



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS (IFLA)

World Library and Information Congress: 71st IFLA General Conference and Council
Oslo, Norway, 14-18 August 2005

<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/index.htm>

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

held in the Sonja Henie Auditorium, Radisson SAS Plaza Hotel,
Oslo, on 14 and 18 August 2005.

1. The President of IFLA, Kay Raseroka, Presided.

2. Opening

The President opens the Council meeting at 08:35. She welcomes delegates and wishes them a successful Congress. She welcomes the IFLA Parliamentarian, Jan-Ewout van der Putten, who has been appointed to advise the President and office bearers on correct parliamentary procedure, should this be necessary.

3. Welcome

Prof Jon Bing, Chairperson of the National Organising Committee for the World Library and Information Congress: 71st IFLA Conference and Council, Oslo 2005, welcomed the delegates to Oslo, mentioned a few highlights in store for them, and wished them a pleasant stay in Oslo and an enjoyable Congress.

4. Appointment of Tellers

At the request of the President the Secretary General proposes the following persons to serve as tellers for the Council meeting:

Jo Anne Boorkman (USA)
Jan Bos (Netherlands)
Aree Cheunwattana (Thailand)
Susan Lazinger (Israel)
Gunilla Jonsson (Sweden)

He proposes that Susan Lazinger be designated as head teller. The meeting **approves** the appointment of the tellers.

5. Establishment of a Quorum (5 minutes)

The President announces that at the beginning of the meeting there were 110 Association Members in good standing. A quorum of 56 Association Members is therefore needed. The Tellers count 47 such members. A **quorum** is therefore **not established**. The President proposes that the meeting continue to transact its business in

accordance with Article 15.8.3 of the Statutes, in terms of which the announced business may be transacted subject to decisions gaining a two-thirds majority of those present. Such business may be implemented only if subsequently endorsed by a quorate meeting of the Governing Board. Any decisions made may be confirmed at the next meeting of Council. If a quorum is not present at that meeting, agenda items requiring confirmation or decision shall be referred to a postal ballot.

6. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda is **adopted** by the meeting. The President reminds Council that resolutions may be submitted for consideration at Council II. The deadline for submission is 12:00 on Wednesday 17 August, at the Secretariat. The Executive Committee of the Governing Board will review all the resolutions immediately afterwards and persons submitting resolutions are requested to be available for consultation at the Secretariat at 13:00 on that day, in case any clarification is required.

7. Minutes of the previous meeting, held in Buenos Aires on 23 and 27 August 2004

Gary Strong, seconded by Bob McKee, moves the adoption of the minutes. The minutes are **adopted**.

8. Formal announcement of the Results of the Postal Ballot for the Election of the President-elect and for places on the Governing Board

The Secretary General reads out the results:

President-elect:

* Cláudia Lux (Germany)	1094 - elected
* Cristóbal Pasadas Ureña (Spain)	330 - not elected

Governing Board

* Bob McKee (United Kingdom)	960 elected
* Barbara J. Ford (United States)	931 elected
* Shawky Salem (Egypt)	858 elected for a second term
* Zhang Xiaolin (China)	818 elected
* Gunnar Sahlin (Sweden)	802 elected
* Réjean Savard (Canada)	790 elected
* Han Sang-Wan (Korea, Rep. of-)	708 elected
* Adolfo Rodríguez Gallardo (Mexico)	684 elected
* Vinyet Panyella (Spain)	682 elected for a second term
* Tiiu Valm (Estonia)	676 elected for a second term
* T.A.V. Murthy (India)	660 not elected
* N. Varaprasad (Singapore)	575 not elected

The total number of valid ballot papers received for the vacancies on the Governing Board was 522, a return rate of 41.4%. This represents 1425 votes, 55.9% of the possible total. Two members of staff of the Royal Library of the Netherlands, Perry Moree and Jan Bos, acted as scrutineers.

The President asks Council to note these results. She congratulates the newly elected officers and announces that they will be formally presented to the membership at Council II.

