



## Meeting Minutes



### INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

#### Government Information and Official Publications Section (Section 17)

#### Standing Committee Meetings

2013 IFLA World Library and Information Congress

Saturday 17 August 2013 12:30 - 15:00 | Room: 304

Tuesday, 14 August 2012 15:00 - 16:30 | Room 207

Suntec Singapore International Convention & Exhibition Centre

#### Standing Committee Meeting I

##### 1. Welcome and introductions

Dr. Satendra Dhaka called the meeting to order at 12:35. Members present: Satendra Dhaka (Chair), Jim Church (Secretary), Susan Paterson, Takashi Koga, Kay Cassell, Beacher Wiggins (GLS liaison), Jieyin Feng, Jamilya Talibzadeh, Richell Van Snellenberg, Alexander Chentsov, Geoffrey Swindells.

Guests: Som Sayuth, Kay Ketninn, Esther Nxumalo, Reyna Josvah-Rabiaza, Dan Fano Lawaly, Kamala Sarijalinskaya, Jerry Mansfield (GLS) Sanjay Kumar Bihani (GLS).

##### 2. Adoption of 2013 agenda and meeting minutes from IFLA 2012 conference in Helsinki

The minutes were adopted.

##### 3. Announcements and update on GIOPS activities:

-- *GIOPS WLIC Paper and Panel Sessions*. Jim Church summarized the upcoming GIOPS paper session *Information for Development Action: Governments, Civil Society and Libraries*, and the Government Libraries Panel Discussion: *Government Libraries as Voices for Open Government*. The later was co-sponsored by GIOPS and Law Libraries. He thanked all members present for helping to plan the events and encouraged all to attend both sessions.

-- *Recruitment update and discussion for future strategies*. Current GIOPS Standing Committee membership stands at 17 members from 12 countries. This is a big improvement from last year when membership stood at only nine and the committee was on probation. GIOPS organizational membership is currently 96 members from forty-one countries.

-- *Information and Communication Updates - GIOPS Twitter Account and Blog*. Susan Paterson was commended for her work in starting the GIOPS Twitter account. The GIOPS Blog was initiated with the assistance of Corresponding member Ava Iuliano, and has had multiple entries. Jim Church encouraged all interested members to sign up for accounts and contribute.

#### 4. Discussion of GIOPS 2011-2013 draft annual reports.

Jim Church circulated copies of the 2011-2013 annual report. After a brief overview of the contents the annual report was adopted and will be posted on the GIOPS site following the conference.

#### 5. Nomination and election of GIOPS officers

Satendra Dhaka and Jim Church were both nominated to continue their positions as chair and secretary, respectively. There were no opposing candidates and both were elected. Susan Paterson volunteered to serve as Information Coordinator and this was agreed to. The committee thanked Takashi Koga for his many years of service as Information Coordinator.

#### 6. Discussion of Draft GIOPS Strategic Plan

The committee to draft a GIOPS Strategic Plan was convened by Jim Church in spring of 2013. Members include Jackie Druery, Kay Cassell, and Geoffrey Swindells. Jackie was unable to attend so Jim Church presented the following goals she developed: a). *Investigate methods of translating the GIOPS website, newsletter and documents and begin this work.* b). *Strengthen communication activities of GIOPS,* and c). *Develop an advocacy document on the importance of maintaining expertise in libraries related to government information.* To meet the first goal it was acknowledged the group has sufficient language expertise and this should be pursued as times permits: GIOPS publications should be translated into IFLA official languages when possible. To meet the second goal would require the Information Coordinator to publish newsletter(s) each year and post to the blog and twitter account. Susan indicated she will attempt this and Jim Church agreed to assist as secretary. The third goal of creating an advocacy document was greeted with enthusiasm. A small working group will be convened to present a draft at the next WLIC in France. Possibilities for the eventual publication venue were discussed.

Kay Cassell presented on her goal, which was to *drive access to content and digital resource for library users.* Activities to accomplish this might include promoting awareness through IFLA conferences, developing a guide to best practices for governments and related organizations on digital publishing, working with national and regional library associations to promote awareness of digital content, and sponsoring seminars and publishing papers on the topic. It was agreed that some of these might be too much work for the committee. The guide to best practices for governments and related organizations on digital publishing sparked debate and much interest. Kay agreed to revise the action items for the next meeting.

Geoff Swindell's section of the strategic plan was postponed until Standing Committee Meeting II.

#### 7. Brainstorming and planning for 2014 paper session

-- Postponed until Standing Committee Meeting II. The meeting adjourned at 14:30.

## Standing Committee Meeting II

### 1. Welcome and introductions.

Dr. Satendra Dhaka called the meeting to order at 13:15. Members present: Satendra Dhaka (Chair), Jim Church (Secretary), Susan Paterson, Takashi Koga, Kay Cassell, Beacher Wiggins (GLS liaison), Jamilya Talibzadeh, Richelle Van Snellenberg, Alexander Chentsov, Geoffrey Swindells.

Guests: Reyna Josvah-Rabiazza, Kamala Sarijalinskaya, Sanjay Kumar Bihani (GLS), David Kiselev (GLS), Francis Kirkwood, Agnes Fülöp.

### 2. Continued discussion of Draft GIOPS Strategic Plan

Kay Cassell submitted revised action items to meet the fourth goal of the strategic plan - "*Drive access to content and digital resources for library users.*" Action items included promoting awareness and seeking opportunities to co-sponsor programs at IFLA conferences on digital content from national governments, intergovernmental organizations, and public non-governmental organizations; developing a guide to best practices for governments on digital publishing; and publishing and disseminate papers from IFLA programs on access to digital resources. The action items for were endorsed.

Geoff Swindells then presented language on the fourth goal of the strategic plan - *Develop and promote expertise in national information policies on government information and official publications.* Action items included convening a working group to identify key elements of national information policies that promote IFLA's Core Values; compiling an advocacy guide outlining these key elements; taking advantage of GIOPS communication tools to create online learning communities around national information policy and strategy, and to seek opportunities to co-sponsor programs at IFLA conferences on successful information policy strategies and campaigns. It was agreed after some discussion that the advocacy guide might pose workload issues to the standing committee agreed to drop that item and incorporate the rest.

The completed strategic plan was then endorsed, and it was agreed it would be posted on the GIOPS site following the conference. Jim Church thanked the group for all their work.

### 3. "The Global Government Information Landscape" -- discussion and sharing of government information events and developments from Standing Committee member home countries.

Members spoke briefly about the government information landscapes in their respective countries. Alexander Chentsov and David Kiselev spoke about a new Russian legislative system that can be installed on user machines allowing public access to Russian legislation at specified times. Takashi Koga spoke about procedural challenges to dissemination of Japanese Government Information. Susan Paterson spoke about the consolidation of Canadian Government web sites into a common look and feel and the ensuing removal of government information. Canadian government librarians are forming web archiving and LOCKSS alliances in an effort to preserve the ensuing loss of government content. Jamilya Talibzadeh provided an introduction to members of the Azerbaijan Presidential library.

### 4. Brainstorming and planning for 2014 Paper Session. Conference theme: *Libraries, Citizens, Societies: Confluence for Knowledge.*

A number of ideas were debated. After much discussion the committee agreed to a working title "Libraries, Governments and Cultural Heritage" which was introduced by Francis Kirkwood. Potential local agencies to be targeted for speakers include UNESCO and the United Nations Office in Geneva. Jim Church will put out a call for members to assist with the session when the Professional Committee releases the form in October.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Church