IFLA - Information Technology Section

Minutes of meetings

Presiding Officers (3):
Reinhard Altenhöner, Chair; Alenka Kavčič-Čolić, Secretary; Edmund Balnaves, Information Officer

Standing Committee members present (10):
Jonas Ahlberg, Emmanuelle Bermes, Antonin Benoit Diouf, H. Frank Cervone, Patrick Danowski, Giuliana de Francesco, Cindy Hill, Karen Keiller, Tiina Ison, Eva Müller

Apologies for absence received from (3):
Alexeis Garcia Pérez, Belén Llera Cermeño, Hilde van Wijngaarden

Other Standing Committee members absent (9):
Nazha Hachad, Lesiba Steve Ledwaba, Andrea Marchitelli, Penny Robertson, Sue Stimpson, Vivekanand Jain, Dawei Wei, Hee-Kyung Yoo, Zhixiong Zhang

Guests (17):
Hassan Aakki, Leslie Nii Tei Addico, Hasna Askhita, Sara van Bussel, Bae Changsuk, Albert Fynn, Jose Garnica, Ezra S. Gbaje, Mahmoud Khalifa, Mats Lindquist, Sally McCallum, Martin Morris, Aime-Joel Nitlubona, Rose B. Okiy, Kidist Shaurul, Lars Svensson, Eric Toussaint,

1. **Welcome and introductions**
   The Chair welcomed the Committee members and guests.

2. **Wrap up new members and participants: trends and figures --> first outlook to Puerto Rico and current tasks**
   Each participant was asked to introduce themself and very briefly describe his/her vision about the IT future trends and IT developments considered necessary in their local environment. The Secretary of the Section summarised these issue and positioned them for further discussion at the second SC meeting.

3. **Approval of MILAN Minutes**
   The meeting of the 2009 ITS SC meetings in Milan were adopted and approved by those present.

4. **Financial report – short report -annual report**
   The Chair informed the IT SC members that the IT Section budget was used to fund the publication of two issues of the ITS Newsletter and to cover the expenses of two keynote speakers at the conference in Gothenburg.

5. **Report on ITS activities in 2009-2010**
   During the Milan section meetings, four working groups were created to focus on specific topics of relevant to the Section. The work in these groups has continued since last IFLA conference.

   5.1 **Semantic Web working group** - Emmanuelle Bermes reported about the activities of this group during the last year. She has been involved in the preparation of the IT session at IFLA 2010 in Gothenburg. The session was prepared in cooperation with the

Cataloguing, Classification and Indexing and Knowledge Management Sections. There is a need of closer cooperation with these sections.

In addition, Emmanuelle Bermes informed SC members that there is a community building on semantic web. She became member and co-chair of the "Library Linked Data" incubator group (LLD XG), which has been created within the W3C in May 2009 for one year. The group consists of 40 participants from many organizations, not only libraries. Their work is linked to IFLA activities concerning the use of web standards in libraries and finding a way to apply them in our environments – data models, RDA new cataloguing code. Moreover, there is a need for creation of a division between standards in the semantic web. The cooperation between W3C, ISO and IFLA in this regard is important.

In May or June next year the results of the incubator group will be presented in a final report and it will be a good opportunity to present them at IFLA conference. IFLA represents a strong forum to bring the traditional library strengths in formal ontologies. The Knowledge Management and Indexing and Classification Sections might be interested in further cooperation in this area.

Actions: It was proposed that the group joins in a meeting during the conference and discusses its future activities.

5.2   Open Source for libraries. The report was given by Edmund Balnaves, who stressed out that the experience in Rome with Parliamentary libraries was positive, and is building on existing momentum in the open source area. Capacity building in a multilingual and regional framework for libraries is important. There is a big interest in fostering these efforts and Edmund Balnaves will be interested in organizing another workshop around this topic.

Another important topic remains copyright and intellectual property which affects open access, archiving and management of digital resources.

Edmund Balnaves noted that in the last two issues of the ITS Newsletter web services experiences in open source were included.

Edmund Balnaves suggested the IT Section to propose an IFLA ALP grant (http://www.ifla.org/en/alp/project-applications) for next year to support a regional open source workshop (similar to the one conducted in Rome) in a relevant regional area (eg Asia Pacific, or Middle East, or South America).

