



**Standing Committee I of the section on Library and
Research Services for Parliaments
August 2006**

Minutes

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s3/index.htm>

Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by Chair Donna Scheeder, Law Library, Library of Congress, in the presence of the following participants from the section:

Ms. Tahera Shairzay, Mr. Mohammad Mamoon Sarwary and Mr. Temorshah Qawim, National Assembly of Pakistan; Ms. Elisabeth Dietrich Schulz, Austrian Parliament; Mr. Iain Watt, European Parliament; Mr. Alim Garga, National Assembly of Cameroon; Ms. Lynn Brodie and Mr. Frank Kirkwood, Canadian Parliament; Ms. Soledad Ferreiro, Mr. Alfonso Perez and Mr. Guido Williams, Chilean Library of Congress; Mr. Karel Sosna, Parliamentary Library of the Czech republic; Ms. Gloria Sarku, Parliament of Ghana; Ms. Eleni Mitrakou, Hellenic Parliament; Ms. Ida Barlangino Kelemen, Library of the Hungarian Parliament; Mr. Seyed Ahmadi Abhari, Islamic Assembly, Iran; Ms. Noriko Toda and Mr. Jun Ashida, National Diet Library; Ms. Esther Kamau, Parliament of Kenya; Mr. Young-Hee Park, National Assembly Library of Korea; Ms. Anita Dudina, Latvian Parliament; Mr. Todorce Lukarevski, Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia; Mr. Jan Keukens, House of Representatives, Netherlands; Ms. Katherine Close, Parliament of New Zealand; Ms. Gro Sandgrind, Stortinget, Norway; Mr. Wojciech Kulisiewics, Polish Parliament; Ms. Irina Andreeva, Federal Assembly of Russia; Mr. Albert Ntunja, Parliament of South Africa; Ms. Margareta Brundin and Ms. Elisabeth Malmhester, Swedish Parliament; Mr. Karl Min Ku, Legislative Yuan, Taiwan; Mr. Innocent Rugambwa, Parliament of Uganda; Mr. Keith Cuninghame, House of Commons Library, Great Britain; Ms. Janet Seaton, Scottish Parliament; Mr. Daniel Mulhollan, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, USA; Ms. Ellie Valentine, USAID, Pakistan

Approval of the Agenda

The participants of the Standing Committee approved the agenda.

Approval of the Minutes of the Standing Committee meetings in Oslo, Norway

The minutes from the Standing Committee Meeting in Oslo, Norway, were approved.

Roll call of Standing Committee members

Standing Committee members present were:

Ms. Irina Andreeva

Ms. Margareta Brundin

Ms. Anita Dudina

Mr. Karl Min Ku

Ms. Eleni Mitrakou

Mr. Albert Ntunja (replacement for Sara Parker)

Mr. Younghee Park
Ms. Gro Sandgrind
Ms. Donna Scheeder
Ms. Janet Seaton

Standing Committee members not present were:

Ms. Wafaa Ali-Abdel-Elah
Ms. Caryn Carr
Mr. Segundo Soto Coronel
Ms. Marialyse Délano Serrano
Mr. Hugh Finsten
Ms. Moira Fraser
Ms. Cristiane Almeida Maia
Ms. Josephine Moesi
Mr. N.K. Singh
Ms. June Verrier

Officers report (membership report, financial report)

The Chair commented on membership issues: The Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments has 80 institutional members, 2 members from international associations and 17 from national associations. 11 personal affiliates are also registered members.

Ms. Donna Scheeder, Chair but also Treasurer, gave a financial report:

The report by the Information Coordinator, Ms. Gro Sandgrind was the following:

Gro Sandgrind expressed warm thanks to Pierrette Landry for her assistance during many years (since 1998) with moderating the mail lists for the section. She has done a great job and Gro was very grateful for all her help.

Gro Sandgrind also presented the two mailing lists of the section:

IFLAPARL - iflaparl@infoserv.inist.fr – is a Standing Committee business list (discussion List for Standing Committee Members).

IFLAPARL2 - iflaparl2@infoserv.inist.fr - is a discussion list open to all members of IFLA Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments and those attending the Section's activities.

Gro asked all members of the section to subscribe/unsubscribe to the lists on the Internet. She said that everyone who wants to send out information on the list is welcome to do so – but make it short and do NOT attach documents to the message. This does NOT work.

