
OPEN ACCESS TO LEGAL KNOWLEDGE WORKSHOP

WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS | KAMPALA, UGANDA | DECEMBER 2016

About the Law Libraries Section

As an international policy forum for all law librarians, the Section on Law Libraries:

1. Promotes understanding and cooperation among law libraries.
2. Encourages growth in the development of new law libraries, with a particular focus on emerging nations.
3. Fosters legal research competencies worldwide.
4. Develops professional standards and practices.
5. Provides leadership in the field of legal information policy, recognizing that equitable and permanent public access to authentic legal information is a necessary requirement for a just and democratic society worldwide.

(www.ifla.org/law-libraries)



International Federation of
Library Associations and Institutions

ABOUT IFLA

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession. The Association is comprised of members from more than 150 countries around the world.

As an independent, international, non-governmental, not-for-profit organization, IFLA aims are to:

1. Promote high standards of provision and delivery of library and information services
2. Encourage widespread understanding of the value of good library & information services
3. Represent the interests of our members throughout the world.

(www.ifla.org/about/more)

IALL'S MISSION

- Promote the work of individuals, libraries, and other organizations concerned with the dissemination of legal information;
- Advance the education of law librarians, lawyers and other legal information professionals;
- Support educational and professional opportunities;
- Share legal knowledge and scholarship and increase access to legal information;
- Foster networking and mentoring among legal information professionals;
- Support and encourage the development of national and international legal information policies and promote free access to legal information through policy statements and scholarship. (<http://iall.org/about-iall-2/mission->)

ABOUT IALL

The International Association of Law Libraries (IALL) is a worldwide, cooperative non-profit organization of librarians, libraries, and other persons and institutions concerned with the acquisition, dissemination and use of legal information from sources other than their own



jurisdictions. Founded in 1959, the IALL has over 400 members in more than 50 countries on five continents. The members represent all types and sizes of legal collections ranging from academic law libraries to corporate libraries, and from national and parliamentary libraries to administrative agency and court libraries.

In keeping with its [Mission](#), IALL promotes the law library profession and access to legal information. IALL publishes the [International Journal of Legal Information](#) and offers [Annual Courses on International Law Librarianship](#). IALL provides an international forum for networking and information sharing among legal information professionals worldwide and supports professional development by awarding [scholarships](#) for annual course attendance and grants for [internships](#).

(<http://iall.org/>)

ABOUT THE OPEN ACCESS TO LEGAL KNOWLEDGE WORKSHOP

Open Access to Legal Knowledge was held in Kampala, Uganda on December 6 & 7, 2016 for law librarians in Anglophone Africa. More than 30 participants came from the following countries (excluding organizers): Uganda, Ghana, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, and South Africa. The workshop was organized by the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Law Libraries Section, in cooperation with the International Association of Law Libraries (IALL).

We would like to thank those who supported this workshop, and without whose assistance the workshop would not have been possible:

Conference Sponsors



International Federation of
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Organizing Committee

- Heather Casey (Georgetown University, USA)
- Mark Engsborg (Emory University, USA / Board member (ex-officio), IALL)
- Joseph Hinger (St. John's University, USA)
- Caroline Ilako (Makerere University, Uganda / Member, IFLA Law Libraries Section)
- Sonia Poulin (Alberta Law Libraries, Canada / Chair, IFLA Law Libraries Section)
- Bård Tusetth (University of Oslo, Norway / 2016 Corresponding Member, IFLA Law Libraries Section)

VENUE

The Organizing Committee would like to acknowledge Makerere University Library for their hospitality. The workshop was to be held at the University Library, however, following weeks of student protests and a strike by lecturers, Makerere University was closed on November 1st by Uganda's president Yoweri Museveni. The Organizing Committee monitored the situation closely, hoping the University would re-open in time for our workshop. Two weeks prior to the workshop, a decision was made to move the workshop venue to a nearby hotel.



(Left: our host, Caroline Ilako, Makerere University and Member of IFLA Law Libraries Section)

GOALS OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop aimed to increase awareness of the value of legal information in societies and the importance of law libraries in African countries, and to promote communication, collaboration, fundraising and library advocacy practice in this region, thus increasing regional capacity and leadership.

A. The intended outcomes and impact of the workshop were the following:

1. Access legal information on the regional basis through databases, repositories, digital publications, etc.
2. Support and encourage the development of national and regional legal information policies and intellectual freedom.
3. Support and promote educational and professional opportunities for legal information professionals.
4. Promote interests of law libraries, legal collections, information services and users.

