Welcome address from the President of the National Organising Committee

On behalf of the National Organising Committee and the Korean library community, I warmly welcome all delegates to Seoul, Korea, and to the World Library and Information Congress: the 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council.

During the last seven years, the National Organising Committee has been working hard to ensure the success of this exciting historic event and to provide diverse and exquisite social and cultural activities for all the delegates.

I believe that you will find Seoul, the capital of Korea, as the most attractive city in which time honored cultural relics sit alongside state-of-the-art IT infrastructures. Although it is a vital and fascinating city with all the modern comforts and conveniences, Seoul remains the repository of more than 2,000 years of Korean culture and enshrined treasures and traditions from earlier times.

The main theme of the 2006 IFLA World Library and Information Congress is “Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society”. With the progress in digital technologies, libraries, too, are called upon to embrace change and stay in step with the times. I am sure that this theme will allow us all to find insight into the future and on the progress of the world’s libraries. Currently, the South Korean library system is experiencing a great challenge. I hope hosting the 2006 IFLA World Library and Information Congress will propel Korean libraries to another level as an intellectual and cultural center for the nation.

The National Organising Committee proudly invites all the delegates to the Cultural Evening, the finest example of Korean traditional and modern performance. It will enable you to discover the dynamic power and spirit of Korean arts and will be a truly unforgettable experience.

A variety of wide-ranging events will be organised during the Congress. Cultural tour programmes will offer you rare opportunity to taste and experience such a unique culture firsthand.

The National Organising Committee will be awaiting with wide-open arms your arrival in Seoul, the unique harmony of old and new in Korea’s 600 year-old capital.

Ki-Nam Shin
President, National Organising Committee
Libraries: A journey through turbulent times!

Korea is the nation where man’s printing culture started. In the early 8th century, “Mu-gu-jeong-gwang-dae-da-ra-ni-gyeong”, a 7m × 6.5 cm-sized scroll, was made in Korea before any other known wood block printing in the world. In 1377, “Jik-ji-sim-che-yo-jeol” (a book containing a summary of Buddhist sermons handed down from the Goryeo Dynasty) was made in Korea. It is the oldest metal type-printed book in the world. At present, more than 120 million books on 43,585 titles are published in Korea every year. The nation’s libraries have also made steady progress. Until the Middle Ages, the development of the nation’s libraries centered around the royal court. In 1901, the first public library, Hongdo Library opened in Busan, Korea. Ever since, libraries have enjoyed rapid expansion. At present, the nation has 487 public libraries, 438 college and university libraries and 570 special-purpose libraries, in addition to 10,297 libraries at elementary and high schools. The libraries serve as institutions designed to help people enjoy their right to know and satisfy their desire for a variety of information.

The 37 libraries that will be opened for the delegates during the Congress will show their ultra-modern facilities operating on a computerized system to provide optimal service to the people. Please check how these selected libraries are preparing for the delegates in the following introductions.

The National Library of Korea

The National Library of Korea is the country’s largest library collecting and preserving the Korea’s cultural heritage, and making it accessible to the general public. Last year the National Library celebrated the 60th anniversary of the opening of the library with a variety of events. During the period of the WLIC 2006 Seoul there will be a special exhibition held at the National Library of Korea showing a number of old and rare books including “Seok-bo-sang-jeol” which is designated as a treasure and was printed in 1449. This is much earlier then the Gutenberg and is an essential resource for the study of metal movable printing and Korean phonetics.

National Assembly Library

The National Assembly Library will be opening the Assembly Members’ Reading Rooms to all delegates for WLIC 2006 Seoul. This is one of the unique features at the National Assembly Library and all delegates will have complete access to these facilities. They will also have the opportunity to access the updated National Assembly Digital Library which currently has more than 70 million pages of full text documents. The Library Annex has undergone recent reconstruction and will show delegates the latest mobile racks, treasure stack rooms, and many other up-to-date facilities.
Supreme Court Library of Korea

The Supreme Court Library welcomes delegates to the Supreme Court as well as to the library during the period of the WLIC 2006 Seoul. The Supreme Court Library plans to demonstrate “the Integrated Legal Information System” and its digital library project to delegates. Additionally, the Supreme Court Library will host the 2nd exhibition of calligraphy works and oriental paintings by judges and court clerks as well as events full of traditional cultural experiences. The visit to the Supreme Court Library will surely be an excellent opportunity leading to the understanding of the Korean Judiciary and its library system.

New! Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)!

