



# NEWSLETTER

Regional Section for Latin America and the Caribbean

N. 25 December 1994

## EDITORIAL

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The 60th General IFLA Conference, held in La Habana, August 21-27, 1994 was noticeable by its organization and by the professionalism of Cuban librarians.

It was the first time that a General Conference was held in Latin America. We followed the initial steps towards its organization during the presidency of Mr. Hans-Peter Geh and the efforts of IFLA's present President to hold this event in Cuba.

Its is worthy mention that for the first time participants had the opportunity to buy diskettes with the papers presented in the Conference (English and Spanish).

The technical and administrative sessions of the Section of Latin America and the Caribbean had a good and enthusiastic audience.

The Regional Office presented the Report of its activities and distributed to the members of the Standing Committee the publication "Information Available at the Clearing House" edited in April 1994.

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A folder on the Regional Office was also given to participants of the meetings held by IFLA/LAC. We would like to emphasize that for the first time there was a "Caucus of Portuguese Speaking Librarians", with professionals from Africa, Brazil and Portugal who were able to discuss and plan future cooperative actions concerning the "Letter of Rio de Janeiro", document approved at the II International Meeting of Portuguese Speaking Librarians, held in April 1994, in Niterói, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Many countries from our Region as well as the Regional Office presented papers at the Poster Session.

The Pre Session Seminar Libraries for literacy in geographically and socially isolated communities was a success and the final recommendations were presented at the Conference and are transcribed in this Newsletter.

During the Conference, a good number of professionals from Latin America registered as IFLA members.

We had the opportunity to maintain contacts with IFLA's Professional and Executive Boards when it was felt the great interest of their members in having IFLA/LAC working together with other IFLA's divisions and sections.

Its is worth mentioning the support the Regional Office is receiving from IFLA's Secretary General, the Coordinator of Regional Activities, from ALP in all matters of interest to the Section, the Regional Office and Librarianship in the Region.

Elisabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho, IFLA/LAC  
Regional Office Manager

*The editors of the Newsletter survey all the publications and mail sent to the RO. As a communication channel not only for IFLA but also for the countries in our Region, some of the important information can only be transmitted with the personal collaboration of professionals. Usually the news are restricted to those countries that are our main collaborators. Have you checked how many times your country has been the subject of news in this NEWSLETTER?*

## **NEWS**

### **IFLA AND ITS SECTIONS**

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#### **IFLA CONFERENCES**

- **60th General Conference, Cuba, 21-27th August, 1994**

All the documents from the Conference, including booklets, workshop materials and late papers are available in Word Perfect 5.1 (MS-DOS) in English, Spanish and French

- **2nd Latin American and Caribbean Seminar on Government Information and Official Publications, Habana, Cuba, August 25, 1994.**

Some of the papers presented are available for photocopying at the Regional Office: *Las publicaciones oficiales en Argentina y Chile*, por Stella Maris Fernandez; *The ECLAC publications in the Latin American and Caribbean Region*, Carmen Vera Arendt; *View from the North of the current state of the Latin American official publications*, Gloria Westfall; *Publicaciones oficiales brasileñas*, Sebastião de Souza; *La difusión de las publicaciones gubernamentales en México*, Rosa Pretelin Ecuizar; *Official publications in the English speaking Caribbean*, Claudette de Freitas; *Las publicaciones oficiales en Cuba 1992-1994*, Maria Elena Reyes Varela y Olga Vega Garcia.

- **Workshop "Education and Training", Habana, Cuba, August 25th, 1994**

In continuation to the First Workshop for the Drafting of a Coordinated Regional Plan for the Training of Professionals in Latin America and the Caribbean which was held in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, April 1994, this Workshop was coordinated by Isidro Fernandez Aballi, Regional Advisor of the UNESCO PGI Programs and its main objective was to discuss the problems appointed in April and their possible solutions.

