NATIONAL LIBRARIES SECTION STANDING COMMITTEE
78th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, Helsinki, Finland

Standing Committee Meeting 2, Thursday 16 August 2012, 9.45–11.15
(Helsinki, Conference and Exhibition Centre, Room 206)

Minutes

Members present (includes outgoing, continuing and new members):

Melita Ambrožič, Slovenia (2009–2013)
Gerald Grunberg, France (2009–2013)
Hans Jansen, Netherlands
Patrice Landry, Switzerland
Irina Lynden, Russia (2009–2013)
Tomasz Makowski, Poland (2011–2015)
Elizabeth Niggemann, Germany
Lek Choh Ngian, Singapore (2011–2015)
Ismet Ovchina, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Martin Wade, Scotland (2011–2015)

Observers present:

Genevieve Clavel-Merrin, Switzerland
John Tsebe, South Africa
Klaudua Lux, Qatar
Guy Berthaume, Canada
Maria Inez Cordeiro, Portugal
Douwe Drijfhout, South Africa
Rosa Maria Galvao, Portugal
Liis Savolinen, Finland
Steen Bill Larsen, Denmark
Jaesun Lee, Korea
Kate Hyun Lee, Korea
Shim Jangsup, Korea
Sung-Chul Park, Korea
Bill Macnaught, New Zealand
Item 1 Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting.

Item 2 Adoption of the Agenda

The Chair asked to add to the Agenda a brief presentation by Jeanne Drewes, Chair of the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section. The amended agenda was adopted.

Item 3 Collaboration Proposal from the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section (PCS)

Jeanne Drewes, Chair of the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section presented a project proposal of her Section to be worked on during two years. It aims at creating a web portal for the general public with educational materials on preservation of people’s personal archives of papers and photos. She pointed at the lack of such guidelines for general public. As a result, people have lost their valuable personal possessions and archives after natural and political disasters. For the proposed project the PCS would like to invite the Public Libraries Section and the National Libraries Section both to be partners in the project. PL Section already expressed its interest in participation in the project.

The Chair asked how the PCS was planning to reach the public with its materials.

Jeanne Drewes replied that it would be done through libraries and through a special website on the IFLA portal. To do so, we would invite collaboration from the NL Section and the PL Section.

The Chair asked what kind of support is expected from the NLS.

Jeanne Drewes answered that first of all, they would like to have the NL Section as a partner, second – to have a person assigned by the Section for the Project Committee. Finally, since project funding is available, the three sections can apply for funding together in this case. She mentioned that the NL Section is a very desirable partner since many national libraries have experience in teaching general
public methods of preservation. Two good examples would be the British Library and the National Diet Library in Japan.

The Chair asked Genevieve Clavel, as a member of the IFLA Board, if it would be possible for one section to be involved in two projects. He reminded the members about the project on NL Guidelines, which was discussed at the first meeting this year.

Genevieve Clavel replied positively. One section can be involved in its own project and be a partner in a project led by another IFLA section.

The Chair thanked Jeanne Drewes for her information and invitation to participate in the project. He suggested that after the Standing Committee discuss this proposal and reviewed a more detailed plan of it, an official answer will be sent to the PC Section.

Jeanne Drewes thanked the Chair and members for the opportunity to participate in the meeting.

The Chair invited the members to return to the Agenda.

**Item 4 Reports from the Special Interest Groups**

*National Libraries and Information Policies SIG*: Kate Hyun Kyoung Lee (Korea) delivered the NLIP SIG report. First of all, she mentioned that the IFLA session, prepared by the SIG, had high attendance - more than 200 people. It shows a strong interest in the topics, presentations and the entire issue of library and information policies. For the future the members of the SIG suggested focusing on case studies and sharing best practices of the national libraries. Special interest was paid to the experience of the BNF in developing a national library and information policy, the leadership of the Ministry of Education in Finland, and activities of the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Studies.

Another issue of the discussion was the national polices model framework, which was presented by the colleagues from NIDA (Network for Information & Digital Access, Korea).

The plan for the coming months is to select a topic and format of the next year’s session with regard to the suggestions given during the session in Helsinki. Kate Hyun Kyoung Lee mentioned that Evegeny Kuzmin, chair of IFAP UNESCO, who attended the program, expressed his interests in cooperation with NILP SIG on the session.

