



**Minutes of First Standing Committee Meeting of  
Government Libraries Section, IFLA  
16<sup>th</sup> August 2014, Lyon, France**

Present: Sanjay K Bihani - Chair (India), Anoja Fernando - Secretary (UK), Jerry Mansfield (USA - member), Beacher Wiggins (USA - Member), Inger Jepsson (Sweden - Member), Maria Goeckeritz (Germany - Member), Pavel Kiselev (Russia - Member), Elina Kähö (Finland - member), Jérôme Fronty (France – Corresponding member), Emma Voskanyan (Russia- Member), Maria del Carmen Díez-Hoyo (Spain),

Apologies: Guillermo García-Capcha – Information Coordinator (Peru), Miguel Navas-Fernández (Spain), Kaoru Oshima (Japan), Duncan Omole, Magdalena Biota and Fatima Alloul, Muireann Tóibín (Corresponding Members),

Guests Present: James Church (USA), Dr. Satendra Singh Dhaka (India), Brendon Doyle (Angola), Agnes Fülöp (Hungary), Heta Oksanen (Finland), Elena Escolano Rodriguez (Spain)

1. Welcome: Chair Sanjay K Bihani welcomed the Standing Committee members and guests to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves. The Committee recorded agreement.
2. Agenda: The agenda was accepted and the meeting commenced.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting: Minutes from IFLA Singapore were accepted.
4. Report from Chair: Sanjay read the report for the year. Several initiatives were successfully launched and implemented. The IFLA Government libraries section leaflet was successfully redrafted between Sanjay, Anoja & Guillermo. Guillermo undertook the formatting and graphic layout in Peru and Sanjay printed the leaflets in India to achieve Value for Money. Sanjay worked around the clock to get sufficient leaflets printed and he carried leaflets for distribution in the Special Libraries Conference in Vancouver 2014 and at the Greek Libraries Conference in June 2014.

Sanjay's appearance at the Greek Libraries Conference was a resounding success and Jerry applauded Sanjay's speech and its Greek translation on our website as "very impressive." Sanjay explained that the Greek guidelines were launched at the Conference and that there had been a great deal of coordination between Sanjay, Guillermo and the Greek authorities and printers in India to meet deadlines. Sanjay also distributed printed copies of the Newsletter which is available on the website.

5. Report from Secretary: Anoja expressed her appreciation to Sanjay and Guillermo for guiding her through the 1<sup>st</sup> year as Secretary. She was amazed by the remarkable co-ordination that was made possible to meet deadlines by the time-zones differences in India, UK and Peru. She particularly mentioned the Newsletter which was circulated at the meeting. Sanjay and Guillermo had worked hard to meet the

deadline. During the year, Anoja coordinated with IFLA HQ regarding membership of the Committee as necessary and hoped to continue in a similar capacity during the coming year.

6. Report from Information Coordinator: Chair Sanjay Bihani read the report in the absence of Guillermo. Everyone complimented Guillermo's efforts at producing an excellent Newsletter and leaflet.
7. Election of New Member and Officers 2013-15: The current membership continues until IFLA Cape Town 2015. Jerry will advise Anoja how to progress the process as necessary for the future. Action: Jerry and Anoja in consultation with Sanjay
8. Strategic Plan 2014-16: Sanjay and Anoja were attending the Division Leadership Forum on the 17<sup>th</sup> August between 8:30-10:00 am and hoped to report back.
9. Finance: The administrative budget of Euro 150 was spent on the printing of leaflets which was distributed during IFLA Conference and other conferences.
10. Projects: Pavel Kiselev (Russia - Member) circulated a leaflet inviting colleagues to attend "Law and Information: the Questions of Theory and Practice" Conference at the Boris Yeltsin Presidential Library (3, Senatskaya Square, St. Petersburg, Russia) 16-17 April 2015. The round table "The Role of Libraries in the Area of Government Authority and State Service" would be one of the major events of the conference. The participating executives and librarians will exchange their best practices of governmental informational services arrangement. We will bring up the tracks of organizational structure, acquisition, official inquiries, and public services for the discussion. Videoconference participants are welcome. Published materials translated into Russian will follow.

The Chair agreed to support communications via GLS as necessary. Committee discussed the possibilities of attendance and various methods of participation, including:

- working towards designating the Russian Conference as a project and several ideas were discussed, including linking it to IFLA Pillars and Key Initiatives (Action: Anoja offered to liaise with Pavel)
- presentation of papers by delegates from countries nearest to St. Petersburg
- using Sanjay's participation at the Greek Libraries as a precedent, to invite the Chair
- Costs of attendance was discussed and Pavel offered to find out whether accommodation can be arranged (Action: Pavel)

11. Lyon Conference Programme:

- i) Sanjay reminded and invited the Committee to attend the Government Libraries Section Session 211 — Government libraries as knowledge platforms for citizen engagement (Government Libraries with Government Information and Official Publications) on 21 August 2014 10:45 - 12:45

In keeping with the overall theme of the conference - 'Librarians, Citizens, Societies: Confluence of Knowledge' - the session aims to address the ways that libraries and information services in government agencies are putting in place projects where information and knowledge can be systematized and shared, contributing to solving particular public issues. Subjects of interest include experiences on information governance strategy in the public sector and digital library projects.

Each presenter will give a short ten minute presentation in English. Later, each presenter will lead a table discussion along with a member of the Government

Libraries Section (GLS). Members of the audience are free to attend a table according to their interests. The discussions may focus on the impact of these topics on their library services, how to replicate the plan / project introduced in the presentation. The outcome of each group will be reported by the Presenter or a GLS member who participated in the table.

Unfortunately, two of the speakers from India were unable to participate due to financial assistance not becoming available as anticipated.

Emma Voskanyan (Russia) kindly offered to present as an alternative speaker and her offer was gratefully accepted by the Committee.

ii) James Church introduced the GIOPS Session 201 — Libraries, Governments and Cultural Heritage — Government Information and Official Publications with Government Libraries 21 August 2014 08:30 - 10:30 | Room: Auditorium Pasteur

12. Several colleagues reported from their countries.

i) Elina Kaho (Finland) reported that in Finland all Ministries are coming together as One Library

ii) Brendon Doyle (Angola) reported that he is working as a Consultant for Government Libraries in Angola and would invite the Head of Angolan Government Libraries to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> GLS meeting as time permits.

*Minutes prepared by Anoja Fernando (Secretary)*