Eva Muller added that one of interesting topics regarding open source may be the usage statistics in access publications and publishing houses and publishers together with citation analysis. For instance, the protocol OISTER for statistics. Guidelines in open source in libraries and publishers are needed.

Actions: Eva Muller and Edmund Balnaves will discuss possible guidelines for statistics and repositories (standards and protocols) in cooperation with the IFLA Section for Statistics and Evaluation Section. There is also a possibility to prepare a session with Statistics and Evaluation Section and FAIFE in Puerto Rico.

5.3 Mobile computing. Patrick Danowski reported that he had to cancel the SIG 2.0 session on mobile computing in Gothenburg because he did not receive enough papers. The topic is of potential interest for the 2011 conference.

Actions: Cindy Hill and Patrick Danowski will investigate what we can do in this field.

5.4 (Long-term) Preservation – Hilde van Wijngaarden was not able to attend the 1st meeting. She will be reporting at the second SC meeting.

6 ITS-officers in 2011 – first steps – the Chair informed the SC members that the next year will be election year, when a new Chair, Secretary and Information Officer should be elected. The election will affect as well other Standing Committee members whose term is terminating next year. This is also the case of Reinhard Altenhoener the actual Chair, whose second term is ending. The Chair, the Secretary and the Information Officer invited the SC members to apply for the posts of IFLA officers.

7 Report from the Coordinating Board – Alenka Kavčič-Čolić reported briefly on the Division Leadership Forum session held on Monday, 9 August 2010 from 15:00 – 16:00 hrs. The main topics were: the review of the highlights of the plans for the near future by Patrice Landry, i.e. the new conference program structure, requirements for the satellite meetings, roles and responsibilities of division Chairs and Section's Officer, the forthcoming elections, general information by IFLA HQ, and activities planned in Gothenburg.

8 eIFLnet / FOSS (Free Open Source Software) activities and related topics around initiatives for developing countries
    8.1 The Chair stressed the high importance of FOSS and the cooperation with eIFLnet. It is very important that the IT Section promotes the use of library integrated systems, open source and other digital library software (for instance Greenstone). Antonin Benoit Diouf as national coordinator for Senegal in the Southern African Greenstone Support Network has proposed to initiate a SIG on FOSS. The idea had support among ITS SC members.

        Actions: The ITS SC needs to define the mission of the SIG and to clarify IFLA's role and the role of eIFL. The next steps are to prepare a concrete proposal for IFLA HQ.

    8.2 Cooperation with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: ATLA program. Steve Bergen, guest at the meeting, informed the SC members about the Access to Learning Award (ATLA), which Bill & Melinda Gates Foundations gives each year to public libraries or similar organizations outside the United States. The aim of this program is to connect people to information through free access to computers and the Internet.

9 Update Strategic Plan ITS
    The Chair presented the new IFLA model of strategic planning presented at the Division Leadership Forum session. The sections are requested to identify one action that links to the Priority Activities of IFLA. This is a complex task for IT Section, since its activities are linked to almost all priority activities of IFLA.

10 ITS- SIG "Library 2.0"
Patrick Danowski informed SC members that he is leaving from the IT section as he has changed jobs and the new job description is not related very much to the activities of the section. He said that he was not able to find a replacement for the SIG Library 2.0. He will try to encourage a new supporter for the SIG during the conference. If he does not succeed he proposed ending the group, as it had achieved it substantive goals of increasing awareness of Library 2.0 within IFLA.

11 Report from the Information Coordinator (including information communication infrastructure IFLA)

Standards and practice in RFID. There are a number of issues around standards in this area, including the emerging ISO standards, that look too technology/supplier specific and unwieldy.

Edmund Balnaves described the structure and publishing efforts in the ITS Newsletter. We have had a good series of articles published over the last few years and we should endeavour to maintain this impetus. He invited all the participants at the SC meeting to contribute to the ITS Newsletter.