Future of IFLA's Professional Structure

Meeting for AII SC members on Sunday, August 20, 2006, 12:45 to 13:45

Upcoming Elections: 2007

Timeline for Autumn – Call issued for nominations for Section Standing Committee
Qualified voting members can submit 1 nomination for each Standing Committee for which they are registered.

Personal affiliates cannot make nominations for Standing Committee.

Nominees do not have to be IFLA members.

Deadline: February 5, 2007

If there are more nominees than vacancies, there is a postal ballot.

Officers' elections – Current members of the Standing Committee may make nominations.

Number of vacancies on Standing Committee

5 vacancies

3 officers positions

IFLA Booth Schedule – Tuesday, August 22, 2006, 14:00 to 15:00

Donna Scheeder and Margareta Brundin volunteered to help with the IFLA Booth.

News from the Coordinating Board

Program Schedule for the Week

The following program was arranged by the Section and the Chair encouraged everyone in the section to participate (***a report of the Sections program will appear in the next Newsletter***):

Monday August 21

10.45-12.45

Library and Research Services for Parliaments with Government Information and Official Publications (part 1)

The Model e-Parliament: dynamic engine for democratic engagement

Maintaining Resources through Parliamentary Cooperation: The Joint Czech and Slovak Digital Parliamentary Library

KAREL SOSNA (Parliamentary Library of the Czech Republic, Czech Republic) and EVA MALACKOVA (Parliamentary Library of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Republic)

Sharing best technology practices around the globe: Initiatives of the global center for information and communication technology in parliament

ANDY RICHARDSON (Parliamentary Resource Center, IPU)

TBA

TBA

13.45-15.45

Library and Research Services for Parliaments with Government Information and Official Publications (part 2)

Technology Strategies and Tools for Dynamic Information Delivery

Content Creation and Management: What's Next for Government Libraries and Information

STEPHEN ABRAM (Sirsi Dynix and Special Libraries Association)

Improving the User Experience: Tips and Strategies for Success

JANE DYSART (Dysart Jones and Associates)

Policy issues regarding web accessibility in Japan
TAKASHI KOGA (National Institute of Informatics, Japan)

16.30-18.00

Library and Research Services for Parliaments with Government Information and Official Publications (part 3)

Government Information, Dynamic Success for Business:

The contribution of government information in attracting foreign direct investment in Africa
ABRAHAM A. AZUBUIKE (Systems and Information Resources Development)

[Better for Business: How the Welsh Assembly Government Library and Publications Service has transformed its services to fit business policy/programme delivery and business people in Wales](#)

REBECCA DAVIES (Assembly Library and Publications Service, Welsh Assembly Government/Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru)

[The YritysSuomi \(EnterpriseFinland\) portal as one-stop-shop for public information to small and medium sized enterprises in Finland](#)

JAANA KAAKKOLA (Prime Minister's Office, Finland)

Government Information and Business and Legal Centers in Russia
EMMA VASKONIAN (Department of Official Publications, Russian State Library)

Statistics for Decision-making: Building Awareness and Facilitating Access.
VICKI CROMPTON (Communications and Information Services/Communications et services d'information, Statistics Canada/Statistique Canada)

The Workshop Day was to be held at Hotel Prima Wednesday August 23 8.30 to 16.00 (see reports below).

The Standing Committee Meeting II would take place Friday August 25 at 14.00 – 16.50 at COEX, room 321.

Future Conferences

The future conference will be held in the following countries:

IFLA 2007, Durban, South Africa
August 2007

IFLA 2008, Quebec, Canada

August 2008

IFLA 2009, Milan, Italy

August 2009

Subjects of interest for future conferences: information from previous conferences and possible new suggestions. The following subjects were discussed:

Knowledge management in a parliamentary environment
Collaboration with other parliaments and their services
The other side: integrating executive and legislative information
Special collections management, including multimedia
Electronic / virtual services and products: the electronic or virtual parliamentary library and research service
Citizen participation and involvement from the library of parliament
Content management, technology tools
Mix of staff in the Library
Individual education plans

PARLNET – The Chilean Parliament gave a short presentation of PARLNET. There was a discussion on what content this new tool should have and information on how to post to www.parlnet.org.

