Minutes

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

Melita Ambrozic, Slovenia (2009-2013)
Jasmine Cameron, Australia (2009-2013)
Gerald Grunberg, France (2009-2013)
Winsome Hudson, Jamaica (2011-2015)
Irina Lynden, Russia (2009-2013)
Tomasz Makowski, Poland (2011-2015)
Deanna Marcum, United States (2009-2013)
Lek Choh Ngian, Singapore (2011-2015)
Monica Rizzo Soares Pinto, Spain (2011-2015)
Liudmila Tikhonova, Russia (2011-2015)
John Tsebe, South Africa (2007-2011)
Martyn Wade, Scotland (2011-2015)

Observers present:
Lynne Brindley, England
Genevieve Clavel-Merrin, Switzerland (member and Information Officer, 2007-2011)
Maria Inez Cordeiro, Portugal
Douwe Drijfhout, South Africa
Rosa Galvao, Portugal
Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, Finland (2007-2011)
Arwel Jones, Wales, U.K.
Elizabeth Jones, New Zealand
Steen Bille Larsen, Denmark
Item 1 Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting. He informed members and observers that a meeting of the IFLA and CDNL executive would take place immediately following this meeting at which issues of interest for the NLSC would be discussed. This would include discussion of the possible role for the NLSC and CDNL in contributing to the IFLA Professional Committee’s five new key initiatives. He also informed members about the changes in the agenda.

Item 2 Apologies

It was noted that several members of the Committee had to leave the meeting early. Apologies were noted from Elisabeth Niggemann, Hans Jansen and Colette O’Flaherty.

Item 3 Adoption of the Agenda

The Chair reminded the Committee that Item 12 of the 1st Meeting (Presentation on Project ARROW) had been moved to the current meeting, and Item 10 (Report on the International Seminar on National Bibliographies) had been presented in its place by Genevieve Clavel-Merrin at the 1st Meeting on August 13. The amended agenda was adopted.

Item 4 Report from the Chair on the Division 1 Leadership Forum, Sunday 14 August 2011

The Forum was held on August 14 in Exhibition Hall A from 8:30 to 10:00 am. The most important matters were: presentation of the IFLA Key Initiatives and an information sharing exercise. The Chair noted that discussion with other chairs on mutual activities and future conference sessions were very useful for planning purposes.

Item 5 Discussion of Future Format for SC meetings

The Chair shared with the participants concerns expressed by several members last year regarding the format of the SC meetings. The Secretary had put out several calls for suggestions, however only one response had been received and this didn’t suggest any changes to the current format. The Chair noted that while there are standard elements of business that SC meetings must contain, it is possible to extend the business of the meetings, for example, to have brief presentations on specific topics of interest to members. A decision is also required on whether to have one or two Standing Committee meetings during the IFLA Congress in Helsinki. Members made several suggestions: since every national
library sends its annual report to CDNL and its regional division, members are aware of major developments and therefore news reports from members are not necessary at SC meetings; in place of news reports a selection of focussed presentations on key topics of 3-4 minutes length would be useful; reports on and discussion of work on IFLA key initiatives would also be useful; observers could be invited to participate in discussions. The Chair noted that these suggestions would be adopted and that routine business would be kept to a minimum to allow time for focussed presentations and discussion.

Item 6 Discussion of Potential Projects

The Chair reminded members and observers that each year Sections are able to bid for funds from IFLA to support a project. Projects need to be related to IFLA’s professional priorities and must normally be able to be completed in a year. Projects can take any form including workshops, seminars, surveys and publications. The National Libraries Section recently managed a two year project that led to the creation of a Directory of National Libraries within Wikipedia. Currently the Section does not have any projects, and the Chair welcomed suggestions from members for any proposals for new projects. He also informed those present that the new projects should be related to the IFLA’s Five Key Initiatives in order to receive funds.

Patrice Landry suggested looking at joint projects with CDNL. John Tsebe reminded those present about the past joint project, ICADS, which was completed this year. He suggested that the Chair include the proposal on joint projects in his report to CDNL. Diana Marcum spoke about RDA and its international development, which might be supported by the SC. Other project themes were: freedom of access to information and legal deposit of electronic documents. The Chair noted that once members have more information about the IFLA key initiatives that a suitable project could be scoped.