On the IFLA-Website the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) have been updated. Please check http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla72/faq.htm for all the answers to your questions regarding IFLA’s World Library and Information Congress 2006.

Visa

Foreign delegates having return tickets coming from countries with no-visa agreement with Korea can normally stay in Korea up to 30 days without visa. However, the delegates should check with the Korean Embassy in their country or contact the Organising Committee. The Organising Committee for the WLIC 2006 Seoul will assist participants and issue official invitations to facilitate their travel allowance and visa application.

Hotels Seoul

The IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2006 Secretariat would like to draw your attention to new information regarding the hotels in Seoul. The prices on the website are published in Euro. In case you would like to book a hotel via the Congress Secretariat, please visit this link http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla72/faq.htm#Hotel

Here you can find all information regarding the hotels offered by the Congress Secretariat (the prices, the distance from the COEX Convention and Exhibition Centre etc.) and you can book your hotel on-line.

The Coop Residence Samsung Station and the Prima Hotel are conveniently located and clean but cannot be reserved via the Congress Secretariat. You can book a room at these hotels directly via the following links
- Coop Residence Samsung Station: www.samsung.co-op.com
- Prima Hotel: www.prima.co.kr

Delegates are not obliged to book their hotels through the service offered by Congrex.

International Trade Exhibition

In connection with the IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Seoul 2006, an international trade exhibition will be arranged at COEX Convention and Exhibition Centre. More than 55 companies have already booked stand space. The exhibition is open to all companies, governmental organisations and organisations with products and services related to the library field. It will be held from 20 - 23 August 2006. More than 1500 m² net exhibition space will be available in the exhibition hall. The stand allocations will be made prior to 1 March 2006. All information as well as the application form is published on this website http://congrex.webportalasp.com/newsletter/cxn/wlic2006/index.htm
Important Deadlines

- 01 May 06 Hotel room guarantee
- 01 May 06 Applications for ‘Harry Campbell IFLA Conference Attendance Grants’
- 15 May 06 Deadline for early registration discount
- 1 August 06 Close of pre-registration*

*After this date only on-site registration can be accepted.

IFLA Headquarters at the World Library and Information Congress 2006!

During the Congress, the IFLA staff will be at your service to provide you with a wide range of information about the work of IFLA, joining IFLA and becoming actively involved. This is an excellent opportunity to get answers to all your questions. IFLA staff will be available at the IFLA Secretariat or at the IFLA exhibition booth. IFLA merchandise will also be on sale at the booth including the Seoul version of the popular ‘IFLA on tour’- T-shirt.

Website

IFLA has its own website, www.ifla.org, which is the first point of easy access also for conference matters. You can find the Seoul logo on the main page and clicking on that will link you to information on registration, hotels, tours, library visits, exhibition etc. as well as online registration forms and the programme outline.

Please check the IFLA website regularly for updates!

Submitting Conference papers

The conference programme consists of a multitude of open sessions which are organised by different professional groups (Sections, Core Activities, Discussion Groups). Please note that all papers have to be submitted to one of these groups. However, please also note that most of the programme has been established already. All papers approved for presentation at the conference must be registered and coded at IFLA Headquarters. Only those papers received by IFLA no later than 1 June 2006 will be available to conference delegates. Individuals invited to speak at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress do not receive any funding. Attendance is at their own expense.
Satellite Meetings in conjunction with the IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2006

1. Resource Sharing, Reference and Collection Development in a Digital Age - a practical approach
IFLA sponsors: Acquisition and Collection Development Section, Document Delivery and Resource Sharing Section and Reference and Information Services Section
Location: National Library for Children and Young Adults, in Yeoksam-dong, Kangnam-Gu, Seoul (near COEX and the IFLA hotels)
Dates: 17-18 August 2006

2. Information Resources in Traditional Medicine
IFLA sponsor: Health and Biosciences Libraries Section
Location: To be confirmed
Dates: To be confirmed
Co-Sponsor: Columbia University - Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine

3. Chinese Written and Printed Cultural Heritage and Library Work
IFLA sponsor: Rare Books and Manuscripts Section
Location: Zhejiang Library, Hangzhou, China
Dates: 14, 15 and 16 August 2006
Co-Sponsor: Zhejiang Library, Hangzhou, China; Possibly: the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section

4. Library Management and Marketing in a Multicultural World
IFLA sponsor: Management and Marketing Section
Location: Pudong New Area, Shanghai, China
Dates: 16-17 August 2006
Co-Sponsor: Shanghai Pudong New Area Government, Shanghai Library, Shanghai Pudong New Area Library, Shanghai Life Sciences Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Special Supporter: Communication and Cooperation Committee, China Society for Library Science

