

Minutes of the 13th Business Meeting held at the Bibliothèque National de France, Paris, 22 August 2000

1. Introduction

Present: Hartmut Walravens (Chair: Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin); Edmund King (Secretary; British Library); Mary Jane Starr (National Library of Canada); Svend Larsen (State University Library, Denmark); Geoff Smith (British Library); Galina Kislovskaya (Library of Foreign Literature, Moscow); Lars Olsson (Royal Library, Sweden); Isabelle Rollet (Bibliothèque National de France); Henry Snyder (University of California, Riverside); Bob Harriman (Library of Congress); Beti Jones (National Library of Wales); Majlis Bremer- Laamanen (Helsinki University Library); Jonny Edvardsen (National Library of Norway); Marjorie Bloss (Centre for Research Studies; Chicago).

Observers: Meg Bellinger (OCLC-Preservation Resources; Maria Luisa Cabral (National Library, Portugal); Nadezha Ryzhak (Russian State Library).

2. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from: Geoffrey Hamilton (formerly British Library); Wilbert Ubbens (Staats-und Universitätsbibliothek, Bremen); Hans Bohrmann (Institut für Zeitungsforschung, Dortmund)

3. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved. (There was no Item 8)

4. Minutes of Meeting/Matters Arising

1. The minutes (RTN 2000\6) of the 12th Business Meeting in Moscow 16 May 2000 were approved.

2. Matters arising

2.1 IFLANET: No Comments had been received from members.

Action: Hartmut Walravens and Edmund King will update the RTN pages.

2.2 RTN papers presented at Copenhagen and Amsterdam Conferences: Edmund King had gathered these together and circulated these to members. It was agreed that members receive these papers also in hard copy with the RTN Newsletter.

Action: Edmund King and Beti Jones

2.3 Recent Developments on newspapers in Norway. An account of this to be provided.

Action Jonny Edvardsen

2.4 RTN Action Plan on IFLANET Edmund King had checked this: the Action plan is on the IFLA website

Action Plan: Goal 2 Action 1:

2.5 *Guidelines for the preservation microfilming of newspapers: French and Spanish translations.* The French translations will be undertaken in the Autumn of 2000.

Action: Else Delaunay

2.6 Action Plan, Goal 5 *Revision of the IFLA Guidelines on Cataloguing Newspapers.* It was agreed that this work needed to be co-ordinated with the revisions on serials cataloguing for AACR2. Members to supply details of their current rules on cataloguing.

Action: Edmund King

5. Initial Report on the IFLA Conference, Jerusalem 2000

Hatmut Walravens briefed the RTN Meeting

1. The RTN and Open Session had been combined. The speaker from the UK cancelled, as well as the speaker from the Palestine Post. The papers given would need to be mounted on the IFLANET and also publish the papers as part of the IFLA Professional Series.

Action: Edmund King

2. It would be useful to include information on digitisation developments in Israel as part of the next RTN Newsletter.

Action: Beti Jones

3. A new IFLA Group has been established: the Publishers' Relations Advisory Committee (PRAC). This is intended to be a Policy Group of publishers and of librarians meeting on a practical basis.

4. New IFLA Statutes: The proposed revision of these was accepted by ballot. The existing Executives and Project Boards are to be replaced by Governing Boards. Divisions of IFLA will be Advisory Groups to the Governing Boards. It was anticipated that more members from developing countries would be on the Governing Boards. The future of Round Tables was not clear in these changes. The situation would be kept under review by the RTN. It was agreed that an RTN Resolution on this matter would be drafted for approval at the Business Meeting in the Spring of 2000.

Action: Henry Snider and Edmund King

5. A paper by Mr Johnson the the Standard of IFLA Conference papers was discussed. The timeliness of Conference Papers and the need to improve their quality provoked discussion. It was agreed that Professional Boards would look at the quality of papers submitted for reading at IFLA Conferences. The position paper on this matter will be circulated to RTN members.

Action: Hartmut Walravens and Edmund King

6. IFLA Core Programmes: Funding for these has been secured for the next three years.

7. Division 8 Area Studies (Latin America, Asia, Russia). Dissolution of this Division was discussed, with no particular outcome.