B. The intended output:

1. The development of a training package that can be customized, including materials and activities, to meet the needs of various law librarian communities.

The programme sought to empower participants to utilize the potential of open access legal sources in legal research. The workshop offered a method to build a network of law librarians across Africa in order to share knowledge and assist each other in solving practical legal research questions. In addition, it provided an overview of open access legal sources worldwide, the practical skills required to benefit from them, and an opportunity to establish contact with colleagues from different countries.

PROGRAMME

Organizers spoke from 15 minutes to 45 minutes on various topics (Open Access, Collection Development, African Legal Materials, Legal Research Skills, Public Legal Education and Information and International Professional Networking) with Q&A sessions afterwards. One essential component of the workshop was for every participant to give a presentation. Every participant was expected to have prepared a 5 minute presentation on a chosen topic related to law or law librarianship. In addition to this, each participant was asked to answer questions on their field of expertise and otherwise contribute actively and constructively to all discussions during the workshop. Every participant were provided with an opportunity to present at the workshop. It encouraged them to plan for the event and guaranteed active participation. In addition, each participant shared information on the legal research environment in their jurisdiction, which allowed for other participants to learn more about jurisdictions outside their own. It also assisted with networking, as each presentation allowed participants to better acquaint themselves with one another. Getting up in front of their peers gave each participant a chance to exercise skills in public speaking that they may not have otherwise used. The schedule below indicates in what order participants presented, what topics they presented on, and other activities conducted in the workshop.





The Organizing Committee with Rachel Nakalembe (Makerere University) receiving her certificate of participation.

Tuesday December 6th, 2016

- 08:00 - 09:00 Registration of participants
- 09:00 - 09:15 Welcome to participants by local host, **Caroline Ilako**
- 09:15 - 09:20 Formal opening by IFLA Law Libraries Section Chair, **Sonia Poulin**
- 09:20 - 09:30 Greeting from International Association of Law Libraries (IALL), **Professor Mark Engsborg**
- 09:30 - 09:45 Introduction of participants (very short)
- 09:45 - 10:35 "Open Access and free legal sources in an international perspective", **Prof. Mark Engsborg**
- 10:35 - 10:50 Coffee / tea break

- 10:50 – 10:55 "Availability of free legal sources in Uganda", **Elizabeth Alikoba**
- 10:55 – 11:00 "Free legal sources in Kenya", **Everlyn Anduvare**
- 11:00 – 11:05 "Free legal sources in Côte d'Ivoire", **Adama Kone**
- 11:05 – 11:10 *Short Break*
- 11:10 – 11:15 "Free legal sources in South Africa", **Rosemary Kuhn**
- 11:15 – 11:20 "Access to free legal information in Uganda, a case for ULII", **Jane Mugala**
- 11:20 – 11:25 "Free legal sources in Zimbabwe", **Darlington Musemburi**
- 11:25 – 11:30 "Open access information availability in the legal fraternity", **Alice Okongo**
- 11:30 – 11:35 *Short Break*
- 11:35 – 11:40 "Free legal sources to Parliament of Uganda", **Innocent Rugambwa**
- 11:40 – 11:45 "Survey availability of free legal sources in Uganda", **Joseph Semugabi**
- 11:45 – 11:50 "Free legal sources in Uganda", **Alexander Leo Ssajjabi**
- 11:50 – 11:55 "Free sources available for common law materials in Uganda", **Ronard Akampamaani**
- 11:55 – 12:00 Announcements, **Caroline Ilako**
- 12:00 – 13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:00 – 13:15 Introduction: Collection development with limited resources, **Caroline Ilako**
- 13:15 – 14:15 Group discussion: Collection development
- 14:15 – 14:30 Summary of discussions
- 14:30 – 14:35 "Subscribed legal databases in Uganda", **Thecla Atukwase**
- 14:35 – 14:40 "Commercial legal databases in Ghana: Content, coverage, prices", **Bright Avuglah**
- 14:40 – 14:45 "Commercial legal databases – South Africa", **Kadephi Majola**
- 14:45 – 15:00 Q&A Session
- 15:00 – 15:15 Coffee / tea break
- 15:15 – 15:30 "Providing access to African legal materials: ideas and discussion", **Joseph Hinger**
- 15:30 – 15:35 *Short Break*
- 15:35 – 15:40 "Legal publishers in Uganda", **Ngobi Lwenkyo**