Reports on regional activities:

Association of Parliamentary Libraries of Australasia: APLA Report, by Katherine Close

At the recent AGM of the Association, held in Brisbane on 15 June 06, the following executive was elected. Mary Seefried, Queensland Parliamentary Librarian is the new President, replacing Moira Fraser who has led the association for the last 3 years with enthusiasm, commitment and vision. Juliet Scaife, Tasmanian Parliamentary Librarian remains as Treasurer and Judy Ballantyne, West Australian Parliamentary Librarian is the incoming secretary.

Activities

In this financial year, we have actually held two annual conferences. In July 2005 we met in Perth and in June 2006 we met in Brisbane.

The 2005 AGM discussed the future shape of our meetings and resolved that we should broaden the opportunities for parliamentary library staff to meet to include more staff as well as Parliamentary Librarians. In addition, we resolved that it was very useful to hold one-day meetings connected with significant library conferences for the parliamentary library staff who attend. The theme of these one-day meetings should be related to the theme of the conference so that it is more likely to be relevant to the people who are there.

The Brisbane Conference on 16 June 2006 had the theme of “Parliamentary History and heritage: The Role of Parliamentary Libraries”. The themes ranged across parliamentary outreach projects such as websites about former and current MPs, exhibitions profiling the parliament and its members to the community, Open Days of the Libraries, preservation of

heritage collections and also preservation of digital repositories.

APLA Meeting on Digital Media Monitoring associated with VALA, Melbourne, February 2006

This meeting was very successful in bringing together staff from all over Australia to discuss successful cases of services already developed and also this formed the basis of useful sharing of technical knowledge of those libraries who are wishing to upgrade their services.

Benchmarking

During the Perth conference, as always, we enjoyed the networking and opportunity to share knowledge and experiences with a group of people facing very similar workplace challenges. There was a particularly useful discussion on benchmarking for Parliamentary Libraries, led by Gail Dunston from the Victorian Parliamentary Library. The 2006 AGM meeting further advanced this work and a small working party was established to try to produce a draft paper on this by the end of 2006.

Major organizational change

The most marked feature of the 2005-2006 has been the turnover in Parliamentary Librarians. After many years of little change this financial year has seen a number of longstanding faces at APLA retire or resign. We have said farewell to Gail Dunston from Victoria and Howard Coxon from South Australia. While Dr. June Verrier from the Federal Parliament was more active in IFLA circles than the APLA community, many of us knew her well. We acknowledge the work of these APLA stalwarts, we miss them and wish them well in whatever they are doing now.

We welcome new Parliamentary Librarians, Roxanne Missingham, from the Federal Parliament, Greig Tillotson from New South Wales and Adrian Gallagher from Victoria and we await an appointment in South Australia. Two of three appointees were from outside of the current Parliamentary Library staff, so are less well known to the APLA community. The Brisbane conference was an important opportunity to get to know these new members and to re-establish the strength of networking across the Australasian Parliamentary Libraries.

National Licensing Forum

Roxanne Missingham, the recently appointed Australian Parliamentary Librarian is the APLA representative on this committee. In July 2006, several important decisions were made, being that

Key areas of acquisitions are Australian news and business information, general reference and health resources

To proceed to setting up a general agreement with vendors on pricing through a tender process and then enable libraries to buy directly through this arrangement

A tender evaluation group was formed and vendors briefed

The Australian Parliamentary Libraries participated in the survey conducted to

determine which resources to seek national licensing agreements for. Progress is eagerly anticipated.

Other Themes for Australasian Parliamentary Libraries

Besides the management changes these issues seem to dominate our annual reports:

Work on intranet – sometimes as a part of a Parliament wide project involving the Internet site as well

Service development – especially media monitoring services and exploring new ways of delivery to desktops and hand-held devices, blogs, RSS etc.

History projects – usually associated with sesquicentennials and other significant milestones

New MPs and induction programmes – new marketing initiatives

The position of the parliamentary libraries within the organizational structure of parliament and living in a time of contracting budgets

SA and old parliamentary libraries undergoing reviews

APLIC / ABPAC Canada, report by Lynn Brodie

Report on Association of Parliamentary Librarians in Canada /Association des bibliothécaires parlementaires au Canada 2005-06 (APLIC/ ABPAC)

APLIC held its biennial conference in Iqaluit, Nunavut July18-20, 2006. Nunavut is Canada's newest territory created in 1999 and is located in Canada's far north. It was the first visit to Nunavut for all but one participant.

