



IFLA Newspapers Section

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s39/index.htm>

**Minutes of the 28th Business Meeting, held at the Gnosis Room,
Level 14 of the National Library of Singapore**

1. Introductions

The Chairman welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

Present: Hartmut Walravens (Chair: Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin; Edmund King (Secretary; British Library Newspapers); Henry Snyder (University of California, Riverside USA); Christiane Baryla (Bibliothèque Nationale de France & IFLA-PAC); Pär Nilsson (The Royal Library, National Library of Sweden); Majlis Bremer-Laamanen (Helsinki University Library); Else Delaunay (Bibliothèque nationale de France);

Observers: James Simon (Center for Research Libraries, Chicago, USA); Frederick Zarndt (Planman Consulting); Edwin Klijn (Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Netherlands); Astrid Verheusen (Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Netherlands); Tay Sok-Cheng (Singapore Press Holdings); Idris Rashid Khan Surattee (Singapore Press Holdings)

2. Apologies for Absence

Jonny Edvardsen (National Library of Norway); Zou Deming (Shanghai Library); Linda Ronan (Center for Research Libraries, USA); Georgia Higley (Library of Congress USA); Lola Rodriguez (National Library of Spain, Madrid);

3. Approval of Agenda.

The agenda was approved.

4. Minutes of the 27th Meeting, Durban, South Africa/Matters Arising

4.1 With Regard to 4c of the minutes, Ed King was asked if IFLANET provided discussion space for members on IFLANET. Ed King said this was not possible.

Action: **Frederick Zarndt and Henry Snyder** to look at the possibility of using Wikipedia to set up a discussion space.

Action: **Ed King and James Simon** to look at whether discussion space can be created within the ICON structure.

4.2 With regard to 5a of the minutes, Ed King reported little progress with the updating of the USA entries in the Directory of Newspapers on IFLANET.

Action: **Ed King** to investigate how to take this further with Standing Committee members.

4.3 Minutes 5b. African Newspapers.

4.3.1 Christiane Baryla reported on progress of the Bibliothèque francophone and the involvement of the National Library of Québec. Discussion was continuing regarding the creation of portals to the newspapers of French speaking Africa.

Christiane Baryla is to send the contact names of the co-ordinators of this

- project to Ed King. **Ed King** to offer the information and the link regarding the Section's Survey of African Newspapers to the National Library of Quebec.
- 4.3.2 **Ed King** is to ask Douwe Drijfhout for the list of newspapers in sub-Saharan countries that are priority for microfilming. Also for an update on the activities of the National Library of South Africa in this area.
- 4.4 Minutes 5f, **Ed King** is to raise again the matter of RDA with IFLA Cataloguing Section.

5. Newspapers Strategic Plan for 2008-2009.

The plan was looked at via an internet link to IFLANET. No further comments were made.

6. IFLA Newspaper Section Conference Programmes

6a. Spring 2007 Conference in Santiago, Chile. International Newspapers Collection Management: printed and digital. Date of meeting: 3-5 April 2007. See:

http://www.ifla.org/VII/s39/conf/s39_conf2007Chile-prg.htm. The contributions read at the conference are ready for publication in the IFLA Publication Series. The print file is now at K. G. Saur so that the volume may come out in summer or early autumn.

6b. **World Library and Information Congress: 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council, Durban, August 2007.** Open Session on 20 August 2007 on: *African newspapers: Access and Technology*. The Session had been quite successful, with 107 delegates attending. The papers in English and in Spanish have been published in issue 17 of the Section newsletter. This will be available on IFLANET. The papers will also be published in the IFLA Saur Publication Series.

6c. 28th IFLA Newspapers Section Business meeting & Conference: **Old Issues, New Issues: Impact of Digital Technology upon Contemporary and Historic Newspapers. National Library of Singapore 1-3 April 2008.**

1. Hartmut Walravens commented that the organisation for this conference has been very good, with colleagues at the National Library of Singapore being most efficient. [A list of NLB Singapore colleagues is attached at the end of these minutes in recognition of their work.] The proceedings are to be published jointly by the National Library Board, and IFLA.
2. There was a discussion about the digitisation of newspapers in countries other than Malaysia and Singapore. This raised the need to work with several parties: newspaper publishers, software publishers, libraries. There was also the matter of national interests. It was agreed that IFLA Newspapers Section would act as a further conduit of these matters, and that specific proposals for projects to digitise newspapers would need to be initiated within the South East Asia region itself.

6d. **World Library and Information Congress: 74th IFLA General Conference and Council, Québec, August 2008.** see: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/index.htm>

Ed King outlined that there will be four papers given at the Open Programme. Further publicity of these would be sent to Section members nearer the time of the General Conference. Action: **Ed King**.

6e. **29th IFLA Newspapers Section Business meeting and Conference, Moscow, 13-15 April 2009**: To be held at Mozhaisk (near Moscow) at the invitation of the Russian Book Chamber. The business meeting will probably be held on 12 April; afterwards departure for Mozhaisk. Theme of the Conference: *Legal deposit of newspapers for libraries: challenges of the digital environment*.

Hartmut Walravens outlined the arrangements for the event in spring 2009. The aim is to capture as many delegates as possible from Russia and other neighbouring countries. A call for papers will be issued shortly after the Quebec Conference.

6f. **World Library and Information Congress: 75th IFLA General Conference and Council. "Libraries create futures: building on cultural heritage" 23-27 August 2009, Milan, Italy**. The Newspaper Section Open Programme to be on the theme: *"The Role of the Press in establishing Italian Unification"*. A call for papers will be issued in the autumn of 2008.