12 ITS activities in Gothenburg 2010

IT sessions – last settings / coordination - This year the IT Section together with other groups organizes several activities in Gothenburg. Information on all of them was distributed to ITS members before the conference. These are:

- On Monday 9 August 2010 took part an excellent satellite meeting organized by Jan Hagerlid and sponsored by IFLA IT Section on Open Access and the Changing role of Libraries
- On Friday, 13 August 2010 will take part the session on Global learning systems, organized together by Information Technology, Knowledge management, and Continuing Professional Development & Workplace Learning Sections.
- On Saturday, 14 August 2010 will take place the session by ITS and FAIFE.
- On Sunday 15 August the ITS is organizing two sessions, the first one on Libraries and the Semantic web, together with the Cataloguing, Classification and Indexing with Knowledge management Sections and later, together with ICADS a session on Development of systems for long-term storage and preservation of library collections
- The second ITS SC meeting was planned for Friday from 15:00 – 16:30 hrs.

All the arrangements regarding moderators and speakers have been set.

13 SC IT social event

Alenka Kavčič-Čolić informed the ITS SC members about the traditional informal gathering at a dinner during IFLA conference. There were several ideas but the final address of the restaurant will be informed.

14 Other IFLA Gothenburg issues – There were no other issues.

Second ITS Standing Committee Meeting - Gothenburg 13 August 2010

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Reinhard Altenhöner, Chair; Alenka Kavčič-Čolić, Secretary; Edmund Balnaves, Information Officer

Standing Committee members present (12):
Jonas Ahlberg, Emmanuelle Bermes, Antonin Benoit Diouf, H. Frank Cervone, Patrick Danowski, Giuliana de Francesco, Alexeis Garcia Pérez, Cindy Hill, Karen Keiller, Tiina Ison, Eva Müller, Hilde van Wijngaarden

Apologies for absence received from (1):
Belén Llera Cermeño,

Other Standing Committee members absent (9):
Nazha Hachad, Lesiba Steve Ledwaba, Andrea Marchitelli, Penny Robertson, Sue Stimpson, Vivekanand Jain, Dawei Wei, Hee-Kyung Yoo, Zhixiong Zhang

Guests (17):
Sally McCallum, Karen Latimer**,** Frank Seliger, Anna Maria Tammaro, Xuemao Wang

15 Highlights and experiences of the 2010 Conference
Two key IT Section sessions are on Sunday after the meeting. While the timing of the sessions concurrently was unfortunate, all presenters are ready for the sessions.

16 Paper nominated by the ITS SC for publication in the IFLA Newsletter
Since the ITS sessions are after the 2nd IT Section meeting, it was not possible to vote on paper nominations. The nomination will be done by email after the conference. All the members will receive a list on which they will select what they consider to be the best paper.

17 Collaboration with IIPC: Common approach to extend web archiving actions to a broader scope?
Hilde van Wijngaarden gave the overview of the International Internet Preservation Consortium of which Steering Committee she is member, and emphasized the importance of cooperation between IFLA ITS and this organization. The ITS might become a liaison between IIPC and IFLA members regarding archiving the web. She added that the ITS might organize a satellite meeting or session on this topic, inviting the IIPC to take part.

Alenka Kavčič-Čolić said that there is no doubt about the importance of IIPC, but we should be aware that there are many channels that already cover the web archiving activities, like the European Web Archive and specialized conferences like IWAW and others. In addition, the activities might be important for a small community only like the national libraries and other depository institutions. The Information Technology Section already had a session on archiving the web at IFLA in Glasgow 2002. But certainly, it will be good to speak with the representatives of the National Libraries Section on a possible cooperation.

18 Plans for Puerto Rico: choice of theme; choice of SC members who will develop this theme and organize the 2011 session
During the first days of the conference the members of the ITS were contacted by other sections for cooperation in Puerto Rico. The SC members were informed on the results.

- Karen Latimer, the Chair of the **Section for Library Buildings and Equipment** proposed that the ITS co-organize a joint satellite preconference in Puerto Rico. Patrick

Danowski added that the electronic devices and mobile phones require special arrangement in the libraries, and we should include this topic too.