5. (Annual) Satellite Meeting Parliamentary Libraries
IFLA sponsor: Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section
Location: National Assembly Library, Seoul, Korea
Dates: To be confirmed
Co-Sponsor: Korean National Assembly

6. Scholarly Information on East Asia in the 21st Century
IFLA sponsor: Asia and Oceania Section
Location: Yonsei University in Seoul
Dates: 18 August 2006
Co-Sponsors: Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS); Korean Education & Research Information Service (KERIS); Korean Library Association (KLA)

7. Preservation and Conservation in Asia
IFLA sponsors: Preservation and Conservation Section, Asia and Oceania Section, and IFLA/PAC Core Activity
Location: National Diet Library, Tokyo, Japan
Dates: 16-17 August 2006
Co-Sponsor: National Diet Library, Tokyo, Japan.
## Programme Preview

The general theme of the conference is “Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society.” Below you can find an overview of the sessions that are planned to be held during the conference in August.

[note: at this stage programmes may still change slightly.]

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Discover Korea

The Korean peninsula extends southward from the eastern end of the Asian continent. The Republic of Korea is located on the Korean Peninsula, with a landmass encompassing a total of 222,154 square kilometers. Mountains cover 70% of Korea’s landmass, making it one of the most mountainous regions in the world. Korea is a nation of lushly wooded valleys and unspoiled beaches. The lifting and folding of Korea’s granite and limestone base has created breathtaking landscapes of scenic hills and valleys. Administratively, the Republic of Korea consists of nine provinces; the capital Seoul; and the six metropolitan cities of Busan, Daegu, Incheon, Gwangju, Daejeon and Ulsan. In total, there are 77 cities and 88 counties with a population of 47.9 million.

In the course of the last few decades, the Republic of Korea has achieved what is widely acclaimed as the economic miracle on the Hangang River, an incredible process that dramatically transformed the Korean economy while marking a turning point in Korean history. With a history as one of the fastest growing economies in the world, Korea is working to become the focal point of a powerful Asian economic bloc during the 21st century. Korea is also known as an IT powerhouse with its information infrastructure such as broadband Internet which has expanded to cover the whole country.

Seoul, Dynamic and Friendly City

Seoul is located in the western part of the center of the Korean Peninsula and has a long history. It has served as the political, cultural, economic and transportation center of Korea for 600 years ever since it became Korea’s capital in the late 14th century during the Joseon Dynasty. The beautiful mountains and rivers of Seoul are in harmony with one another. The biggest attractions in Seoul are the places where you can find the antique style of old palaces in various locations throughout the city, while simultaneously feeling the dynamism of this metropolitan city.

Explore the Beauty of Seoul

Gangnam, where Business and Trends Begin

The Gangnam district is the place that leads the latest fashion trends in Korea. It has also emerged as a new central area of Seoul. Teheran-ro Street, which starts by the COEX, the venue for the WLIC 2006 Seoul, is the center of Korea’s numerous high-tech enterprises and the place where IT start-ups and dotcoms set up their companies. If you want to see some modern images of Seoul, visit the Gangnam district, where the city continues to create remarkable changes.
Four Main Gates Vicinity, A Beautiful Blend of Modern and the Traditional

In the past, Seoul was enclosed within its four gates. These areas, which were the center of Seoul in the past, housed the royal residences of the royal families and still serve as the center of Seoul and Korea. In addition, these areas are very attractive places where you can see low-lying stonewalls and modern high-rise buildings next to one another.

Royal Palaces

Five royal palaces have been preserved in the Jongno area, which was the center of the Joseon Dynasty. Although many parts of these palaces were destroyed during several wars, recent efforts to restore the destroyed parts of these palaces have been successful, providing rough images of what they were in the past. Changdeokgung is the best-preserved example of the architectural style of the Joseon Dynasty, as demonstrated by the designation of its compound as a World Heritage site by UNESCO.

Insa-dong, A Treasury of Antiques

The entire Insa-dong area is a living Korean cultural asset and museum. Large and small galleries, souvenir shops, traditional Korean paper shops, paper hanger shops, handicraft shops, ceramics shops and antique shops line both sides of the street and numerous side alleys. Among and above the cornucopia of shops sit various traditional restaurants and fascinating Koran teahouses. Delegates can sense the weight of tradition and feel the elegantly unique Korean sentiments in which the area is shrouded.