9. Presentation of the President's Report

The President presents her report, in which she reflects on the commitments she made as a candidate for the Presidency, to facilitate communication between different library and information worlds, to uphold IFLA's core values and to support the members who strive to uphold these values in practice. The focus of her Presidency was on facilitating transition and change. The Governing Board has approved a more focussed model for IFLA, based on three pillars: Society, Profession and Members. These are interdependent and not mutually exclusive, but offer a way of understanding IFLA holistically and a framework for IFLA's management and budget. During her presidency much emphasis was placed on world-wide advocacy for libraries. IFLA was actively involved in advocacy at UNESCO, the World Trade Organisation, the World Intellectual Property Organisation, and the World Summit on the Information Society. Librarians need to develop and maintain lifelong learning. This was highlighted by the presidential theme of "Libraries for life-long literacy". Libraries cannot achieve their community development objectives single-handed. They need to form partnerships. This also applies to IFLA. IFLA has worked on building partnerships with a range of organisations, including the International Publishers Association (IPA), the International Reading Association (IRA), and the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY). In summing up, the President urged all members to work together to strengthen IFLA and recommended that IFLA work on developing a strategic plan, to consolidate the expertise in its ranks, and to involve more members in IFLA advocacy and professional development activities.

10. Presentation of the Annual Report by the Secretary General

The Secretary General reported that 2004 had been a difficult year for IFLA. Negative factors were the rapid turnover in the position of Secretary General, a difficult economic climate, and lack of membership growth. However, there was also much good news to report, some highlights being the successful World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires in August 2004 (the first IFLA Conference in South America), the completion of the first of a series of peer evaluations of IFLA's Core Activities, successful implementation of a new system of membership fees for association members, a bumper crop of publications, good results from the IFLA interlending voucher scheme, continuing expansion of IFLANET, and the awarding by the Swedish aid agency, Sida, of a large project grant for ALP and FAIFE. IFLA is addressing challenges in respect of funding, the development of our advocacy role, information and communications technology capacity, membership development, communication and strategic planning. A business process review is being launched, which will feed into a more general restructuring process aimed at building IFLA's capacity for advocacy. He is confident that in its dedicated membership and staff IFLA has a resource that will enable it to successfully address the challenges it faces. Gary Strong, seconded by Vinyet Panyella, moves the approval of the report of the President and Secretary General. The reports are **approved**.

11. Presentation of the Annual Accounts for 2004 by the Treasurer

The Treasurer, Ingrid Parent presents her report, which for the first time included an analysis of income and expenditure in accordance with the three Pillars. During 2004 IFLA incurred a loss of EUR 236.405, compared to a loss in the previous year of EUR 98.849. This is attributable to a number of unusual events, including personnel costs arising inter alia from the turnover of secretaries general and a large write-off of bad debt. These events are not expected to recur. In addition IFLA's membership is static and many members have been slow in paying their membership dues. However, for 2005 a small surplus is budgeted. A working party of the Governing Board has recommended a number of fund-raising activities, including the establishment of an IFLA Fund. The Governing Board has approved this at its first meeting during the Congress, and to show their commitment, they personally contributed an amount of over EUR 700. Members are invited to make a contribution during the Congress, in honour of the outgoing President, Kay Raseroka.

The President announces that a "Meet the Treasurer" session is being introduced this year, during which the Treasurer will give a more detailed presentation and opportunities will be given for questions and discussion. Sissel Nilsen, seconded by Ia McIlwaine, moves the approval of the Treasurer's report. The report is **approved**.

12. In Memoriam of those members who have died during the past year

The President reads the names of a number of colleagues who have passed away since the Buenos Aires Conference, and of whose death IFLA has been informed:

- Thelma Tate (United States)
- Prof Stan Made (Zimbabwe)
- Stuart Brewer (United Kingdom)
- Jacqueline Dubois (France)
- Alexi P. Romanov (Russian Federation)
- Anne Lipow (United States)

She also recalls other colleagues who have died during the past year, including those who perished tragically in the Indian Ocean Tsunami. Members rise for a moment of silence.

13. Adjournment of Council until Thursday 18 August 2005

The President announces that the Council meeting is adjourned until Thursday 18 August at 16:00 in the Sonja Henie Auditorium, Radisson Plaza Hotel.