There are twelve members in the association and three new directors have been named in the past year.

Subjects discussed:

Archiving digital formats and various national digital initiatives

Review of APLIC/ABPAC survey, questions will be revised with clear identification of research and public outreach staff salaries

Partnerships and their value, (mainly with universities)

Cataloguing of Inuktituk syllabics

The politics of developing a new territory and government by consensus.

The incoming president is Kimberly Hammond of Newfoundland and Labrador, Vice-president is Jane Taylor of British Columbia, and Secretary is Lynn Brodie, Ottawa.

Next business meeting will be in May 2007 in Ottawa at the national parliament.

Next conference will be adjacent to the IFLA Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments pre-conference to be held in Ottawa in August 2008.

APLAP , no report

APLESA, a short report by **Esther Kamau**

AWEDA, report by **Gloria Sarku** that nothing had happened since the meeting in Ghana in 2002.

European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD), report by Karel Sosna, Parliament of Czech Republic

According to the new ECPRD Statutes, its main objective is to promote the exchange of information, ideas, experience and good practice among the administrations of parliaments in Europe. The ECPRD network provides a unique forum for making requests and receiving answers about comparative issues of concern to parliaments and their members throughout

Europe. Currently 62 parliaments/chambers had appointed a correspondent to the ECPRD and 34 a deputy correspondent. All correspondents should try to contribute to this joint effort to exchange information among national parliaments. The Centre is proud of the significant increase in the number of requests from less than hundred in 2003 to more than 200 in year 2006 so far.

Four special topics seminars were or will be held in different European countries in 2006. Proposals for seminars must come from correspondents and be discussed at the conference of correspondents. The detailed list of seminars during 2006 is as follows:

Seminar “Supranational Parliamentary and Inter-parliamentary Assemblies in the 21st Century, 8 – 9 May, Warsaw

Conference of Speakers and Secretary Generals, 30 – 31 May, Tallinn

Macroeconomic Research Working group, 9 June, Sarajevo

Seminar “Exchange of National Legislative Information”, July, Rome

Meeting of the Executive Committee, 7 September, Strasbourg

Information and Communication Technology Working group, 5 – 6 October, Vilnius

Conference of Correspondents, 12 – 13 October, London

Seminar “The Role of Parliamentary Administration”, November, Paris

The following ECPRD publications were also issued:

ECPRD Directory 2006

ECPRD Activity Report April 2004-April 2006

Statutes of the ECPRD, as amended in Tallinn 31st May 2006

ECPRD Priorities and Program for 2006 and 2007

Beyond Transparency: New Standards for legislative Information Systems. ECPRD June 2006. 168 pp.

Comparative Study on Election and Mandate of MEPs

All ECPRD publications are also available on the website <http://ecprd.europarl.europa.eu>

PARDOC, no report

NCLS, report by **Ms. Donna Scheeder**

Nordic Countries, report by **Ms. Gro Sandgrind**

Nordic countries report

The Nordic countries have a small and strong community between the parliamentary libraries. The 53rd annual meeting was held in Copenhagen in June 2006 with the Librarian Hanne Rasmussen as host.

We discussed and shared useful information on:

Digitization

Procedures for handling tenders in parliamentary libraries.

Library strategy and change management.

Parliamentary websites.

Training courses arranged by the libraries.

The Parliament of Finland celebrates its centennial in 2006 and 2007. The 100th anniversary of the approval of the Parliament Act and Election Act by the Diet will take place on June 1st 2006. On May 23rd 2007 is the 100th anniversary of the first plenary session of Finland's unicameral Parliament.

The theme of the centennial is "The right to vote - trust in law. One hundred years of Finnish democracy."

The Librarian in Sweden – Eva Falk – will be on leave for two years. New Parliamentary librarian is Gunilla Lilie Bauer gunilla.lilie.bauer@riksdagen.se

Latin American Parliamentary Library Association, report by

Useful information – Donna Scheeder gave some information on the program during the IFLA Conference.

Any other business

Janet Seaton presented the new IFLA leaflet for the Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments. It was approved with acclamation.