



## SECTION ON LIBRARY AND RESEARCH SERVICES FOR PARLIAMENTS

### 2017 Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

#### Standing Committee Meeting I 19 August 2017, 12.30, Wrocław, Poland

#### 1. Welcome and introduction

The Chair of the Section, Lillian Gassie, welcomed the Standing Committee members and observers to the meeting.

#### Roll call:

##### Standing Committee Members

Present: Lillian Gassie, Karin Finer, Ellie Valentine, Ida Barlangine Kelemen, Steve Wise, Chama Mpundy Mfula, Hiroyuki Okuyama, Paola Mandillo, Adolfo Furtado, Alfonso Perez, Dianne Heriot, Gert-Jan Lodder, Agata Karwowska-Sokolowska, Eduardo Goldstein, Cecilia Izquierdo, Iain Watt

Absent with apologies: Adama Kone, Hayian Lu, Innocent Rugambwa, Sonia L'Heureux

##### Corresponding Members

Present: Clara Bessa da Costa

Absent with apologies: Hannah Fischer, Julie Anderson

#### 2. Confirmation of the agenda

The agenda for the SC I meeting was read and adopted.

#### 3. Section and Standing Committee Membership

##### a. Section membership:

The Section has a stable number of members and an enlarging network of people attending events. There are currently around 100 members.

##### b. Standing Committee membership:

The Chair explained the procedure of electing new SC members, Officers (Chair, Secretary) and Information coordinator. Each SC member serves for a term of four years, renewable once. Every even year, a call is made to nominate new SC members the following year. If there are more nominees than seats available (in total maximum 20 seats) election takes place. As the number of outgoing members matched the nominations, there was no need to hold an election for the IFLAPARL Standing Committee in 2016/17.

In the year of an election, the SC always elects a Chair, Secretary and Information Coordinator from among its members for a two-year term. On behalf of the Chair, this

procedure was conducted by Ellie Valentine and Sonia L'Heureux. The Officers 2017-2019 are;

- ✓ Chair: Steve Wise (United Kingdom)
- ✓ Secretary: Karin Finer (Belgium) – renewed term
- ✓ Information coordinator: Adama Kone (Cote D'Ivoire) – renewed term

Following Standing Committee members will end their term after the 2017 WLIC;

- ✓ Ellie Valentine (United States)
- ✓ Innocent Rugambwa (Uganda)
- ✓ Alfonso Perez (Chile)
- ✓ Gert-Jan Lodder (Netherlands)
- ✓ Haiyan Lu (China)

Following Standing Committee members will remain in the SC

- ✓ Lillian Gassie (United States)
- ✓ Karin Finer (Belgium)
- ✓ Adama Kone (Cote D'Ivoire)
- ✓ Steve Wise (United Kingdom)
- ✓ Dianne Heriot (Australia)
- ✓ Agata Karwowska-Sokolowska (Poland)
- ✓ Chama Mpundy Mfula (Zambia)
- ✓ Eduardo Goldstein (Chile)
- ✓ Hiroyuki Okuyama (Japan)
- ✓ Paola Mandillo (Italy)
- ✓ Cecilia Izquierdo (Argentina)
- ✓ Adolfo Furtado (Brazil)
- ✓ Ida Barlangine Kelemen (Hungary)
- ✓ Iain Watt (Belgium)

The following will join the Standing Committee as first term members (2017-2021): ;

- ✓ Clara Bessa da Costa (Brazil)
- ✓ Emmanuel Maury (France)
- ✓ Christine Wellems (Germany)
- ✓ Mary Mazanec (United States)
- ✓ Shu Guang Zhang (China)
- ✓ Manik Bahadur Lama (Nepal)
- ✓ Laia Casares-Roca (Spain)

IFLAPARL currently has three Corresponding Members. They are named officially on the website and approved by the SC for a two-year term, renewable once. Clara Bessa da Costa will change status from Corresponding Member to regular Standing Committee member by the end of the Congress, and the other two Corresponding Members, Hannah Fischer and Julie Anderson, will be contacted regarding renewal of their terms.