Itaewon, The World in Seoul

In Itaewon, you can encounter the most foreigners in Seoul: it’s where you can meet the world. There are many places to see and eat, and many of the stops, restaurants, and bars cater to foreigners. There are almost 2,000 fashion shops selling clothes, shoes, and bags, and delegates should have no problems since most of the shopkeepers speak English well.

Hangang, Seoul's Symbol

The Hangang River horizontally divides Seoul into northern and southern parts. Seoul’s scenery can be enjoyed at a leisurely pace by taking a boat cruise along the river. In particular, an evening ferry cruise can offer you beautiful and romantic scenery as the river winds its way towards the setting sun.

Eating Out

Tasting exotic food is one of the greatest delights of traveling. Seoul has a wide variety of restaurants from tiny old-style houses to stylish modern buildings offering varied types of cuisine. In the COEX shopping mall and the surrounding area, you can easily find Korean, Japanese, Chinese and Western restaurants at reasonable prices.
Meeting with Korean Traditional Art

There will be a great opportunity to discover Korean traditional art designed for the delegates who want to experience Korean traditional culture. This program is supported by the Foundation for the Preservation of Cultural Properties Korea (FPCP). The following programs are available at the FPCP building located at 112-2, Samseang-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul and more detailed information will be ready at the information desk during the Congress. For further information, check the FPCP web site

http://www.kous.or.kr/foreign/eng/fpcp01.htm.

Performance

"Pungnyu Hanmadang"
This program gives everyone a chance to enjoy traditional culture, and gives performers a stage to show their ability. The delegates can appreciate various kinds of fantasy through theme performance such as Pansori, Gut(exorcism) and masque dance etc. It is performed every Friday evening at 7:30.

Exhibition

"Meeting with important intangible cultural property holders"
This exhibition is a demonstration for making Korean art.
"The Cultural Heritage Book Fair of North and South Korea"
The event is designed to offer the opportunity, through books as a medium, to look back over the past 60-year history of Korea, a divided country. Delegates can appreciate the nation’s traditional handicrafts, along with books on cultural properties of the two parts of Korea as well as a list of items displayed in museums throughout South Korea.

Twelve Craft Shops

The delegates can appreciate the manufacturing process and completed works of important intangible cultural property. There are twelve beautiful shops where delegates can browse:
- Gatil (Horsehair Hat Making) Craft Shop
- Maedeup (Art of Decorative Knotting) Craft shops
- Jogak (Engraving) Craft Shop
- Akgi (Musical Instrument) Craft Shop
- Gunghi (Bow and Arrow) Craft Shop
- Ispa (Metal Inlaying) Craft Shop
- Jasu (Embroidery) Craft Shop
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- Soban (Tray) Craft Shop
- Gakja (Woodblock Engraving) Craft Shop
- Hwagak (Ox Horn Inlaying) Craft Shop

Meeting with Korean Traditional Art

There will be a great opportunity to discover Korean traditional art designed for the delegates who want to experience Korean traditional culture. This program is supported by the Foundation for the Preservation of Cultural Properties Korea (FPCP). The following programs are available at the FPCP building located at 112-2, Samseang-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul and more detailed information will be ready at the information desk during the Congress. For further information, check the FPCP web site

http://www.kous.or.kr/foreign/eng/fpcp01.htm.

Performance

"Pungnyu Hanmadang"
This program gives everyone a chance to enjoy traditional culture, and gives performers a stage to show their ability. The delegates can appreciate various kinds of fantasy through theme performance such as Pansori, Gut(exorcism) and masque dance etc. It is performed every Friday evening at 7:30.

Exhibition

"Meeting with important intangible cultural property holders"
This exhibition is a demonstration for making Korean art.
"The Cultural Heritage Book Fair of North and South Korea"
The event is designed to offer the opportunity, through books as a medium, to look back over the past 60-year history of Korea, a divided country. Delegates can appreciate the nation’s traditional handicrafts, along with books on cultural properties of the two parts of Korea as well as a list of items displayed in museums throughout South Korea.

Twelve Craft Shops

The delegates can appreciate the manufacturing process and completed works of important intangible cultural property. There are twelve beautiful shops where delegates can browse:
- Gatil (Horsehair Hat Making) Craft Shop
- Maedeup (Art of Decorative Knotting) Craft shops
- Jogak (Engraving) Craft Shop
- Akgi (Musical Instrument) Craft Shop
- Gunghi (Bow and Arrow) Craft Shop
- Ispa (Metal Inlaying) Craft Shop
- Jasu (Embroidery) Craft Shop
- Chimseon (Needlework) Craft Shop
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