de Carvalho, Brazil.

Information needs of multicultural population, by an speaker from Trinidad and Tobago still to be appointed.

• Result of the competition to choose a paper from Latin America and the Caribbean to be presented at the IFLA Conference in India. The jury proposed by the LAC Standing Committee choose three papers and sent them to the Secretariat in the Hague:

Special libraries and librarians in LAC, Suely A. do Amaral, Brasil.

The impact of the public library in satisfying the users’ needs, Rocio Herrera, Colombia.

Methodological application to measure the library user’s satisfaction of information in academic libraries in LAC, José Alfredo Verdugo Sánchez, Mexico.

The Professional Board selected Mrs. Herrera’s paper to be presented at the IFLA Conference in New Delhi.

Congratulations to our colleague from Colombia.


Theme: "The universal library: libraries as centers for the global availability of information." The PB is planning a Pre-Conference on School Libraries.

1994: 3rd. week in August, La Habana, Cuba.

Theme: "Libraries and social development".


Theme: "Libraries of the future".

1996: 3rd week in Aug., Beijing, China.

IFLA has sent to the RO a three pages information, very good on the Conference organization. Copies of it are available, in English, at IFLA HQ.

1998 has members in 135 countries, of which 85 belong to the Third World. Our Region has 13 National Association Members, 46 Institutional Members and 8 personal affiliation members. Can we make an effort to increase these numbers?

• PROFESSIONALS FROM OUR REGION IN THE SECTIONS

Section on Acquis. & Exch.: S. Bandara, Jamaica, corresponding member (CM)

Section of Art Libr.: Ms. E. Barbarena, Mexico, (CM)

Section of Biol. and Med. Sc. Libr.: Ms. R. Castro, Brazil, (CM).

Section on Conservation: O.O. Ogundipe, Trinidad & Tobago, (CM)

Section on Educ. & Train.: E. Setien, Cuba, (CM)

Section on Interlend. & Doc. Delivery: Ms. S. Skorbiansky, Uruguay (SC), Ms. E. Morales Campos, Mexico, (CM)

Section on Libr. Theory & Res.: Ms. S. Mueller, Brazil, (CM), Ms. T. Castilla, Uruguay, (CM)

Section of Nat. Libr.: Ms. S. Ferguson, Jamaica, (SC)

Section of Social Sc. Libr.: Ms. I. Olivera R., Peru (CM)

RT Contin. Prof. Educ.: Ms. A. Rodriguez, Chile (CM)

RT Management Libr. Assoc.: Ms. J. Swaby, Jamaica, (EC)
RT Mobile Libr.: Ms. G. A. Gasperini, Uruguay, Ms. M. Martinez Crespo, Cuba (EX)
RT Res. in Reading: Ms. M. Terry, Cuba

Can we make an effort to have more professionals as members of the Sections, specially in those where Latin American and the Caribbean librarians could have an outstanding performance

• FELLOWSHIP, FUNDS AND GRANTS

Guust van Wesemael Literacy Prize
Gustav Hofmann Study Grant
Robert Vosper IFLA Fellows Programme
Margaret Winjstroom Fund for Regional Libr. Development

Martinus Nijhoff Study Grant — Mr. Eduardo Villanueva Mansilla, Peru, was selected by the Jury in Feb. 1991 to study systems for access to public records, and economic law and fiscal information, especially for persons with poor education and differing cultural backgrounds.

Full details and application forms can be obtained from IFLA HQ, P.O. Box 95312, 2509 CH, The Hague, Netherlands, Fax 31(70)3834827, telex 34402.

• PROJECTS:

There are two sources of funds for projects: ALP and IFLA Professional Boards that are relevant to the Sections' Medium Term Programme 1992-97. These should be submitted to the Professional Board (PB) for consideration through the Regional Manager.

LATIN AMERICAN SEMINAR ON OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS — REPORT

Librarians from 19 countries participated in the Latin American Seminar on Official Publications held in Mexico City from June 10-12, 1991. The meetings were held in the Biblioteca Nacional, a part of the Instituto de Investigaciones Bibliograficas (IIB) on the campus of the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM).