Two new Corresponding members were proposed; Sonia Bebbington (Canada) and Janice Silveira (Brazil). The Standing Committee agreed unanimously to approve these nominations.

The Chair thanked the outgoing Members for serving the Standing Committee, IFLA and the parliamentary library community. The running of the Section will be handed over to the incoming Standing Committee at the second SC meeting on Thursday 24 August.

#### **4. IFLA Global Vision**

Karin Finer, Secretary, reported back from the IFLA Global Vision kick-off meeting in Athens the 3-4 April 2017, where representatives from all IFLA's professional units and interest groups met to discuss the changes and challenges that will face libraries in the future. The conversations focused on the importance of library values, strengths, objectives, challenges and solutions as part of developing a global vision for a united library field. Lillian Gassie and Karin Finer participated in the meeting and initiated discussions on the Global Vision with the Standing Committee. A report of that discussion was submitted to IFLA, it will be presented on August 21 together with other Sections' feedback. In addition, an on-line voting platform will be launched during WLIC. All these activities will be summarised in a final report, due to be published in March 2018.

#### **5. Review of the Section's activities**

##### **Use of Communications tools**

- a. **Basecamp.** The SC's use of Basecamp for planning and projects has been a success due to its user friendliness and central functions for storing messages and documents. Incoming SC members have been added to all on-going Basecamp activities.
- b. **Zoom.** Zoom is a videoconferencing tool, subscribed to by IFLA. It is similar to Skype but better from a data protection and security point of view as no software needs to be downloaded to local systems. The SC has not used Zoom so far for online meetings, which can be a challenge due to time differences.
- c. **Proposal to request webinar tools.** The Chair received requests for online webinars, which would be helpful in the Section's capacity building work to support parliaments who cannot attend the IFLA conferences. As an example, free webinars are offered by the IFLA New Professionals Special Interest Group on their blog - <https://npsig.wordpress.com/webinars-2/>. Could Zoom be used for webinars (see above)? – to be clarified with IFLA and further investigated by the incoming SC.

##### **Review of the Pre-conference and related activities (capacity building, professional networking)**

- a. **Pre-conference.** The Chair thanked the hosts, the Sejm Library and the Senate Analyses, Documentation and Correspondence Office, for their outstanding work in organising the pre-conference in Warsaw. 122 participants from all over the world attended the

conference, generously supported by the Secretaries General of the Sejm and the Senate. The meeting participants found the programme interesting and informative, with its mixture of presentations, group discussions and interactive workshops on subjects suggested at last year's pre-conference. The interactive elements were also increased after participant feedback from last year - the icebreaker activity proved very popular. Joanna Woźniczko reported on the work involved in this big project, where registration and security clearance proved to be the most challenging tasks.

- b. **Capacity building/training.** Thanks to support by the Secretary General of the Sejm, the capacity building training could be organised in the Mercure hotel in Warsaw. The Chair thanked the SC members who provided the training (Ellie Valentine, Chama Mpundy Mfula, Iain Watt, Steve Wise). 19 delegates participated in the training, 9 were sponsored by Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD). Participants found the training useful, and were able to learn from the facilitators and from each other.
- c. **World Directory of Parliamentary Libraries and Research Services.** Luis Gonzales from the National Library of Congress in Chile outlined their work with redesigning the WDPL directory. A proposal to include also 'research services' in the name was discussed. After a lively debate whether or not to change the acronym and URL, a decision was taken to change both. The new acronym will be WDLRSP. Lillian Gassie volunteered to continue working on the project. She will send out a message to the listserv in due time to encourage members to register and start populating the directory. Regional and subnational parliamentary libraries and research services are included, so promotion in regional meetings is encouraged. The WDLRSP is currently available in English, French, Spanish and German. SC members were asked if they could provide input for other IFLA official languages.