- **FORTHCOMING IFLA CONFERENCES**

- **61st COUNCIL AND General Conference, Istanbul, Turkey, 1995: 20-26 August.**

Theme: Libraries of the future. Sub-themes: Information technology and the restructuring of libraries; Cooperative national and international information networks, The future of library materials, Libraries and public education, Professional communication. December 1, 1994 is the deadline for receipt of the draft text and the application form at IFLA Headquarters for

the presentation of papers that must focus on one of the sub-themes. Applicants should note that papers focusing exclusively on a local/national system or situation are less likely to be accepted.

In the Conference it will be held an Open Forum on the Library Profession, and an UDT Workshop on Networks x Virtual libraries. *The General Council will elect five (5) new members of the Executive Board. The Latin America and Caribbean Section and The Regional Office urge colleagues of our Region to select candidates. Our Region needs to be represented at the main directive IFLA body.* For more information on the Congress and Council please contact: Ms. Altinay Sernikli, Presidente National Library Bahçelievler 06490 - Ankara - Turkey.

Registration fees: Until April 30, 1995: US\$ 350,00. As of May 1, 1995: US\$ 400,00. Hotel rates vary - Double: US\$ 40,00-125,00 - Single: 25,00-100,00.

Official IFLA PRE Seminar. Theme: "Influencing decision makers: library planning in developing countries". By invitation.

- **Contributed papers contest IFLA/LAC, Istanbul, 1995.**

The Regional Office invites the professional library community to participate in this Contest, which will award one winner the opportunity to participate at IFLA's forthcoming conference. The topic is; "*Virtual library: reality, possibility or impossible dream*". The paper must be an original innovative contribution with an international perspective, and must provide a general panorama of what is going on in the region. Works should be submitted under a pen name - accompanied by an envelope with your personal particulars and the deadline for submissions to the Regional Office is December 15th. The theme may be treated within an overview of the Region and then focus experiments in a country, but always related to the general theme of the Conference.

- **1996: 25-31 August, Beijing, China.** Theme: The challenge of change: libraries and economic development.

- **1997: August 31 to September 5, Copenhagen, Denmark.** Theme: Libraries and Information of Human Development. For further information please contact IFLA 97, Secretary General, Ms.Hellen Niegaard c/o SBT - Nyhavn 31E - DK-1-51 Copenhagen, K, Denmark.

**Martinus Nijhoff Fellowship**

For a 10-15 week study tour in western Europe on any library topic is available for developing country nationals who are library/information science instructors of in-service trainers. The candidate must be 40 years of age or under and fluent in either English, French, Dutch or German. Applications are received annually with a 1 February deadline. For more information, please contact: IFLA Secretary General. Fax: 31.70.383-4827.

## **ADVANCEMENT OF LIBRARIANSHIP IN THE THIRD WORLD - ALP NEWS**

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• **Workshop Libraries for the Blind**, joint with the ALP Core Programme and the Section on Latin America and the Caribbean: Assessment of Needs on Library Service to the Visually Handicapped in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Workshop was coordinated by Beatrice Christensen Sköld, Sweden.

The Workshop was a followup of the first Meeting, held in Habana, February 1993, which report was published in *Newsletter* 23. It was felt an evolution of the services from this first meeting. The continuity of meetings where one can feel the development of initial works had already had a good effect in our Region.

The papers presented, mentioned below, are available at the Regional Office:

*Seminars on library services to the blind and other print-handicapped people in developing countries: what has been done by the Section of Libraries for the Blind*, Hiroshi Kawamura (University of Tokyo Library, Japan)

*Informe sobre la Situación de las personas ciegas y limitadas visuales en la República Argentina*, Mariano Gabriel Godachevich (Biblioteca Argentina para Ciegos, Argentina)

*Evaluation of library services for the visually handicapped in Brazil*, Ivani Pires (Biblioteca Braille, São Paulo, Brasil)

*Situación actual de la persona discapacitada visual y los servicios bibliotecarios para ciegos en Chile*, Bernadita Leon y Victoria Muñoz (Biblioteca Central para Ciegos, Chile)

