Management of Library Association Section (MLAS)
21th Standing Committee meeting I on 16 August 2014

Minutes

Time: Saturday, 16 August 2014, 12:40 - 15:00 hrs
Venue: France, Lyon Congress Centre, Room: Salle Rhône 1

Participants:
MLAS members:
Gerald Leitner (chair), Barbara Schleihagen (minutes), Margareta Taldriz Mas, Silvia Stasselova, Marian Koren, Jacques Hellemans, Jukka Relander, Michael Dowling, Vania Grashkina-Mincheva, Sabine Stummeyer, Kelly Moore, Miura Taro, Janice Lachance, Maria Cotera

Guests:

IFLA HQ:
Sinikka Sipälä (President), Donna Scheeder (President-Elect), Jennefer Nicholson (Secretary General), Stuart Hamilton (Director, Policy and Advocacy) Ellen Broad (Manager, Digital Projects and Policy), Fiona Bradley (Manager, Member Services and Development)

1. Welcome and Opening
Gerald Leitner, MLAS chair, welcomes all MLAS SC members and all guests including IFLA HQ staff. He especially welcomes the president Sinikka Sipälä and the former president Claudia Lux.

2. Apologies for absence
Barbara Schleihagen, MLAS secretary, has not received any apologies for absence from any SC member.

3. Approval of the agenda
The agenda is approved. Some flexibility will be given for the order of agenda items due to the availability of president and HQ staff. The agenda items are listed here in the order of the agenda.
4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting on 14 March 2014 in Sevilla
The minutes are approved without changes. Barbara will send the minutes for uploading on the website to Michael.

5. IFLA 2014 Lyon conference
Around 30 participants from various associations across the world attended the workshop. The atmosphere was excellent. Participants were very pleased with the results. The results from the anonymous evaluation forms are very positive. MLAS should continue to offer learning opportunities like that. Gerald Leitner thanks Barbara Schleihagen, Marian Koren, Michael Dowling and Fiona Bradley for organising the satellite conference with applause from all SC meeting participants. Michael will put up all the information and all written presentations on the MLAS website.

Many countries have taken this issue up already and have organized national events. However, this activity has to continue. It is important to discuss the trends further.

Other important dates during the conference:
- The association meeting will take place on Tuesday, 16.00-18.00 hrs.
- The ALP meeting will be held from 13.45-15.45 hrs on the topics post development goals and BSLA.
- On Thursday, 13.45-15.45 hrs there will be the leaders session.
- The second Standing Committee meeting will take place on Thursday, 8.00-9.30 hrs.
- The President-elect meeting will be held on Thursday, 8.30-11.00 on the trend report.

Barbara gives a brief update on the IFLA officers meeting that took place in the morning.

6. President’s Programme (Sinikka Sipäla)
Sinikka thanks all SC members for their active support and the invitations that she has received during the past year and for the coming year.
On Monday, 9.30 hrs, the president’s session will be held. The topics will be the launch of the Lyon declaration, followed by a session on e-participation and on how libraries can encourage active citizen participation.
1. IFLA advocacy (WIPO, UN post 2015 programme, E-Books) (Stuart Hamilton)

Stuart, assisted by Ellen, gives an overview of IFLA’s advocacy activities during the last 12 months. He thanks MLAS members for helping with advocacy, particularly with the WIPO process, where members sent representatives to meetings or for signing letters e.g. to the European Commission. IFLA will again call for help within the coming 12 months.

Post development agenda

There is now a one year’s process of negotiations where the Lyon declaration sets the context and which will be finished with recommendations. “Access to information” is a fundamental pillar in development. This means many opportunities for libraries at the national level. At the national level this topic has to become more visible for policy makers. Therefore library associations should reach out to their national policy makers. Within the next weeks, a toolkit with sample letters and talking points, feedback mechanisms will be developed, so that all delegates are well aware, fully briefed and well informed. The Lyon Declaration has currently 130 signatures, of which 40% are non library NGOs. MLAS representatives have all signed already. At the IFLA booth signatures on behalf of institutions are now possible.

IFLA has worked more than 12 months to have “access to information” included in the draft documentation. To keep his in, all national associations have to become very active and follow this up now nationally: MLAS members should identify the most important development organisations, get them to sign and inform IFLA HQ (ideally 2-3 organisations in each country). Signatures should be collected as soon as possible. On the website, there is already information on why the Lyon declaration should be signed. Because libraries must be right from the beginning part of the development activities in the next 15 years to make sure they are recognized with their services.

