IFLA MLAS Standing Committee Mid-Term Meeting

February 22 – 23, 2013
CILIP – Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals
London, United Kingdom

MLAS Standing Committee members present:
Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair, Silvia Stasselová/MLAS Secretary, Barbara Schleihagen/MLAS Treasurer, Kelly Moore/MLAS Information Coordinator, Michael Dowling/MLAS Web Editor, Janice R. Lachance, Hellen Niegaard, Marian Koren, Vanya Graschkina, Margarita Taladriz, Georgios Glossiotis, Jacques Hellemons, Maria Cotera/ WILSIG

Guests / Observers:

Apologies of absence:
MLAS SC members: Régine Horinstein, Xiandong Yan, Taro Miura, Rosemary Gitachu, Jatindra Nath Satpathi, Marijana Mišetić, Sabine Stummeyer, Elena Tikhonova, Sebastian Wilke/NPSIG

Minutes

Welcome & opening by Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair

Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair addressed his welcome to all participants of MLAS Standing Committee Mid-Term Meeting and to all guests and observers. MLAS Chair expressed his gratitude to CILIP UK for hosting MLAS meeting and asked John Dolan, Chair of CILIP Council for his official welcome.
John Dolan, Chair of CILIP Council highlighted the importance of international relations for Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals and he expressed his pleasure to meet colleagues from a large number of different countries at the premises of CILIP UK in London.

Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair asked everybody to introduce and briefly inform which library association or institution each one represents. All participants and observers introduced themselves: Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair, Silvia Stasselová/MLAS Secretary, Barbara Schleihagen/MLAS Treasurer, Kelly Moore/MLAS Information Coordinator, Michael Dowling/MLAS Web Editor, Janice R. Lachance, Helen Niegaard, Marian Koren, Vanya Graschkina, Margarita Taladri, Georgios Glossiotis, Jacques Hellemand, Maria Coteria/ WILSIG, Fiona Bradley/IFLA HQ, Stuart Hamilton/IFLA Senior Policy Advisor, Gloria Perez-Salmerón/EBLIDA, Niclas Lindberg/Swedish Library Association, Barbara Stratton/IFLA CLM, John Dolan/CILIP UK, Guy Daines/CILIP UK, Jukka Relander/Finish Library Association, Dina Youssef/Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Victoria Okoje/IFLA Africa Section and Maisela Eddy Maepa/University of South Africa.

Approval of the agenda

Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair asked for any suggestions to MLAS SC Mid-Term Meeting agenda in London. Helen Niegaard asked to include information on MLAS database project to the agenda item “Any other business”. Janice R. Lachance suggests the report on MLAS list serv to be included to the agenda item “Communication”. Victoria Okoje asked for a possibility to report on the African Library and Information Association (AFLIA) during the agenda item “Any other business”. Agenda of MLAS SC meeting was approved by all MLAS SC members including these additions to the agenda.
Apologies of absence

Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair asked Silvia Stasselova/MLAS Secretary to inform on apologies of absence from MLAS SC members received as follows: Régine Horinstein/Corporation des Bibliothécaires Professionnels du Québec, Xiandong Yan/Library Society of China, Taro Miura/Japan Library Association, Rosemary Gitachu/Kenya Library Association, Jatindra Nath Satpathi/Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres, Marija Mišetić/Croatian Library Association, Sabine Stummeyer/BIB Germany, Elena Tikhonova/Russian Library Association and Sebastian Wilke/NPSIG.

MLAS Chair informed MLAS SC members and observers that Jenniefer Nicholson, IFLA Secretary General will join the meeting later after her visit at the British Library in London.

Approval of the minutes from MLAS SC meeting in Helsinki, Finland

Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair asked for any corrections or additions to minutes from MLAS SC Meeting in Helsinki, Finland written by Silvia Stasselova/MLAS Secretary.

Maria Cotera asked to remove the whole sentence from the page 8 of the minutes: “The guest panelist was IFLA President-elect Sinikka Sipilä for a question and answers session on the role of library and information professionals inspiring and empowering women through access to information” as Sinikka Sipilä didn’t attend WILSIG Satellite Meeting in Tampere, Finland.

Minutes from MLAS SC Meeting in Helsinki, Finland were approved after this correction.

Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair expressed his thanks to Silvia Stasselova/MLAS Secretary for the detailed minutes, which are very useful mainly for those members not present at the meeting. He recommended to have also a short list of actions from each MLAS SC meeting and asked Barbara Schleihagen to prepare the list from the meeting in London and distribute it within coming two weeks.