Presentations were made by those invited to attend from Latin America on official publications in 17 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Republica Dominicana, El Salvador, Uruguay, Venezuela) and in the English speaking Caribbean. These provided a good overview of the issues relating to official publications in Latin America. Additional speakers presented basic papers on the definition of official publications, the need to study these materials, the use of official publications, bibliographic control of these materials, publications in library schools. Discussions were lively in this first seminar for those working with official publications in Latin America.

A series of recommendations were developed. Latin American governments were asked to adopt measures to strengthen the national libraries and other depository libraries so these may fulfill their responsibility of acquiring, preserving, organizing, and disseminating of the national official record, including state, provincial, departmental, municipal and other publications. Government organizations charged with the planning of information policies were requested to regulate the production of official publications.

Government agencies in general were asked to establish directives for an editorial policy which would include: what, how, when, how much, and for whom to publish; and that these consider elements of bibliographic control such as cataloging-in-source, ISBN, ISSN, etc. National libraries or depository institutions of official publications were asked to create the mechanisms to facilitate the fulfillment and dissemination of the legal deposit laws and related regulations and to implement international standards for bibliographic description and access.

Following considerable discussion about teaching about official publications in library schools, other recommendations concerned education and training for those working with official publications.

Professional associations and library schools were asked to promote the educational and training of human resources for the management of official publications and research on production, use, and availability of official publications. IFLA was asked to recommend to international organizations the offering of periodic short courses for personnel who manage collections of official publications. IFLA was asked to sponsor a research project and bibliography to determine the state-of-the—art of official publications in Latin America.

An impressive exhibition of government publications from Latin America was inaugurated during the first
day of the seminar in the Biblioteca Nacional. A visit to the Instituto Nacional de Estadistica Geografica e Informatica (INEGI) provided the opportunity to see publications and the computer data bases developed by INEGI. A visit to the Unidad de la Cronica Presidencial provided information on another important agency in Mexico.

Assistance for the Seminar was provided by the Government Information and Official Publications Section and the program on Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and by the Organization of American States and the Biblioteca Nacional of UNAM in Mexico.

Also INEGI, the Cronica Presidencial, and IIB offered special receptions for the participants. The proceedings of the Seminar will be published. The Seminar in Mexico City coincided with the total eclipse of the sun and those attending had the opportunity to view this historic event.

This is the fourth such seminar that the IFLA Government Information and Official Publications Section has organized. Previous seminars were held in French-speaking Africa and the South Pacific. Rosa Maria Fernandez de Zamora of IIB is the person responsible for organizing this very productive and useful seminar held in Mexico City for librarians form throughout Latin America, Barbara I. Ford from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia represented the IFLA Government Information and Official Publications Section at the Seminar.

Barbara I. Ford
Section on Government Information and Official Publications, IFLA July 1991

• We deeply regret the loss of Udemmaibu Nwafor, our friend Bart, from Nigeria, who was the Secretary of the Division of Regional Activities since 1989.

PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE ABINIA NATIONAL UNION CATALOGUE

From November 28 to 29, in the city of Guadalajara, Mexico, this meeting to discuss the problems and advancements concerning the ABINIA Union Catalogue of the ancient holding of the Ibero American National Libraries. These holdings comprehend books published from the 15th to the 19th centuries. Besides the focal points Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Spain, Mexico and Venezuela, other countries which have participated of the Official Publications Seminar were presented at this meeting. Virginia Betancourt, president of ABINIA, and Carmen Caro from the Sociedad Estatal V Centenario, in Spain, also attended the meeting. The Catalogue will be available in October 1992.

• Seminar of the Professionals in charge of National Bibliographies, Guadalajara, Mexico, November 25-27. Sponsors: 1991 International Book Fair of Guadalajara, University of Guadalajara, Libraries Institution from the same University, Mexican National Library.

The representatives of 13 Ibero American countries described the situation of their national bibliographies. The Spanish representative could not be at the meeting but informed that the bibliography is published in printed form, and also in CD-ROM.