14. Opening of second Council session, Thursday 18 August at 16:00 in the Sonja Henie Auditorium, Radisson Plaza Hotel

The outgoing President, Kay Raseroka, opens the meeting. She invites the incoming President, Alex Byrne, to preside over the meeting and hands over the gavel to him. Alex Byrne takes over the chair. He welcomes the members of the Governing Board elected for 2005-2007 and thanks the outgoing Governing Board members for their service to IFLA:

Evgeniy Kuz'min
Sissel Nilsen
Ingrid Parent

Christina Stenberg (co-opted member)
Ellen Tise
Jianzhong Wu
Ana Maria Peruchena Zimmermann.

15. Presentation of the Report of the Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM) by the Chair, Winston Tabb

Mr Tabb relates copyright and related legal issues to one of IFLA's eleven professional priorities: "Balancing the Intellectual Property Rights of Authors with the Needs of Users". He outlines the activities of CLM, highlighting three areas:

- Public Lending Right: IFLA's position statement is summarised.
- The right to read of print-disabled readers
- The proposed Access to Knowledge Treaty (A2K)

Two needs arise from the work of CLM during the past year: The first is the need for strong support of its efforts from associations and librarians at the national level. Second, CLM suffers from having no staff support and no funding from IFLA. All of its activities have been undertaken by volunteers at their expense or the expense of their home organizations. The possibility of creating a staff position for CLM, which would alleviate this problem, is currently under consideration. The full report is available on IFLANET at <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/clm-councilRep2005.html>.

16. Presentation of the Report on the Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) Committee by the Chair, Paul Sturges

Professor Sturges reports that FAIFE has developed a strong programme and a significant research and response capacity. However, FAIFE's financial situation remains worrying. A large grant has been received from the Swedish aid agency, Sida, but this is for funding projects, not for office expenses. The Sida grant encourages a close working relationship between FAIFE and the Action for development through Libraries Programme (ALP). The two core activities will be able to undertake joint projects in areas such as information for improving the status of women and information for combating HIV/AIDS.

During the year FAIFE underwent a peer evaluation. This served as a pilot for the evaluation of all of IFLA's core activities. The outcome was generally positive and much was learned. The integration of FAIFE with IFLA's headquarters to form, together with CLM, the nucleus of IFLA's advocacy work, involved some difficult decisions

The fifth volume in FAIFE's World Report series was issued. IFLA also responded to a number of situations in which freedom of information and freedom of expression were endangered in various countries. Professor Sturges emphasised that in these cases FAIFE's responses are carefully researched. When unfavourable comments are received, they often come from both sides. As an example of FAIFE's activities,

Professor Sturges mentioned the investigation into the effect of post 9/11 terrorism legislation, which had been the subject of a resolution at the 2003 Berlin WLIC. The latest World Report provides valuable information on this.

17. Quorum

The President announces that at the beginning of this session there were 115 Association Members in good standing. A quorum of 58 Association Members is therefore needed. The Tellers count 64 such members. A **quorum** is therefore **established**.

18. Confirmation of decisions of the first, non-quorate, session of Council

Don Butcher, seconded by Ellen Tise, moves the conformation of the decisions taken during the Council session On Sunday 14 August. This is accepted by the meeting.

19. Motions and resolutions

Beatrice Christensen Sköld, seconded by Lina Kouzi, proposes the following resolution:

“Council urges IFLA’s Governing Board from now on to make all IFLA information and publications as well as the website accessible for print-impaired persons.”

Beatrice Sköld offers the assistance of the Libraries for the Blind Section in implementing such a policy. During the discussion questions about the cost and feasibility, and wider issues of accessibility are raised. Vibeke Lehmann urges that all IFLA meeting sites and venues should be accessible to disabled persons, including persons with reduced mobility. IFLA’s registration form should have a box in which registrants can indicate their disabilities. The President points out that the meeting lacks the information needed to make a decision on the resolution and suggests that the matter be referred to the Governing Board. After further discussion the resolution is referred to the Governing Board, for report back at the next Council meeting.

20. Address by the President

Alex Byrne briefly addresses the meeting. He thanks Jan-Ewout van der Putten for serving as IFLA’s Parliamentarian and the staff and Secretary General for helping to ensure that the Closing Session and Council II went smoothly. He reiterates the thanks to the Norwegian National Organising Committee, the volunteers and the interpreters as expressed by the President-Elect during the Closing Ceremony. He wishes all delegates a safe journey home and expresses the hope that we will meet again in Seoul.

21. Closure

The President closes the meeting at 17:50.