*Library services to the blind in Jamaica*, Karen V. Barton (Manchester Parish Library, Jamaica Library Service, Jamaica)

*Informe sobre los servicios bibliotecarios para*

*discapacitados visuales en México*, Maria Eugenia Espana Gonzales (Asociación Mexicana de Bibliotecarios, México)

*The experience of cooperation between Fundación Braille and other institutions in Latin America regarding production and lending of special format material to the visually impaired*, Norma Toucedo (Committee on Literacy of the World Blind Union, Uruguay)

*Paper-making for all*, Allan Leach (National Library for the Blind, UK)

*La Biblioteca Nacional "José Martí" y los servicios para discapacitados visuales*, Odisa Blanco de los Santos (Biblioteca Nacional "José Martí", Cuba)

*Addressing the needs for materials in Spanish*, James R. Herndon and Stephen Prine (National Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, USA)

• **Open Forum of the Regional Division on Preservation and Conservation**

ALP sponsored Ms. Flossie Matenje from Malawi, in Africa so that she could participate in the discussions about the cooperation concerning Preservation and Conservation between the different parts of the world which have been initiated by the Regional Division.

• **Pre Session Seminar "Libraries for literacy in geographically and socially isolated communities"**, held in Matanzas, Cuba, at the

Biblioteca Provincial, August, 1994

The ALP Office at Uppsala University, Sweden, was for the first time responsible for the administration on the international level, of the pre-seminar, for instance for the process to select the participants. This work took place in close cooperation with IFLA's Professional Coordinator and the Regional Division. The Professional Board of IFLA is responsible for the professional contents. IFLA's Regional Offices and Standing Committees clarified, for instance, their priorities for the selection of the candidates for the workshop, and influenced the programme. ALP paid for the attendance of one African and one Asian participant at the seminar. The translations of the papers into English and Spanish were also commissioned in Sweden. The local Cuban organizers under direction of Emilio Setien and Orlando García were responsible for all other work and the rest of the financing and did superb job. The Seminar was chaired by Barbro Thomas.

• **Resolutions**

*Resolutions to IFLA:*

be it resolved: that IFLA give priority to the establishment of a programme to promote literacy, linked to and supported by all relevant groups within IFLA

the IFLA Section of Public Libraries and the Section of School Libraries work together in close collaboration on school and public library relationships taking into account the national experiences of the various countries, especially the developing countries.

that IFLA urge its national association members and institutional members to work with their National UNESCO Commissions to ensure that the next UNESCO Programme and Budget and the next UNESCO MTP include a firm commitment to: a) the revival and preservation of the oral tradition; b) cooperation in the production and distribution of relevant reading materials in countries that have common languages and/or a common cultural experience; c) the production, distribution and promotion of materials in different formats for groups with special needs (for example: materials for the blind and other disadvantaged groups).

Resolution to UNESCO: That UNESCO more actively inform library associations and institutions about published results of research in to literacy questions and reading promotion, and make these publications easily available to public libraries needing to use them.

• **Central-American Workshop in Nicaragua**

ALP will organize the workshop "Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World - a Workshop to Identify and Assess Needs in Central America and to formulate project proposals", in Managua, Nicaragua, 6 - 9 March, 1995.

Three representatives will be selected from each Central America country. As usual, the workshop is organized in close cooperation with the Regional Standing Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean. Members of the Standing Committee from Middle America will assist at the workshop and function as resource persons. The National Library "Ruben Darío", of Nicaragua will be responsible for a great part of the planning and all local arrangements. The working language will be Spanish. We hope that representatives of UNESCO PGI in Caracas, Venezuela will also assist.

• **Future ALP projects in Latin America**

The Swedish International Development Agency,

SIDA has in October 1994 decided to support the following projects in Latin America:

The Central American Workshop mentioned above;

Survey of national information resources and services in the member states of the OECS and review of plans for development;

Continued development of INFOBILA;

Creation of an association for South Cone library schools, the last phase;

A practical workshop in Peru to compare experiences from services to minorities in remote or border areas in co-operation with the neighbouring countries.