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The IFLA president Donna Scheeder and President-Elect Gloria Pérez-Salmerón both visited the first part of the SC meeting, and were given the floor to address the Standing Committee.

**Gloria Pérez-Salmerón** thanked for the invaluable work done by IFLAPARL and emphasized the important role parliamentary libraries and research services have to reach decision-makers. Many parts of the world are without library services, we should work for creating an international movement for laws to protect libraries and library systems. Gloria invited participants to the President-Elect session 'Making change happen: leaders for a united library field'.

**Donna Scheeder** thanked for the invitation and the Section for its outstanding work. She attended the APLAP meeting in Korea in April 2017, and expressed the importance of regional meetings and close cooperation amongst libraries on all levels. Donna spoke with conviction about creating a common vision for all libraries, linking to other IFLA initiatives such as the Library Map of the World and supporting libraries efforts to contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. She invited to the President's session - a Call to action! - that will focus on the Global Vision discussion to empower the library field to thrive into the future, as well as the

updated Trend report. The importance of the Bill Gates Foundation's support for developing the Global Vision was highlighted.

## 6. Upcoming sessions at the main IFLA Congress

The coordinators of the main session and joint sessions (with the Government libraries, Knowledge management and Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning sections) described what would be coming up and encouraged members and observers to attend those sessions scheduled in the next few days;

- ✓ 22 August. 9:30-11:30, Parliament and the People: Transparency, Openness, Engagement, IASE 1st Floor. IFLAPARL main session. Chairs: Karin Finer, Gert-Jan Lodder
- ✓ 23 August. 9:30-11:30, Government and Parliamentary Libraries: Supporting UN Sustainable Development Goals. Joint session with IFLAPARL, Government Libraries and Law Libraries, Multifunctional Hall. Contact for IFLAPARL: Steve Wise
- ✓ 23 August. 11:45-12:45, New Librarians for New Times: Continuous Learning to Become Change Agents in a Changing World. Joint session with IFLAPARL, Knowledge Management, CPDWL, IASE 1st Floor. Contact for IFLAPARL: Karin Finer
- ✓ 23 August. 9:30-11:30, Demonstrating Value and/or Assessing Impact of Different Types of Libraries and Information Services: Can You Spot the Difference? Division 1 Library Types, IASE 1st Floor. Lillian Gassie will give a lightning talk on parliamentary libraries and research services.

## 7. Partnerships

- a. **Other IFLA Sections.** Collaborations with other IFLA sections are appreciated and encouraged by IFLA. IFLAPARL organised joint sessions with three other Sections at the WLIC this year - Government libraries, Knowledge Management and CPDWL (see above). The Section has a long tradition of cooperating with the Law libraries section, their chosen topic this year was however of less relevance for IFLAPARL. IFLA Division 1 is planning a session with all its sections for the first time this year, a continuation of this concept is expected.
- b. **Inter-parliamentary bodies, regional networks and other partners.** The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) and the regional networks informed about their activities at the pre-conference in Warsaw. These sessions with well-established partners are regarded as very useful, and should continue.  
As the result of the Valparaíso Declaration, a new cooperation among parliamentary libraries of Latin America and the Caribbean was affirmed. A meeting with IFLA LAC took place in March 2017.

## **8. Status of IFLAPARL pre-conference in Kuala Lumpur**

In keeping with the theme for the main conference “Transform Libraries, Transform Societies”, the Standing Committee adopted the proposed theme for the pre-conference 2018: ‘Transforming parliamentary libraries and research services to meet changing client needs.

The main conference will take place in Kuala Lumpur the 24-30 August. It starts one day earlier than previous conferences, which has an impact on planning for the pre-conference. The Chair has established contact with the Malaysian Parliamentary library, but no official agreement for hosting the pre-conference has been established yet. Public holidays, renovation work at the parliament, staff turnover and funding issues are likely to cause difficulties. Sponsorship could possibly be sought from other Malaysian organisations.