Item 7 Discussion of Strategic Plan for 2011-2012

The Chair informed those present that in the next few months the Section will be required by IFLA Headquarters to update its Strategic plan for 2011-2012 according to the Five Key Initiatives that IFLA will develop in 2011-2012:

- A program advocating the role of libraries in providing digital access to content for their user communities;
- An IFLA development program for Leadership in International Librarianship;
- An outreach programme for advocacy and development of the profession;
- More structured participation in cultural heritage disaster reconstruction;
- Furthering the inclusion of multilingualism in the IFLA organization

The Section is required to outline concrete actions in support of these initiatives. The Section’s current plan includes collaboration with other sections and CDNL on the National Bibliographies International Seminar, and supporting the work of the Special Interest Group on National Organizations and International Relations. The Chair invited input from
members on any new actions to be added to the plan, or changes and amendments. The comments can be sent by email to the Chair and the Secretary.

Item 8 Report from the Chair of the CDNL

John Tsebe, Chair of CDNL, spoke about the importance of a strategic partnership between CDNL and the National Libraries Section. Martyn Wade had reported on the Section’s activities and there were also reports on major projects in which CDNL libraries have participated: testing RDA (Deanna Marcum, Library of Congress), ICADS (Caroline Braser, The British Library), FAIFE (Kai Ekholm, National Library of Finland). Lynne Brindley and Andy Stephens presented the results of the 2011 survey on the state of legal deposit on electronic documents in 55 national libraries. The presentation contained a comparative analysis of the results with the previous study provided in 2009. CDNL has asked member libraries to make translations of the results and recommendations into IFLA official languages. Deanna Marcum led presentations and discussion on the theme of Recovering from National Disasters: lessons learned by the National Libraries of New Zealand, Japan, Haiti and Chile. The panellists were: Bill Macnaught (New Zealand), Roberto Aguirre Bello (Chile), Françoise Thibulbe (Haiti), Mitsuaki Amino (Japan). Traditional after-lunch discussion groups worked on the following themes: Literacy, e-Legal Deposit, and Digitization.

Item 9 Presentation on the African National Libraries Database.

John Tsebe reported that the database is very important for improving access to African national libraries’ websites, and for developing collaboration between them. The creators are planning to establish links from the DB to similar online directories of the national libraries in Europe and other parts of the world.

John informed those present that next year in Helsinki the Ambassadors of the African countries were planning to greet their national librarians.

Item 10 Presentation of Project Arrow

The presentation was prepared by Bibliotheque National de France, and delivered by Elisabeth Freyre on behalf of Françoise Bourdon. ARROW stands for Accessible Registries of Rights Information and Orphan Works and is a three project that was commenced in 2008 and was completed in April this year. ARROW provides online access to rights information relating to text and image based digitisation projects. It is a result of a collaboration between European national libraries, publishers and writers and while ARROW needs more content it is already proving of great assistance to those seeking rights information for online works. An ARROW plus project is planned in order to extend the service to visual collections.

Item 11 Discussion of Conference Session Theme for Helsinki 2012

The Chair informed those present that the next IFLA conference theme would be “Libraries Now! Inspiring, Surprising, Empowering.” He invited the members to present their ideas regarding the theme of the NLS session in 2012. Kristina Hormia-Poutanen proposed a theme
around access to national libraries’ content, to develop new discovery services, and to promote open data. Martyn Wade suggested the theme of shared services between national and research libraries, i.e., sharing data and storage facilities. Genevieve Clavel-Merrin recommended a theme of national libraries working in developing economies with a specific focus on collaboration between national and public libraries. Kelly Moore mentioned that all proposed topics fit in with the interests of the SIG on National Organisations and International Relations.

Martyn Wade suggested that members of the SC send their comments by email for the final decision. Item 12 Other business

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At the end of the meeting the Chair handed certificates of appreciation to outgoing members, and especially thanked Jasmine Cameron, who worked for three years as Secretary of the SC and Genevieve Clavel-Merrin who served the same term as an Information Officer of the SC.