Lastly, Kate asked if the NL Section could provide travel money to the speakers from developing countries if they submit papers but would not be able to pay travel expenses. The Chair replied that the NL Section could not support speakers for the SIG.

Genevieve Clavel reminded that every year IFLA informs about travel grants. It would be useful to check on them next year.

The Chair congratulated the NLIP Special Interest Group with its successful work during the past year.

*National Organizations and International Relations SIG*. Kelly Moore, Canada, gave a brief report on the activities of the NOIR SIG and the business meeting which was held the previous day. Few activities had been undertaken by the SIG during the past year which is why a special program had not been scheduled in Helsinki. The SIG had compiled a list of people responsible for international activities in the NLs and library associations. The business meeting though had good attendance and a strong enthusiasm for keeping the SIG. Kelly has been trying to find a volunteer for the position of the Chair, but so far nobody had volunteered.
The Chair thanked Kelly Moore and said that he was pleased to hear about good attendance at the business meeting and the strong support for the SIG by the participants. He confirmed that the NL Section would like to see the SIG continuing its work. Next year in Singapore the final decision about sponsoring the SIG by the NLS will be made, based on its activities and leadership.

**Item 5  Report from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**

Steve Bergen was unable to attend the meeting, and Tara Caton replaced him. She informed the participants about the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Annual Award. It was established for institutions which provided free public access to computers and the Internet in a public setting. The awards were given for the past achievements and not based in the future plans. Grants of $1,000,000.00 are given to the institutions outside the U.S.A. In 2012 the Award was given to a project in the Dominican Republic.

Tara indicated that the application form for 2013 was available online of the Foundation’s website. She also brought the brochures which could be distributed by the members in their respected countries.

**Item 6  Review of the Program at the IFLA Congress in 2012**

The Chair thanked the speakers who presented at the NLS’s program on August 15. He said that each speaker added value to the topic – *Open Linked Data*. He also mentioned a very high evaluation of the program “from the corridor”, when one of the attendees said that for her it was the best session during the entire congress. He asked the participants if they had any comments.

Lek Choh Ngian and Patrice Landry stressed the importance of the topic and a high quality of all the presentations.

The Chair commented that we were lucky to receive many applications in return to the call for papers, so we had a good pool for selection. He also suggested adding PP slides to the Section’s website. The text has been available on the IFLA website, but presentations differ from it slightly, and had very good images.

After saying so, the Chair invited the members to move to the key ideas for the next year session.

**Item 7  Review of Proposed Program for the IFLA Congress in 2013**

The Chair reminded the audience that at the first SC meeting it was decided to make a program on e-legal deposit and collection development for national libraries with regard to e-materials.

Irina Lynden informed the members that upon the Chair’s request she delivered a brief report at the CDNL conference on August 14, 2012, where the theme was mentioned. She also presented a summary of the first meeting’s discussion on the theme which can be formulated in general as “Collecting for national libraries in the digital age”, which includes the following issues: access to e-materials, copyright and ethical issues, open developments and other technical matters, implications of e-collecting (resourcing, including crowdsourcing), selection vs. comprehensiveness, national vs. global, new retention policies. The issue of overlap should be also addressed since not only libraries are going to archive e- and Internet resources.
The Chair suggested that as the first step the keynote speaker should be found. He invited the members to share ideas on the program.

Ludmilla Tikhonova suggested to add issues of e-legal deposit and censorship in the internet, as well as freedom of expression.

Elizabeth Niggemann said that changes in the acquisition policies should be addressed. She pointed out at the overlap of this activity with other institutions, i.e. archives. Another issue is how to bring together collecting across domains: national and international. There also are different institutions which archive internet resources and this should be coordinated.

Vigdis Skarstein pointed out that the national libraries collected the cultural heritage, but not on a global scale. With the global content of the Internet, archiving of its resources should be looked at by national libraries.

The Chair suggested to invite experts from archives to the program.

Elizabeth Niggemann expressed her concern that there are many different types of archives, they are under different jurisdiction. This makes it difficult to deal with overlap. Funding to archives comes from different sources than funding to libraries. It is hard to speak just about archives since they are so different.