SIDA has also included money to cover the Regional Office's cost for its work with ALP activities, and some money for the planning of projects.

• **Database/ Guide of Institutions that support librarianship in developing countries.**

This project is being conducted by ALP with financial support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark, DANIDA. The questionnaire is being sent by ALP. The Regional Office has a copy of it to send to persons willing to provide information for this database.

## **NEWS IFLA AFFILIATES AND MEMBERS IN THE REGION**

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### **ARGENTINA**

• The Asociación de Bibliotecarios Graduados de la República Argentina - ABGRA, just launched a biannual journal REFERENCIAS. The first issue celebrates the 40th anniversary of ABGRA and presents the papers delivered at the XXVIII Reunión de Bibliotecarios and invites participants to the next Meeting, XXIX Reunión, to be held in Buenos Aires, April 3-7, 1995, to present papers. Registration fee: US\$ 35,00. Checks to the order of ABGRA - Av. Corrientes 1642, Piso 1º, 2º Cuerpo, Oficina 22 - Buenos Aires - Argentina. FAX: 382-4821. E.Mail: postmaster@abgra.org.ar.

The Regional Office congratulates ABGRA for its anniversary and wishes the new journal, much success.

- The 5th Feria del Libro Infantil y Juvenil, held last July gathered around 175.000 visitors. Some of the activities were held to include parents as participants, such as the Workshop "Come with your daddy". The Seminar "Games and Creativity" was considered a success by its organizer.

New sent by Stella Maria Fernandes, member of the Standing Committee of the IFLA Regional Section of Latin American and Caribbean.

## BRAZIL

- The Fundação Biblioteca Nacional offered to the Regional Office a room to support the Office activities in Rio de Janeiro. The Regional main office is still in São Paulo, at FEBAB's office.

- On August 15-16, 1994 it was held in São Paulo, an **International Symposium on Copyrights and Publisher's rights, Collective Administration and Reprographic Rights**, sponsored by CERLALC and the Associação Brasileira de Direitos Reprográficos, ABDR. The librarians: Rosaly Krzyzanowski, coordinator of the University of São Paulo Library System, SIBI, Rosa Maria R. Correa, manager of the library of the Memorial da América Latina, and May B. Negro, consultant, special advisor of the IFLA Section of Latin America and the Caribbean presented papers on the session Librarians and Reproduction.

- **The II Meeting of Portuguese Speaking Librarians** held in April 3-8, Niteroi, Rio de Janeiro, organized by the Brazilian Federation of Library Associations, FEBAB, promoted by FEBAB and by the Portuguese Association of Librarians and Archivists (BAD), ended up with the Declaration of Rio de Janeiro with proposals of projects and actions to be undertaken by Brazil, Portugal and by the African Portuguese speaking countries which had been discussed at the CAUCUS OF PORTUGUESE SPEAKING LIBRARIANS, held in the IFLA Conference in Havana. Thirty professionals participated in this meeting.

- Maria da Conceição Vasques Araujo Tali, from Luanda, Angola, published in the *Cadernos BAD*, Lisboa, 2: p.29-53, 1993 the article entitled *Librarians in Luanda, Angola: problems and prospects* with proposals of many actions to be undertaken for the development of libraries in this African country that can be the object of tripartite (Africa, Brazil and Portugal) projects to be presented to the ALP Program.

- FEBAB proposed to IFLA that Portuguese be considered another official language. IFLA considered this somewhat difficult due to the costs of translations but assured that the CAUCUS is already a permanent program at IFLA Conferences. IFLA also expects that the membership of Portuguese speaking institutions and associations will increase.

- The Brazilian Federation of Library Associations, FEBAB, issued vol. 26 of its journal, **Revista Brasileira de Biblioteconomia e Documentação**, with articles on mobile library services for rural communities, law information, indexing notes, etc. Subscription: US\$ 100,00 - FEBAB: R. Avanhadava, 40, cj.110 - 01306-000, S.Paulo, SP - Brasil.