It was suggested to revise the theme of this open Session to the title: *"The role of newspapers as agents of political change"*. This may attract a wider number of proposals for papers. **Ed King** to contact Ms A.M. Tammaro, of the IFLA Governing Board, to see if she has suggestions for possible speakers. It was agreed to see if Singapore Press Holdings may be interested in sponsoring delegates to attend IFLA Milan. Action: **Ed King** to contact Idris Rashid.

6g. Spring Business meeting and conference 2010. The matter of holding this event in Paris was discussed briefly, as this will be the tenth anniversary of the conference held there in the summer of 2000.

7. Currently published newspapers: planning acquisitions, custodianship, storage, and access.

Henry Snyder introduced the topic. The discussion elicited the following :

1. ingest of .pdf files of current printed newspapers was now more of a priority for libraries
2. legal and rights and access issues have to be explored and negotiated with publishers, with the aim of mutual collaboration as the objective
3. storage of digital data issues need to be explored
4. different standards exist for metadata schema, and guidance was needed for libraries starting on projects for the first time.
5. libraries had to decide how to ask publishers for more metadata elements than the publishers might use for themselves in the digital creation of pages for printing. Libraries have to decide how much to pay for this.
6. to offer publishers access to archive files (e.g files more than 15 years old) may assist collaboration
7. links to existing metadata schema would be useful

8. legal deposit legislation being developed in many countries will impact upon how all of the above subjects would be addressed and implemented.

It was agreed to hold a IFLA Satellite meeting, pre-Conference to IFLA Milan. The date provisionally agreed is the 18-19 August 2009. The Conference venue is to be confirmed. The theme of the Conference is to be: “**The Present becomes the past: harvesting, archiving, presenting today’s digitally produced newspapers.**”

The target groups for the conference are: publishers, libraries, archivists, software providers. Sponsors will be sought for the conference.

8. Projects: Online Resources

The website of National Library and Archives Canada remains a useful source for links to online newspapers and newspaper archives. See:

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/8/16/r16-214-e.html>

The British Library website also lists sources for online access to newspapers. See:

<http://www.bl.uk/collections/sources.html>

The National Library of Spain has a list of links at:

<http://hemerotecadigital.bne.es/titulos.htm>

ICON has a list of digitisation projects at: <http://icon.crl.edu/digitization.htm>

The list of links is divided into: International Collections, General Interest and United States.

9. International coalition on newspapers

1. The ICON report was tabled by James Simon. A copy of the report is attached with these minutes. Using the ICON website available on the Internet, Committee members were shown the main features of the database and of the website. Current activities included the microfilming of 9 newspapers published in Latin America, with a prospective total of 250,000 pages being filmed on 200 reels of microfilm.
2. Attention was drawn to ICON being placed within the Global Resources Network (GRN) during 2008. for details of this, see: <http://www.crl.edu/content.asp?11=3&12=55>. More members of GRN are needed, and colleagues were encouraged to have their host institutions join this collaborative work. **Action: All Members of Standing Committee.**
3. Members noted that the database now included more than 25,000 newspaper titles, and were actioned to communicate this website to their colleagues, in order to increase its collaborative use. Members thanked James Simon for the efforts of the Center of Research Libraries, and looked forward to further progress.

10. Election of Officers to Newspaper Section Standing Committee

1. Hartmut Walravens reminded Committee that nominations for the post of Chairman and Secretary would be need for early 2009, for elections to take place in August 2009 in IFLA Milan.
2. **Information Co-ordinator for the Section:** Linda Ronan had resigned from this work. Par Nilsson agreed to act as Section Information Co-ordinator, and editor of the Section Newsletter.

11. Membership 2008

1. It was reported that in March 2008, the Section now has 37 members. The target is 40 members, to meet IFLA regulations on the matter of Section status. Action: **Ed King and Hartmut Walravens** to approach the University of California, the Russian Book Chamber, the Bavarian State Library and the National Library of New Zealand to ask them to join.
2. It was proposed by Hartmut Walravens to co-opt Klaus Kempf (Bavarian State Library, Munich) to the Standing Committee. This was agreed and members looked forward to seeing him at future Section Business Meetings.

12. Financial Report

The Section had funds currently at HQ of 325 EURO for 2008. It was agreed that this would be devoted in the first instance to the production of Section Newsletters nos. 17 and 18. Invoices would be sent to HQ for the printing costs.

13. Section Newsletter Issue 17

1. Issue number 17 was printed and has been posted to Newspaper Section members. It had also been included in all of the conference packs of the Singapore newspaper conference. It will available on IFLANET at: <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s39/index.htm> . Issue no 18 will be planned for production by July 2008, in time for distribution at IFLA Québec conference.

13. Any Other Business

13.1 **IFLA Publications.** Details of recent Newspaper Section numbers are at:

<http://www.ifla.org/V/saur.htm>

Members were urged to publicise these works to libraries in their own countries.

13.2 The Library of Congress report from Georgia Higley was tabled, and she was thanked for it. [A copy is attached to these minutes.] Members were urged to pass this on to colleagues, and follow the links to the **National Newspapers Digitisation Program.**

Website at : <http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/>

The link to the Chronicling America website is <http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/>

13.3 The Committee noted greetings from the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section.

13.4 The Section Committee congratulated Henry Snyder on the award to him of the U.S. National Humanities Medal, in November 2007. Details are at:
<http://www.newsroom.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/display.cgi?id=1713>

13.5 Section Committee members thanked Hartmut Walravens and Ed King for their work in organising the Singapore Conference.

The meeting closed at 1645.