The Venezuelan national bibliography is updated and on a data base. Mexico has an automated bibliography but its publications is not updated; its last publication was in 1989. Chile and Brazil have automated their bibliographies which have not been published for several years. No country in Central America has a current national bibliography. Most of the conclusions and recommendations were highly interesting and useful. The University of Guadalajara Libraries Institute will publish the proceedings of the Seminar, organized by Rosa Maria Fernandez de Zamora, who was at that time at the Mexican National Library.

BRAZIL

Biblioteca Sergio Milliet, Centro Cultural Sao Paulo, regularly publishes a series of bibliographies and musicographies from its collection, such as: Literature in tapes and records; Maurice Ravel; Franz Liszt; Carlos Gomes; Heitor Villa-Lobos; The Negro in the Brazilian Popular Music (MPB); Negro women composers; Pixinguinha, and also interesting bibliographies such as Mario de Andrade; Dal; Japanese Art. Request to: Biblioteca Sergio Milliet,
CHILE

Instituto Profesional de Santiago — Escuela de Bibliotecología, Casilla 9845 — Fax 2724275, Santiago, Chile published a leaflet concerning librarian's career, profile and curriculum of the course. The Library School has now a 9— month graduate program on administration and managing of libraries.

MEXICO

The Mexican Librarians Association A.C. (AMBAC) will hold its national congress, known by Jornadas Mexicanas de Biblioteconomia, from 16 to 18 September, in Merida, Yucatan. The theme is free. Further information with Ms. Surya Peneche, president of AMBAC, FAX: 5507461

ABIPALC is a nonprofit organization founded in 1989 which has the participation of an expressive number of countries in the Region and its objective is to congregate individuals and institutions interested in research, development, cooperation and promotion of public libraries in LAC. The meeting had the participation of 24 representatives of 16 countries (Aruba, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, French Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic) and of 24 professionals from different regions of Venezuela. A general report on the situation of libraries services in the region as well as the most significant experiences related to the real and potential participation of public libraries in reading and literacy promotion were presented. Visits were made to several of the services offered by the public libraries in Caracas, when the participants could observe the different activities aiming at book promotion. One of the achievements of the meeting was the elaboration of the project: Optimizing the social paper of the public library, oriented to solve some of the common problems that affect the development of public libraries in the Region. Under this general idea, different areas of interest were defined: human resources, reading promotion and the publication of experiences being made in the countries of the Region. The main objective of the project is to enhance the capability of the public libraries to respond to the needs of society, acting as agents of change in order to improve the quality of life of each individual and also in rescuing popular culture, the way of being of our people.

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST TO OUR REGION:

FERNANDEZ-ABALLI, I. Centroamérica. Evaluación del proyecto para la elaboración del catálogo colec-

Manual of the Information system of the Amazon, elaborated by BIREME. Available at: Regional SIAMAZ Co-ordinating Centre, Universidade Federal do Pará, Prédio da Biblioteca Central, Campus Universitário, 2º andar, Setor Básico, 66059, Belém, Pará, Brasil.


IFLA RT on Mobile Libr., 1, August, 1991.

IFLA Section of Art Libr., 28 (1), 1991.
IFLA Section of Libr. Services for Multicult. Popul. Newsletter, 1, Fall 1991.
INTAMEL Metro International Assoc.of Metropolitan City Libr., 1, Jan., 1991.
Comunica la realización/Announces the: Conference-Planning our information future: public libraries in the 1990s and bring news on the Biblioteca Pública y Complejo Cultural Mariano Moreno, Bernal, Argentina.

Comunica la realización de la/ Announce the First World Conference on Continuing Education for

UDT Newsletter, 17, Fall/Winter, 1991

IFLA Profesiond reports

GALLER, Anne M. & COULTER, Joan M. La administración de las bibliotecas escolares. La Haya, IFLA, 1991. (n. 29)


PESTELL, Robert. Lineamientos sobre bibliotecas móviles. La Haya, IFLA, 1991. (n. 30)


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