- Maria Nazaré Pereira and Patricia C. Henning from IBICT - Brazilian Institute of Science and Technology Information sent the Regional Office a paper entitled *Virtual Library for Information Specialists, a Brazilian experience*, an ongoing project sponsored by the National Research Network (RNP) and IBICT. This virtual library aims at attending Brazilian information specialists interested in knowing electronic network for: a) getting the necessary requirements for the exploration of Internet resources; b) using Internet resources and services for their professional improvement; c) dissemination of the necessary requirements for network information products and services aiming at the integration of Brazilian information resources into Internet with the required total quality, according to existing standards.

- **Latin American Forum on the Use of Electronic Networks in Education and Culture**, São Paulo, Brasil, 10-13 April, 1995. Organized by the Escola do Futuro, University of São Paulo. Objectives: Identify Latin American groups interested in the use of electronic networks in education, and culture, discuss their socio-cultural and pedagogical achievements, their aims, problems and find solutions in the use of electronic communication - discuss issues of interest such as partnerships, projects, agreements and other ways to strengthen Latin American integration. Contacts with: Ms. Renata Ghedini Ramos. Telephone: (55 11) 577-5221. Fax: (55 11) 815 3083. E.mail: flurece@piaget.futuro.usp.br or futuro@cat.cce.usp.br. Address: USP - Escola do Futuro - Cidade Universitária Armando de Salles Oliveira - Av. Prof. Luciano Gualberto, travessa 3. n.71, Sala 119 - 05508-900 - São Paulo, SP.

## CUBA

- The Casa de las Americas has in its library an outstanding collection of Latin America and the Caribbean periodicals and also publishes papers of great interest to the Region. E.mail: casa@tinored.cu. Fax: (537) 32-7272/32-5638.
- The Escuela Nacional de Tecnicos de Biblioteca in Cuba graduates specialized technicians. It graduates 60-70 library technicians each year. Its curriculum has among its subjects: Theory and Organization of Book and Information Institutions, Technical processing (analytical and synthetic).

## MEXICO

- **Workshop "The future of the librarian's professional education"**. An agreement on the areas of interchange and cooperative education between Mexican and American Institutions, the Escuela Nacional de Biblioteconomia y Archivonomía (ENBA) and the School of Library and Information Sciences, University of North Texas (UNT) made possible this workshop held in 9 and 10, September, at the Antigua Hacienda de Galindo, San Juan del Rio, Querétano. Both institutions felt an urgent need to analyze the education of librarians face the challenges libraries face with the development of new technologies and the infrastructures of telecommunications. Some of the themes that were discussed: the desirable knowledge librarians need to face the challenges of a new era and also the leadership needed, theory and practice of library activities, the integration of technological and human aspects. Problems concerning study programs and curriculum were exposed. The Mexican participants presented the following papers:  
Miguel Ángel Arreola González; "The electronic library: how technology is changing libraries";  
Elsa Barbarena Blásquez; "To whom are we preparing the Master of Library Science Program?";  
Guadalupe Carrión Rodríguez; "The problems an information expert has to face";  
Rosalba Cruz Ramos; "Educational policies";  
Rosa María Fernández de Zamora "A prospective view of the changing librarian education";  
Regelio Hinojosa; "Manager of information resources: a profession for the current society";  
Álvaro Quijano Solis; "Challenges libraries face and their implication in librarian's education";  
Adolfo

Rodríguez Gallardo; "Between basic and additional elements: librarian's education in the years to come". Participants from the School of Library and Information Sciences presented papers in subject such as: Illustrated communications, Libraries and Technological Information, Communication through computers and its use in public schools, Toward the coordination of the cognitive and algorithm research in information retrieval. The Colloquium was a space for reflexion on the situation of library systems in Mexico and in the United States to identify similarities and differences.