Actions: *Frank Cervone and Karen Keller will contact the Library Buildings and Equipment Section. Patrick Danowski will try to get a contact in the mobile computing area.*

- **Open Source working group** - Edmund Balnaves reported on the open source meeting held at IFLA conference during the last days. The ALP program provides grants for workshops in priority areas defined by IFLA. It might include ICT training in open source. These workshops can be organized also for Africa with eIFL forces and ALP program.
Possible topic area for the session: Integration of open source systems, good services statistics, pairing of systems, digital systems – what happens in the integration of federated search engines, commercial and open source systems.

  There was not sufficient follow-up interest to justify forming a SIG supporting open source.

  The **Statistics and Evaluation Section** has approached the ITS for cooperation regarding statistics and metrics. There could be good practices and examples approach (case studies, success stories) of enterprise implementations including open source (also binding with commercial systems).

- **Semantic web** – Emmanuelle Bermes reported on the meeting of the working group held on Thursday 12 August 2010 (enclosed). The group has realized that there is a need for more formal way of work through a Special Interest Group (SIG). The SIG should be started before Puerto Rico; the conference is a good opportunity to present the results of the W3C-group and to discuss next steps within IFLA. We approached three sections for cooperation in order to start a common SIG:
    o the **Classification and Indexing Section** – they said that the idea was good and expressed their support;
    o the **Knowledge Management Section**, whose Chair Xuemao Wang was guest at the SC meeting supports the initiative. He will take this idea to the Section at their next SC meeting on Saturday 14 August. what the SIG should be established is a spin off with other group. Since KM is small section and tries to promote new members Xuemao Wang asked for clarification regarding the needed resources. No satellite meeting is planned for next year. We might focus on 2 hours core session of KM section.
    o it might be core activity for IFLA in **Cataloguing Section** – they have different approaches. The Government Board will talk on that on Monday.
    o Emmanuelle Bermes will follow the activities of the **W3C Library Linked Data incubator group** which will bring the report in May 20100. In Puerto Rico we can have recommendation on actions that should be taken, some open forum and discussion – to present the results and go forward.

- **Digital preservation** – We need to bring together IIPC with IFLA. It is important to address not just technical matters. Possible interested section for cooperation might be the **National Libraries Section**. We can organize a session in Puerto Rico and see there if we need a more formalized way of work through a SIG or we can decide later on that.

  Actions: The ITS and Hilde van Wijngaarden will look for a possible cooperation with the National Libraries and Statistics and Evaluation Sections on web archiving.
  In conclusion – in Puerto Rico we shall organize the following sessions:
    o *with the National Libraries Section a 2 hours session on web archiving*
    o *with Statistics and Evaluation Session a session on statistics and open source or for the development of common guidelines (need for evaluation)*

o *with the Library Buildings and Equipment a preconference satellite meeting will be organized.*

19 First steps to WLIC 2012 – Helsinki, Finland

The section agreed to select the topic of Semantic Web for Helsinki, taking advantage of the existing initiatives in Finland. For instance, the session could utilize the Finish Semantic Web infrastructure (there is for example an Ontology department as part of the Government level in Finland) in form of a satellite meeting to mix cross domain approaches with the library area in order to demonstrate existing infrastructure and what does it mean for libraries. In addition, special sessions with different sections will contribute some kind of an umbrella for the topic.
Tiina Ison will take over the governance with regard to the organization of the satellite meeting in Helsinki. She asked for past experiences and advice in the preparation of such event.

20 Decisions on the SC website / information platform
Edmund Balnaves has guaranteed a good dissemination of information about ITS activities in the past 3 years and the publications have been well received. He invited ITS SC members to contribute further content. He described the content-structure of the ITS Newsletter, the country focus and project descriptions. Regarding the website, it needs to be filled in with actual news and progress reports.   There is opportunity for further section members to participate in website content in specific topic areas. Much of the existing content, transferred from the previous IFLA website, is out of date.

21 Any other business

- The Chair reminded all present participants on the forthcoming elections for the IT Section officers and invited them to apply.
- The members of the ITS SC unanimously decided on the closing of the Special Interest Group on Library 2.0. One of the main arguments is that there is no need of this group since the interest in this topic has decreased lately and the Semantic web is replacing it and becoming more crucial for the libraries.