Various related issues were discussed, eg. introducing a registration fee for the pre-conference, organising a programme off-site during the main conference to increase the time earmarked for Section activities and how to best plan for capacity building training, all tabled for later deliberations by the incoming SC. In general, there was no support for introducing a fee for the pre-conference.

## **9. IFLA 2019 in ...?**

This point was moved to SC II, as no information about the location was released yet.

## **10. Agenda for the Standing Committee Meeting II**

The Chair asked if there were items to add to the agenda for SC II, which was not the case.

## **14. Other business**

Iain Watt invited participants to contact him to continue the discussions from the pre-conference on research ethics, including looking into the possibility of creating Section guidelines. The case studies from the workshop were circulated to the participants. In general, IFLA encourages issuing of guidelines from professional sections and interest groups. Iain will present his paper “Agnotology and knowledge management in parliamentary library and research services” in the Knowledge management section’s open session on Thursday 24 August. Unfortunately, this session clashes with IFLAPARL’s second Standing Committee meeting.

The SC Meeting I adjourned at 14.20.



## SECTION ON LIBRARY AND RESEARCH SERVICES FOR PARLIAMENTS

### 2017 Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

#### Standing Committee Meeting II 24 August 2017, 10.45, Wrocław, Poland

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#### 1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair of the Section, Lillian Gassie, welcomed the outgoing, remaining and incoming Standing Committee members and observers to the second SC meeting.

#### Roll call:

##### Current Standing Committee Members

Present: Lillian Gassie, Karin Finer, Ellie Valentine, Ida Barlangine Kelemen, Steve Wise, Chama Mpundy Mfula, Paola Mandillo, Dianne Heriot, Gert-Jan Lodder, Agata Karwowska-Sokolowska, Eduardo Goldstein, Cecilia Izquierdo, Innocent Rugambwa

Absent with apologies: Adama Kone, Hayian Lu, Sonia L'Heureux, Alfonso Perez, Hiroyuki Okuyama, Adolfo Furtado, Iain Watt

##### Incoming Standing Committee Members

Present: Clara Bessa da Costa, Emmanuel Maury, Christine Wellems, Mary Mazanec

Absent with apologies: Shu Guang Zhang, Manik Bahadur Lama, Laia Casares-Roca

##### Current Corresponding Members

Absent with apologies: Hannah Fischer, Julie Anderson

##### Incoming Corresponding Members

Present: Sonia Bebbington, Janice Silveira

#### 2. Confirmation of the agenda

The agenda for the SC II meeting was read and adopted.

#### 3. Review of the Section's sessions in IFLA 2018 Congress

IFLAPARL's open session 'Parliament and the People: Transparency, Openness, Engagement' was well received, with its mixture of short presentations and group discussions. This format was introduced at last year's WLIC and proved to be popular.

In addition, IFLAPARL collaborated with other IFLA sections to arrange a knowledge café on the changing role and development of information professionals, and a session with Government libraries on supporting UN sustainable development goals. The parliaments of Kenya and

Uganda, African Centre for Parliamentary Affairs, INASP and Library of Congress provided input in the SDG session.

The knowledge café was popular and well attended as usual. Many SC members participated and facilitated round table discussions. The collaboration with the Knowledge management and CPDWL sections to organise the knowledge café will continue next year.

New requests and suggestions for collaborations with other sections will be taken up for discussion in the SC.

#### **4. Section Action Plan 2017-2018**

The Chair presented the Section's draft Action plan 2017-2018, to be submitted by the end of October, for discussion. It proposes to focus on;

- a) capacity building & staff development for parliamentary libraries and research services (contributing to IFLA Key initiatives 1.4, 2.1 and 4.5), including planning and organising the pre-conference and WLIC session 2018, identifying potential partners and/or sponsors and investigating use of webinars.
- b) facilitate knowledge sharing and communication within the Section and in regional networks (contributing to IFLA Key initiative 4.5), including increasing communication to members, updating the content of the Section web pages and facilitating population of the WDLRSP directory.