News sent by Mtra. Estela Morales Campo, Secretary, Standing Committee, Latin American and the Caribbean Section/IFLA.

## PERU

- The Colegio de Bibliotecólogos del Peru in its *Boletín Informativo*, 2, junio 1994 informs that its Rules and Proceedings were approved by the Decreto Supremo no. 08-94-ED, published in the Diario Oficial "El Peruano", Mayo 20, 1994; that María Bonilla de Gaviria was assigned by the Colegio as member of the Jury of the Architectural Contest of the National Library new building.
- The British Council in Peru published the book "*Información para el Desarrollo Comunitario*" theme of a workshop held in Lima from 18 to 20, January, 1994. Subjects treated: Cajamarca rural libraries, Program of Communal libraries, Offices of citizenship, New technologies of information for community.

## PUERTO RICO

- The Editorial of the University of Puerto Rico has published: *Índice Informativo de la Novela hispanoamericana*, by Edna Coll. Orders can be made to FAX: (809) 751-8785

## VENEZUELA

- El Plan Lector de Cajas Viajeras del Programa Lectura para Todos (Traveling box Reader, Program Reading for all), Fundación Comisión Nacional de Lectura (FUNDALECTURA), started in 1990, and has already reached 5000 teachers who followed refresher courses on reading

modern theories, 263 teachers took specialized courses as reading mediators and 200.000 children received the benefits of books and special teaching practices). There are 185.840 copies being used. The reading plan is based in four great strategies: access to materials with interesting themes and high quality of edition and illustration for children during the first stage of education; the updating of teachers of the first three years of basic education in modern theory and practice of reading skills and promotion of reading; motivate parents and the whole population on the importance of reading and its effect on the country's development; research on the results on teaching practice after the continuous education program.

- The Biblioteca Nacional undertook the Project Los Cardones as a pilot experience in community's building of a library service, a simple structure building. The project involves the community since the first draft of the building, trying also to retrieve traditional building technologies.

- Bookmobile Amazonas. The Biblioteca Nacional started a new project of Mobile Libraries designing a new bus that travels by land and is adapted to the climate and topography of the State of Amazonas.

## **GENERAL NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE REGION**

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### **• LETTER OF HAVANA, 1994 - 60th IFLA General Conference, Cuba 94**

The 60th. IFLA General Conference, held in the city of La Habana, in August 1994, was the meeting point of more than 1200 librarians from Latin America and the Caribbean, an adequate site for the interchange of knowledge and experiences, that despite specific situations due to common social, cultural economic factors, are unknown to the rest of the region.

During the official sessions of the IFLA Section of Latin America and the Caribbean topics related to strengthening the interaction and collaboration towards librarianship development among the countries in the Region have been discussed.

This was the feeling that animated the Latin American delegates in gathering, knowing each other and state their need of information concerning library activities in their countries and in concluding that there is a possibility of establishing mechanisms that could allow the continuity of this dialogue and perhaps make real the words of the Lic. Elsa M. Ramírez Leyva (México), in her paper presented at the General Conference "... It would be much more important this global presence than individual efforts to consolidate a position within the social structure".

This intent of cooperation and of interchange of information started with a dialogue between the Asociación de Bibliotecarios Graduados de la República Argentina (ABGRA) and the Asociación Cubana de Bibliotecarios (ASCUBI), that stated seven initial points for agreement to be subscribed by the representatives of both institutions.

From this first approach and as a result of conversations with Dr. Fernando de Martino, (Business Attaché of the Republic of Argentine Embassy in Cuba) Encargado de Negocios, Embajada Argentina in Cuba, both Cuban and Argentine Chancellors got interested and came to terms on the possibility of reaching a cooperation agreement from a letter of intention endorsed by the delegates of the countries interested in this proposal. The seven points that have been accepted by ABGRA and ASCUBI, have been analyzed by representatives of the Asociaciones de Bibliotecarios de Chile and Colombia and by the IFLA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean that adhered to this project.