Monica Rizzo Soares Pinto suggested to include somebody from UNESCO’s Memory of the World as a partner of the program.

Lek Choh Ngian said that we should stress on the benefits for users in building e-collections and archiving of the Internet resources.

Bill Macnaught noted that for him the theme of the program should be focused on how e-materials and e-legal deposit changed our way of collecting materials for national libraries. The aspect of access to e-materials for users should be also included.

The Chair summarised that the program could include issues of e-legal deposit, purchasing of e-resources, archiving, access to e-resources with regard to privacy and copyright. He asked if the members would agree on that. He also requested a small group of volunteers to review the proposal and find a keynote speaker. We need three or four people.

**Item 9. Ideas for Projects for the National Library Section**

The Chair reminded about the preliminary decision to work on Guidelines for National Libraries instead of developing standards given the differences in traditions and government mandates for national libraries in various countries. In the guidelines the definition, role and main tasks of national libraries could be defined.

Hans Jensen asked how many libraries would be interested in this guidelines?
The Chair noted that the government in Scotland had always asked for the official definition of a national library, its mission and tasks. He thought that if we formulated those in the guidelines, it would be very helpful for many colleagues.

Genevieve Clavel mentioned that the application form for funding a project was a 2 page document, which was available on the IFLA Officers' Corner site.

Vigdis Skarstein suggested that we could collect different mission statements for the guidelines because it would be hard to make one suitable for all different libraries in the world.

Monica Rizzo Soares Pinto agreed that a comparative study of different mission statements would be helpful.

Andy Stevens noted that the British Library worked on a similar project to analyse mission statements of national libraries. He can share it with the working group.

Genevieve Clavel mentioned that the CDNL country reports would be a good source for the guidelines.

Andy Stevens and Hans Jensen volunteered to work on the draft and collect from the members mission statements and tasks as they were formulated in the respected national libraries. This work could be undertaken by the Section without requiring funding from IFLA.

The Chair asked the audience about the project proposal which was presented at the beginning of the meeting by Jeanne Drewes.

Monica Rizzo Soares Pinto commented that if the Section on Preservation was planning a handbook for general public, it should be a very good document.

The Chair suggested that the project belonged more to the Public Libraries section as it was aimed at the general public rather than professionals. He also mentioned that in the P&C Section the majority of members were from the national libraries so their participation was guaranteed anyway.

Andy Stevens commented that the British Library provided workshops for the general public on how to take care of personal papers.

Monica Rizzo Soares Pinto added that in Brazil there is the National Centre for Preservation which consults with and educates professionals in different methods of preservation, although they did not provide services for the public. She thought that the British Library’s experience was interesting. Perhaps, it would be also possible to reach the general public through the public libraries network.

The Chair summarised that it still looked like the best institutions to reach the public would be public libraries which in collaboration with the experts for preservation could teach people how to take care of personal papers.

Vigdis Skarstein stressed again that in the P&C Section there were already experts from the national libraries.
Anne-Marie Schwirtlich mentioned that in Australia all activities on preservation were delegated to a special Institute. It would be unlikely that the National Library of Australia would provide any courses or assistance to the public on preservation of the personal archives.

Gerald Grunberg on the contrary said that in France the BNF organized workshops for general public on preservation of the personal papers and photos. It gave the BNF good legacy, so he considered the proposal interesting for the NL Section.

Genevieve Clavel suggested that the SC asked Jeanne Drewes send a written proposal, so that the final decision could be made based on it and our interests.

The Chair replied that the proposal had been requested and that he would be happy to respond in writing.

Elizabeth Niggemann offered to speak with her employees who were members of the Section on Preservation and ask how they saw the involvement of the NL Section in the project.

The Chair asked if there were other ideas for the projects, and after there was none, he closed the discussion.

**Item 9  Meetings of the Standing Committee at the WLIC 2013**

The members agreed on holding two SC meetings next year.

**Item 10  AOB**

The Chair told the members that he proposed Melita Ambrožič to serve as the Information Officer and that Melita agreed to the proposal. Melita Ambrožič was unanimously elected as the IO for the next two years.

John Tsebe informed the audience about the Advocacy Pack on the E-Legal Deposit legislation which was prepared at the CDNL. He added that the Pack would be translated into all IFLA languages and downloaded to the CDNL website.