The draft Action plan 2017-2018 was adopted.

Some points from the discussions;

- ✓ the importance of continuing to foster close cooperation with potential partners for capacity building events and publications, e.g., IPU, Westminster Foundation for Democracy, USAID, HDP or similar, was emphasized. INASP was identified as a potential new partner.
- ✓ as WLIC starts a day earlier and there are several public holidays in this period, there will be time pressure to organise both a pre-conference and capacity building training. A proposal was raised to combine pre-conference workshops and capacity building into one event. It was a general consensus that next year's pre-conference should focus on workshops rather than on formal presentations.
- ✓ the main IFLA website will be redesigned next year, this would be the best moment to review the content of the IFLAPARL web pages.
- ✓ Clara Bessa da Costa suggested using a new, more modern, format for the Section newsletter.

#### **5. Working modalities of the Standing Committee**

- a) **Communication**; use of Zoom for SC video meetings will be explored further.
- b) **New logo**; IFLA proposed new logos for all Sections and interest groups to create coherent branding. IFLAPARL's proposed logo was rejected as it refers to a building



rather than being a symbol for all parliaments. The SC was instead in favour of using an image of a hemicycle as the Section logo. The incoming Officers will collect examples for consideration by the SC. Ellie Valentine created and proposed two logos already before the end of the meeting, they will be taken into consideration in the future proposal.

- c) **One-page description of the Section;** a template for a one-page description of the Section - created by IFLA in conjunction with the new logos - was discussed. This information sheet can be used for promotional purposes and to inform new members of the activities of the Section. The incoming SC is tasked with creating the content.

## **6. Increasing engagement of general members**

Neither the IFLAPARL listserv, nor the LinkedIn group are very active. SC members are encouraged to post more news and start discussions on these channels. Participants other than SC members can be invited to the LinkedIn group, as well as to Basecamp projects. Previous recommendations of the Social media working group included expanding the membership and invite all members of the Section to join the LinkedIn group.

## **7. Other business**

On behalf of Iain Watt, Paola Mandillo summarised the outcome of the two informal meetings on research ethics. As there is usually not much content for research services during the main IFLA conferences, a proposal was raised to organise a special “Research day” during WLIC in Kuala Lumpur. This can possibly be organised within the framework of the WLIC programme or independently, as was the case in Milano 2009. Apart from continuing the work on the possibility of creating guidelines for research ethics, topics could include: training on usage of social media for research, evaluation of public policy, how to manage client expectations, how to perform ex-post/ex-ante evaluation and skills required perform these task. The SC unanimously agreed to investigate the possibility to organise a ‘Research day in conjunction with WLIC 2018. A Dropbox repository will be created to collect examples of Codes or ethics, or similar, from member organisations.

Robert Newlen, Law libraries section, asked for the floor to present two possible topics for their open session at WLIC next year. Ideas included panel discussions a) with the new Law librarian of the Library of Congress on a new portal for indigenous law and b) copyright from an international perspective. Robert asked if the Section was interested in co-organising a session along those lines, he will submit a draft proposal for consideration in due course.

A question was raised if IFLAPARL could take part in plans to create a sub-section, especially dedicated to parliaments, of the ‘IFLA Africa’ section. This was regarded as being outside the remit of the Section, and the recommendation was to address IFLA directly.

There is still no news on the location of FLA 2019.

## **8. Closure – Handover of office to new SC**

By closing the SC II meeting, the Chair handed over the running of the Section to the incoming Officers and SC members. Lillian again thanked the outgoing members for their contributions to the Standing Committee, and welcomed all new members.

Finally, the Section gave a note and token of thanks to Lillian Gassie for her excellent leadership of the Section for the past two years.

The SC II meeting was adjourned at 12.45.