To the initial proposal, 4 additional points were added concerning preservation of cultural heritage. Another meeting was held to analyse and vote on the 11 points of the LETTER OF HABANA, 1994, the beginning of an agreement that will certainly become official, following the steps already given by both Chancellors of Argentina and Cuba.

This Letter of Intention was presented to Mr. Leo Voogt, IFLA General Secretary, in a meeting

with the presence of the representatives of IFLA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Lics. Elisabet M.R. de Carvalho and Ivone Tálamo, ABGRA General Secretary, Lic. Claudia Rodríguez and the Vicedean of the Universidad del Museo Social Argentino, Lic. Adriana Adamo. In this meeting, the IFLA General Secretary complied with the agreement, encouraging the parts involved to continue their work toward its goal and asked ASCUBI President, Mrs. Marta Terry to announce, during the Conference Closure Ceremony, the signing of the document and to invite all countries in the Region to adhere to this cooperation and interchange assignment stated in the letter which text is reproduced below:

#### LETTER OF HAVANA, 1994 - PROJECT OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

1. Interchange of information materials.
2. Joint researches on scientific and technological librarianship themes.
3. Edition of joint publications on librarianship researches.
4. Continuous education and training of professionals and teachers, by the parties involved.
5. Interchange of teachers and researchers, through offered courses on library and scientific- technological information.
6. Realization of specialized joint workshops and conferences on library science subjects aiming at the interchange of experiences in this field.
7. Interchange of experiences and projects in library and information sciences.
8. Promotion of the education, updating and training on preservation and conservation of our cultural heritage.
9. Establish the development, research and the accomplishments of programs on conservation and preservation of Latin America and the Caribbean cultural heritage.
10. Support the development and application of standards for the preservation and conservation of the cultural heritage aiming at the unification of criteria.
11. Establish and maintain relations of interchange and cooperation with institutions with common objectives.

Gathered in this 60th IFLA General Conference, Cuba, 1994, in the city of Havana, subscribe to this letter of intention to propose 11 points aiming at a forthcoming multilateral agreement between Library Associations and Institutions, representatives of cultural organizations and experts of Latin America and the Caribbean, on August 27, 1994.

#### Signatures:

Asociación de Bibliotecarios Graduados de la República Argentina (ABGRA)  
Asociación Cubana de Bibliotecarios (ASCUBI)  
Asociación de Bibliotecarios de El Salvador  
Asociación de Bibliotecarios Escolares y Públicos de Chile  
Asociación de Bibliotecarios de Colombia  
Colegio de Bibliotecarios de Chile  
Colegio de Bibliotecarios de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Federação Brasileira de Associações de Bibliotecarios (FEBAB)  
Oficina Regional de IFLA para América Latina y el Caribe  
Sociedad Cubana de Información Científica y Técnica (SOCICT)  
Universidad Central de Venezuela  
Universidad del Museo Social Argentino  
Agencia ISBN de Puerto Rico  
Asociación Argentina de Lectura  
Biblioteca del Congreso de la Nación, Argentina

**We invite all institutions and organizations involved with library and information sciences of all countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to subscribe to this Letter of Intention, which we hope will become the beginning of a new series of activities that will contribute to the development of librarianship in our Region.**

*Library associations and institutions wishing to adhere, suggest corrections or modifications to the text above, please get in touch with the Regional Office that is centralizing information for people interested on this matter. The project will be presented in Istanbul.*

• CERLALC, Centro Regional para el Fomento del Libro en América Latina y el Caribe, Calle 70, no.9-52, Apartado Aéreo 57348, Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia, Fax: 255 46 14 has published a special issue on the *Book in Latin America and the Caribbean 77/78*, abril/septiembre 1994, carrying articles of great interest such as: El libro en el Mercosur - The Book in the Mercosur (incluso derechos de autor, políticas de lectura, y la Carta de Porto Alegre con las



conclusiones de la Reunión de Políticas de Lectura del Mercosur); Construcción de un acervo bibliográfico para las Escuelas de la Región - Building the library collection for the schools in the regions; Un libro, un Amigo: recuento de una experiencia de promoción de lectura - A book, a friend: an experiment on reading promotion; Talleres infantiles de creación literaria - Children's workshops of literary creation.