- 15:40 - 15:45 "Legal publishers in Zimbabwe", **Zodi Pisira**
- 15:45 - 15:50 "The most important legal publishers in Uganda", **Ezra Okot**
- 15:50 - 15:55 "The use of international law sources in the Courts of Uganda", **Joseph Arube**
- 15:55 - 16:00 *Short Break*
- 16:00 - 16:05 "Emerging technologies for law librarians", **Ayodele John Alonge**
- 16:05 - 16:10 "Factors hindering effective usage and access of electronic law resources in Tanzanian Universities", **Dennis Kakande**
- 16:10 - 16:15 "Legal publishers in Uganda", **Prossy Nassanga**
- 16:15 - 16:25 Q&A Session
- 16:25 - 16:30 Announcements, **Caroline Ilako**
- 18:00 Buffet dinner – Grand Global Hotel



Wednesday December 7th, 2016

- 09:00 - 09:45 "Legal research skills and professional development for law librarians", **Heather Casey**
- 09:45 - 10:00 Coffee / tea break
- 10:00 - 10:15 Introduction: "Public access to legal information", **Sonia Poulin**
- 10:15 - 11:15 Group discussion: Public access to legal information
- 11:15 - 11:30 Summary of discussions
- 11:30 - 11:35 "Access to the Lexis-Nexis database through the WHO initiative (HINARI) to faculty and students at the Gulu University Faculty of Law - challenges", **Manana Herbert**
- 11:35 - 11:40 "The need for incorporation of a law librarianship speciality on the Msc.(Inf.Sc) program, Makerere University", **Rachel Nakalembe**
- 11:40 - 11:45 "Management of legal information resources at Parliament of Uganda library", **Park Tinyefuza**
- 11:45 - 12:00 Q&A Session
- 12:00 - 13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:00 - 13:15 Introduction: "International professional networking", **Bård Tuseth**
- 13:15 - 14:15 Group discussion: Collaboration and joint projects
- 14:15 - 14:30 Summary of discussions
- 14:30 - 14:45 Coffee / tea break
- 14:45 - 15:45 Group discussion: "Planning and moving forward", **Sonia Poulin**
- 15:45 - 16:30 Closing of the workshop and awarding certificates by IFLA Law Libraries Section Chair, **Sonia Poulin**

Group Discussions

During the three breakout sessions, participants were gathered into small groups to foster discussion. Organizers joined in at each group table to act as facilitators for the small group discussions. After 45 minutes to an hour of discussion, the entire workshop group would come together and people from each group would relay their group's findings. Groups were selected to make sure that each participant would meet with different participants for the breakout sessions. Participants took turns being speakers and note-takers for their groups so that the same people were not always presenting findings or taking notes. Organizers, while free to take their own notes, abstained from being note takers or presenters for the breakout sessions. The role of the organizer at each table was rather to ensure the small group stayed on



topic and to prompt discussion if need be. The following themes were discussed by each group: Open Access, Collection Development, Cataloguing and Acquisition, Legal Research, Public Legal Education and Information, Professional Development and Networking. Each group was given general questions to work with and most groups followed the outline of the questions but some group discussions took different paths. Each group had something unique to contribute to the larger workshop discussion. A leader was assigned for each topic and will follow up on the set recommendations provided by each group.

Long Term Goals

The organizers recommend that participants contribute to a network for African Law Librarians that has been established since this workshop and engage in virtual and practical collaboration with international colleagues in the future. The network consists of several facets:

1. an email group hosted through Google Groups (african-law-librarians-group@googlegroups.com)
2. a website hosted through Google Sites (<https://sites.google.com/view/africanlawlibrarians/home>), where slide and paper presentations from the workshop have been uploaded
3. a WhatsApp group for commentary and discussion amongst participants on topics tangentially related to librarianship

So far the email chain and WhatsApp groups have been very vibrant. Participants continue to reach out to one another to discuss resources and let one another know what is happening in their jurisdictions. The website has been good for exchanging slides from the workshop and members have discussed what they would like to further do with the website. In addition to those who attended the workshop, we added anyone who had applied to attend the workshop to the email chain and website. This has allowed for a broader group to benefit from the work done within the workshop.

In order to assist law librarians in delivering a similar workshop in their regions, the Organizing Committee will develop an information package that can be customized, including materials and activities. The information package will be available on the IFLA Law Libraries Section's website by end of April 2017.



WORKSHOP EVALUATION

Participants have indicated a high level of satisfaction of the overall workshop. Comments and suggestions received will help us improve the delivery of the next workshop planned for May 2017 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire for the francophone African law library community.