6. Future IFLA Conference Programmes

a) Boston 2001

1. There will be a 50 US dollar discount on the Conference fee for IFLA Members and ALA Members.

2. The theme of RTN Open Session will be: *Newspapers of the Americas*. Speakers will be sought for papers on: 1) newspapers in Canada 2) Brazilian newspapers 3) newspapers in western America 4) other USA newspapers.
Action: Mary Jane Starr and Henry Snyder
3. Thursday 23 August 2001: there will be an excursion to the American Antiquarian Association from 9.00-1600
4. RTN Brochures
Edmund King and Else Delauney were thanked for preparing the English and French RTN brochures in time for this IFLA Symposium. Spanish and Portuguese translations will be prepared for the IFLA Conference, Boston 2001

b) Glasgow 2002

1. The Open Session theme will be: "Newspapers in the British Isles". Edmund King will be preparing a report for the next business meeting.
Action: Edmund King
2. The possibility of working with the P.A.C. on a workshop will be progressed. Members to send suggestions to Majlis Bremer-Laamanen about this, as P.A.C. is working on its programme for an October 2000 target.

8. New Projects

- a) *Guidelines for newspaper preservation microfilming. Supplement on best practice for microfilming preparation for possible future digitisation.* Majlis Bremer-Laamanen referred to uncertainty on the issuing of the *Guidelines...* as a defacto standard. It was agreed that a Project Proposal to prepare for submission to IFLA as part of RTN's 2001 expenditure.
Action: Majlis Bremer-Laamanen
- b) *Translation of guidelines for the presentation of microfilming of newspapers.* Dr Kutvauia to be approached to do this
Action: Edmund King
- c) Revision of the *IFLA Guidelines on Cataloguing Newspapers*. It was agreed that developments to the AACR serials cataloguing within ICON would need to be monitored.
- d) *Survey of newspaper Collection policies and procedures (RTN 200/7)* It was agreed that any final comments would be sent to Edmund King. He will then arrange for the Survey questionnaire to be mounted on IFLANET
Action: Edmund King

9. ICON (THE International Coalition on Newspapers) RTN 2000/8

The Project Overview was circulated to members for information. Marjorie Bloss explained in May 2000 ICON received an award from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In July 2000, John Dorr was appointed Project Director. A meeting is to be held in September 2000 to discuss a Union Listing of Newspapers, possibly via remote access; and to discuss preservation microfilming. Bob Harriman mentioned the possibility of pulling out newspaper records from OCLC files, widening access to these. This might be accomplished via an Internet Website, which provided links to these

records, and also to records in locally held library files. Henry Snyder offered the use of the STAR Software of the ESTC as a model for the development of the ICON newspaper file.

It was agreed to invite John Dorr to become a member of the RTN.

Action: Edmund King

10. RTN Financial Report

The meeting agreed the figures as presented. It was also agreed to revise them by the 1 October, to ensure that only funds received from IFLA HQ were in the substantive part of the Account.

Action: Harmut Walravens and Edmund King

11. The Next (14th) RTN Business Meeting

Bob Harriman invited RTN Members to the meeting of the US Newspaper Program, scheduled for the 26 and 27 April 2001. From the 30 April to the 4 May, Members were invited by Henry Snyder to daily meetings at a variety of institutions to learn more of newspaper collections and operations within libraries in California. The preliminary programme is attached to the end of these minutes. Members expressed their thanks to Bob Harriman and to Henry Snyder for their invitations, and the outline timetable was agreed to by all.

12. Any Other Business

1. Milton Wolf has retired recently. A letter of thanks to him for his services to be drafted.

Action: Edmund King

2. RTN Medium Term Plan: a revision of this is needed.

Action: Edmund King and Henry Snyder to prepare draft.

3. GEOPS Primer: work on the revision of *News Sources* is needed.

Action: Edmund King to set up an arrangement with Library of Congress.

4. New Members

The Meeting agreed that Maria Luisa Cobral and Meg Bellinger would become members of RTN. Letters of acceptance to be forwarded to IFLA HQ.

Action: Edmund King

5. Newspapers in Africa. A project proposal on increasing access to holdings of African Newspapers would be prepared for submission to IFLA for 2001 bids.

Action: Henry Snyder and Edmund King.

Draft

IFLA Round Table on Newspapers 14th Business Meeting, Washington d California UAS April/May 2001.

1. 26 & 27 April Attendance at meeting of US Newspaper Programme, Washington DC
2. 30 April. 14th RTN Business Meeting , Berkeley San Francisco
3. 1 May Visit Sacramento State Library /State Capitol
4. 2 May. visit Bancroft Collection California Newspaper Project, Berkeley Campus, University of California.
5. 3 May. Tours of Press Enterprise and Collection at Riverside. University of California
6. 4 May. visit Huntingdon Library and to Southern California Newspaper Society.