The next milestone is expected during the Sept/Oct meeting and a synthesized document is expected in November. Due to the advocacy work by IFLA, there is already some important language in the document.

The website that will be launched on Monday will give more information on the target audience, and who is already involved, however, the important ones are currently the organisations in areas such as:

- transparency, good governance, accountability, development (e.g. index on censorship, OXFAM)
- development through ICT (computers and education)
- health community development (e.g. for the spread of information on EBOLA, as there is a lot of misinformation which leads to the further spread of the disease)
- organisations for women and girls
- environmental organisations
- disaster release organisations
- not yet commercial companies, but here are maybe some more opportunities
- author organisations could be involved
• journalists have signed up already
• publishers.

Further information will also be included in toolkit. Sustainable cities are another possibility, local council, or local council management group. Transparency is a sensitive issue. Access to information is also very controversial in some countries. The target number of signatures: 200 after the Lyon conference, 400-500 by Christmas. Stuart can be contacted for further questions. More information on: www.lyondeclaration.com

Copyright
As Ellen will move to a new job in London next week, all copyright questions have to be cleared with Stuart. Ellen thanks the library associations for their cooperation in WIPO process. Why does IFLA lobby at WIPO?
• 25% of countries have no copyright exceptions
• In the digital environment, exceptions no longer apply, instead there are licenses
• Services are not contained in copyright framework, e.g. digitising of the collection, e-lending, text and data mining.

IFLA has received a lot of attention for its request for exceptions and limitations. Some library associations were represented in the back of the room at WIPO. If more people could participate in the meetings (it is free to register and attend) and raise the library flag, this would help.
The last round of meeting collapsed, the EU decided to put in a stop to rewind the process to the beginning. This is very frustrating for library representatives. EU repeats that there is nothing wrong with the copyright framework and licensing is the solution. But it becomes more and more difficult for them to say that. We have to keep the pressure up. In September the work plan will be decided in the WIPO General Assembly. There is support from many countries in Latin America and some African and Asia countries. The French umbrella library association will publish its own statement on copyright (during the exhibition opening). The next meeting is on 8-13 December this year (2-3 days). If library associations are interested in participating, they should contact Stuart.
Marian suggests, in order to monitor what is being done, that short presentations are made to colleagues in the library associations. This regarded as a good idea will be taken up.
Maria confirms that for European associations it is easy and not that expensive to attend the WIPO meetings. Alicia repeats what she already said in the MLAS/BSLA workshop that even if IFLA only worked in WIPO it would be a very good reason to be a IFLA member. Barbara asks about a specific message to be given to the new German copyright representative, Ellen advises to keep explaining the challenges for libraries. Gloria states that Ellen’s presentation is very good for the national level as well and asks if it could be shared with us. Ellen will send it to Michael and he will share this with the list.
E-Lending:
The Governing Board has re-constituted the e-lending working group under the chairmanship of Paul Whitney. Two weeks ago IFLA published a totally revised e-lending background paper with a thorough update on development since 2012 (e.g. streaming and what it means for libraries). It has a different structure and is regarded as a great document which everybody should read: http://www.ifla.org/publications/node/8852?og=7351

The change of the media market influences also our future. Therefore it is one of the core activities for all library associations to become active in this area. EBLIDA has a booth here in Lyon (A 113) with information on the European campaign.

8. Report on IFLA Governing Board meetings (Gerald Leitner, Jennefer Nicholson)
Jennefer Nicholson attends the meeting at 13.20 hrs. She welcomes all participants to Lyon. She is pleased with the conference: the programme is excellent and the quality of papers is very good.
She reports on the Governing Board (GB): The strategic planning process has started and continues until Cape Town next August. It will cover 5-6 years and should overlap with GB terms to ensure that the GB has time to understand what is done at IFLA high level. Key Initiatives (KI) provide for flexibility in the longer term strategic plan, and will also overlap with GB terms. KI respond to shorter and medium term needs for response and activity. The leaders programme finishes in August, it has 12 participants. It provided them with a better understanding of IFLA’s work, they will now represent IFLA in their areas of professional interest. During this week they will attend various sessions and will then present GB with ideas what should be taken up in the in strategic plan.

The Internet manifesto will be revised.