**Book fairs.** Brazil was the central theme of the 46th Book Fair in Frankfurt. Many book fairs are held in our Region Bienal Internacional del Libro, Brasil, Feria Internacional del Libro, Fundapol, Paraguay, Feria Internacional del Libro de Caracas, Feria Internacional del Libro de Guadalajara, México, Feria Internacional del Libro in Argentina, etc.

CERLALC PUBLICATIONS: *Lectura, biblioteca y comunidad; tres estudios - Reading, library and community - three studies*, with the paper by Alvaro Agudo, *Sistemas de Bibliotecas en América Latina - Library systems in Latin America; Metodología para la detección de interés y necesidades de lectura de los usuarios de las bibliotecas públicas - Methodology to identify reading interests and needs in public library users*, by Instituto Autónomo Biblioteca Nacional de Venezuela, IABN and *Lineamientos sobre la biblioteca pública como centro de desarrollo cultural comunitario - Outlines on the public library as a community development cultural center*, by Myriam Mejía. Price US\$ 20,00 in América Latina.

The book *Talleres infantiles de creación literaria - Children's workshop on literary creativity* costs US\$ 12,00 in Latin America. CERLALC has also published the book *Servicios bibliotecarios públicos: conceptos básicos sobre funciones, organización y estructura - Public library services: basic concepts on role, organization and structure*.

#### • ONU

The publication *Library News/Nouvelles de la Bibliothèque de L'ONU à Genève* has an article on *Human rights on CD-ROM; bibliographical database for United Nations Documents and Publications, 1980-1993*. Price US\$ 190,00.

#### • UNESCO

1994 - Family International Year. UNESCO organized an advisory two week

mission to Panama Star & Herald/La estrella de Panama on the best way to preserve and restore its valuable newspaper collection. For more information on the project, please contact: Sra. Joie Springer, PGI/UNESCO.

(\*) Transcribed from PGI UNISIST Newsletter.

UNAL Network (UNESCO Associated Libraries). It has been created three years ago, at the beginning of 1990 aiming at gathering and supporting a group of libraries in the whole world - preferably public libraries - to work associated to UNESCO through cooperation agreements between members of the network to: favor international understanding, promote the dialogue between different cultures, disseminate the knowledge of minorities, improve the sensibility on international problems and comply with UNESCO main objectives: that is, the fight against illiteracy, cultural development, the promotion of human rights and peace, protection of environment and condition of women, just to mention a few. The Application Form to become an associated library is available at the Regional Office. From the 33 member libraries in our Region, 22 are from Bolivia where UNAL held a Seminar in 1993.

- The British Council will hold in September 1995, from 3 to 15, at the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, a **Seminar on Special Information Centres Resource Management**.

- The Medical Library Association is again offering its annual **Cunningham Memorial International Fellowship** to librarians from countries outside the United States and Canada. The Fellowship allows these librarians to work in U.S. or Canadian Libraries for four months, a stipend of \$3,000.00 for living expenses and up to 1,000.00 for approved travel within the U.S. and Canada. The final date for application is February 1, 1995. Application form and more information on the fellowship is available at the Regional Office, or at MLA - Dr. Reneta E. Webb, Director of Professional Development - Fax: 1 - 302 - 419-8950, Chicago, Ill.

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Please see PUBLICACIONES RECIBIDAS in the Spanish Text.



*Participants of the meeting to prepare the LETTER OF HAVANA, with the Ministry Plenipotentiary of Argentina, at the center, Dr. Carlos A. Dellepiane.*

*Participantes de la reunión para elaborar la CARTA DE LA HABANA, con el Ministro Plenipotenciario de Argentina, al centro, Dr. Carlos A. Dellepiane.*

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