Report from MLAS SC Meeting in Helsinki

The detailed report from MLAS SC Meeting was written at the minutes so it wasn’t necessary to inform MLAS SC members and observers at the meeting in London again. MLAS Chair asked for any comments regarding the Helsinki meeting, but there were not any.

E-books in Libraries: A Global Question or Survival?

Report from the MLAS & CILIP UK Workshop “E-books in Libraries: A Global Question or Survival?” wasn’t needed as all MLAS members and observers participated at the one-day workshop held on 21st February 2013.

MLAS Chair highlighted the importance of IFLA paper on Principles for Library eLending, which is crucial for library associations and the MLAS Section should play an important role in supporting IFLA’s general strategy. Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair and Stuart Hamilton/IFLA Senior Policy Advisor will attend the panel discussion at UNESCO in Paris the next week to discuss this strategic document.

MLAS will organise the programme on e-Lending during IFLA WLIC 2013 in Singapore: the morning programme in cooperation with CLM (IFLA Copyright and other Legal Matters) on legal matters and advocacy questions, the afternoon programme in cooperation with metropolitan and public libraries on examples from libraries.
Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair asked Stuart Hamilton/IFLA Senior Policy Advisor to give MLAS SC members and observers some comments on IFLA Principles for Library eLending and how Management of Library Associations Section could be more useful.

Stuart Hamilton/IFLA Senior Policy Advisor

Stuart reported on expert meeting held at the end of November 2012, then the IFLA Governing Board (GB) discussed the paper. The Principles are just one of many other activities, there was created also the specialised website and platform with FAQ and examples. The GB mandated to move forward with the Principles and to attempt to take the issue as far as possible. During the MLAS & CILIP UK Workshop held on 21st February 2013 in London it was the first time when the principles were presented to the public. Due to the importance of the topic just one and half an hour for presentation and discussion during the workshop was not enough.

The IFLA Principles for eLending is based on the assumption that it is necessary for libraries and publishers/authors to negotiate a range of reasonable terms and conditions for the licensing of eBooks to libraries which allows them to fulfil their mission of guaranteeing access to knowledge and information for their communities. The presented document during MLAS & CILIP UK Workshop is the first officially endorsed version before the next revision by IFLA GB in April 2013 for IFLA WLIC in Singapore.

There is expected translation to IFLA official languages first, but the Principles are welcome to be translated into as many various languages as possible. Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair emphasized that it is necessary to ensure that translation to other languages is done correctly as it can be very difficult to translate the terminology of legal matters correctly.

Maria Cotera recommends to publish templates on eBooks models of licences or other useful materials at IFLA website. Michael Dowling offered to send some useful ALA materials which might help.

Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair asked MLAS SC members and observers the following three questions related to IFLA Principles for Library eLending:

1. How are they intending to use the IFLA Principle Paper?
2. What do you need additional for it?
3. What role should play MLAS in this process?

MLAS SC members and observers discussed these questions, mainly: Barbara Schleihagen, Dina Youssef, Michael Dowling, Hellen Negaard, Guy Daines, Jukka Relander, Marian Koren, Niclas Lindberg, Kelly Moore, Janice Lachance, Margarita Taladriz, Jacques Hellemans, Victoria Okojie, Georgios Giossios, Barbara Stratton and Stuart Hamilton.

Stuart Hamilton explained that the Principles document was the response to calls from IFLA members to have an IFLA Position on E-books. There are many different negotiation experiences in various countries with publishers and politicians. The EBLIDA Principles should be included to the discussions in European countries in addition to the IFLA Principles. On the national level it shows that no one library association acts alone. It was requested that it would be useful to have Guidelines for the correct interpretation of the Principles, e.g. how to negotiate aggressively. MLAS Chair repeated his own words from the workshop opening on how many library associations don’t have any eBook strategy at all, so any IFLA’s actions don’t come late. Gerald Leitner/MLAS Chair summarized that the IFLA Principles will probably not be adopted by all national library associations, but on the other hand the most of library associations will work with the document, using it as reference document and will process their own documents. The Principles document is a compromise as the situation is different all over the world. National library associations have to work with the IFLA document and give it their national context. EBLIDA Principles are more focussed on the European context, IFLA Principles for Library eLending are more general.