Jennefer attended recently the Global libraries strategic advisory meeting. This programme will be closed within the coming 5-6 years. The common ground of interest is the post development framework. Especially US participants agreed that they should be more active internationally. They realized that the goals are for all UN members not only for developing countries, e.g. with regard to information literacy. IFLA sets up a working group on the post development work. More work will be done together with other NGOs, maybe with resources from other institutions so that libraries can demonstrate their value and how they contribute to achieving the development goals. Also international library associations are partners to work with.

President-elect Donna Scheeder informs about the development of her theme. The trend report is about change and will give us opportunities. In that regards, the report gives opportunity to create an action agenda at all levels: IFLA, national, institutions, profession). To bring this conversation on the next level, there will be a president-elect session with enlightening talks to lead into her possible theme: “libraries are called to
action”. A report will be given later, she hopes to use the advocacy programme for further development. Donna invites all to come and join the conversation. This feeds into the post development agenda as well. It is important to strengthen libraries to align them with the goals of the UN. The members of MLAS will only be able to attend after the end of next MLAS SC meeting.

9. BSLA Programme Update (Fiona Bradley)
Fiona Bradley thanks for the successful cooperation on the BSLA/MLAS programme and suggests to continue talking already now about a follow-up in Cape Town.

A number of workshops have been taking place in the BSLA countries. In the ALP meeting this morning, a lot of projects have been approved. She looks forward to receiving more proposals in the coming months. So far, the programme has totally reached 60 countries already. Participants are encouraged to contact Fiona if they have ideas how to reach especially library associations in the Middle East. The BSLA programme is not only for development countries, more opportunities in Europe.

10. MLAS Communication
This topic will be discussed on 21 August.

11. Trend report (report by library associations and MLAS activities)
Ellen Broad reports about workshops in every region of the world. They show how libraries in their region are responding to the chances. The trend report is a foundation for their strategic planning and discussion. The President-elect session on Thursday, 8.30-10.00 hrs will include presentations how the trends were taken up in various countries. There will be a discussion whether the trends are overtaken by new trends and how IFLA’s KI reflect these trends in its strategic planning.

Gerald stresses that it is important to inform IFLA about actions taken in different countries. He held his annual conference around the five topics: there were first presentations and then workshops. It was the best ever attendance (600 librarians), as the trends were broken down to the reality in his country. Now there is a blog available with the results of conference and a Youtube video for IFLA website. Barbara reports on the trend report session at the Bremen library conference. Hans-Ulrich likes the postcards on the trend report and distributed them to his Governing Board. Sinikka will present the trend report at the coming September conference, especially on the topics e-lending and copyright. Silvia reports that Sinikka is invited to Slovakia to present the trend report. Gerald reminds participants that in Singapore we discussed on our priorities: trend report, advocacy, e-lending.

12. MLAS membership Update
There are encouraging trends, the membership in Asia and Africa is growing and steady in Europe and the US. Participants are asked to assist with associations that
have not yet renewed their membership, some would like to have sponsorship from others. The Margret Windström Fund helps to support small developing associations. Fiona asks SC members to have a look at the list of those associations that have not paid to see whether they can help. This should be treated confidentially. Tatjana will attend the association meeting if there are questions.

13. Special Interest Groups Update:

a. New Professionals Special Interest Group (NPSIG) (Brigitte Hendrix)

NPSIG: Sebastian reports that his successor Molly had to step back from the co-convenor position, the new convenor is Bridgette Hendrix. All SC members agree with the change.
The third IFLA camp was again held in the form of an un-conference: 40 participants from all over the world attended. It was very successful with lively discussions. Topics were e.g. community outreach, music streaming, national open access platform and many more. ENSIBB supported this.
There was also a meeting in BOBCATSS with a virtual presentation on advocacy. It is now a priority to engage new librarians in advocacy. For more, please see the report by NPSIG. Upcoming events: NPSIG business meeting and 10th anniversary celebration. For the joint session, please see the report by NPSIG. NPSIG plans for environmental topics together with IFLA’s green group in Cape Town.

b. Women, Information and Libraries Special Interest Group (Beba Stankovic)

Beba reports on the WIL SIG. There will be one session and two meetings: Tuesday, the business meeting and on Tuesday morning the joint session with social science section (the SIG received many papers for that). In the afternoon there will be a round table discussion with presenters.
Next year, a pre-conference will be held in Cape Town, the partner is University of South Africa. The meeting will be part of the UN events. More updates will be given in second meeting. Maria is still the adviser for the SIG.

Gerald thanks all active representatives, and hopes that we will met on Thursday, 8.00 hrs.

For the minutes:

Gerald Leitner, chair
Barbara Schleihagen, secretary