



## **Minutes of the Latin America and the Caribbean Section Standing Committee meetings (Panama City, March 18 - 19 2010)**

<http://www.ifla.org/en/lac>

### **1. Attendants**

#### **1.1 Members of the SC and Regional Office**

Filiberto Felipe Martínez Arellano (Mexico), Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho (RO IFLA/LAC), Regina Celia Baptista Belluzzo (Brazil), Olinda Estela Gómez Moran (El Salvador) Araceli Gómez Martín (Spain), Jaime Ríos Ortega (Mexico), Estela Morales Campos (Mexico); Emilce Noemí Sena Correa (Paraguay); Doris Ivon Samanez Alzamora (Peru); Adriana Betancur (Colombia); Octavio Castillo Sánchez (Panama).

#### **1.2 Members with absence justified**

Ana María Peruchena Zimmermann (Argentina), Silvia Cecilia Anselmi (Argentina), Celia Ribeiro Zaher (Brazil), Ludmila Popov Mayrink da Costa (Brazil), Sigrid Karin Weiss Dutra (Brazil), Angela Maria Monteiro Bettencourt (Brazil), Margarita Bellas Villariño (Cuba), Mercedes Falconi (Ecuador), Joan Vacianna (Jamaica), Hortensia Lobato Reyes (Mexico), Víctor Federico Torres Ortiz (Puerto Rico), Jennifer Joseph (Trinidad and Tobago), Víctor Aguirre Negro (Uruguay).

#### **1.3 Other attendants**

Jesús Lau, member of the IFLA Governing Board and the Advisor Committee of ALP; Stella Maris Fernández (Argentina) Advisor of the Regional Office.

### **2. Opening and minutes approval**

The Chair of the Committee, Filiberto Felipe Martínez Arellano, welcomed members and guests, and reported that by March 2010 the Section of Latin America and the Caribbean (IFLA/LAC) had 110 members from different countries in the Region, in the various categories of membership and affiliates: two international associations, 16 national associations, 66 institutions, 24 individual members, and two students.

Following, he then reported that during this period the Section continued to work closely with the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office in the implementation of the ALP Programme (Actions for Development through Libraries Programme), and also with FAIFE and librarian associations from the countries in the Region.

Felipe Martínez Arellano also referred that the IFLA/LAC Standing Committee is currently composed by ten members elected for the 2007-2011 period and eight members elected for the 2009-2013 period. Likewise, in line with the new IFLA by-laws and proceedings, the following members have been designated as corresponding members for the period from August 2009 to August 2011: Mercedes Falconi (Ecuador), Adriana Betancur (Colombia), Estela Morales Campos (Mexico), Octavio Castillo Sánchez (Panama) and Jaime Rios Ortega (Mexico). He also reported that those members who have actively engaged in the various activities of the Standing Committee were invited to coordinate different working groups.

Then he thanked, on behalf of the SC, the University of Panama and the Library System, as well as its Director, Octavio Castillo Sanchez, for the hospitality and support given to this meeting. He added that, because the previous meetings were held concurrently with the completion of an ALP project, and since currently there are no new projects supported by ALP, the academic session prior to the SC meeting would be held in one single day, namely March 17.

### **3. Approval of the minutes of the SC meetings held in Milan, Italy, August 2009**

The Chair submitted to the members of the SC the minutes of the SC meetings held in Milan, Italy, August 2009. The minutes were approved without any observations. Nevertheless, Filiberto Felipe Martínez Arellano ask the members of the SC that in case of any corrections to the minutes, to send them by e-mail.

## **4. Reports**

### **4.1 Report of the Regional Office Manager**

Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho, Manager of the IFLA/LAC Regional Office, presented her report, making reference to the fact that the work to disseminate the activities of the Section has been uninterrupted. Therefore, IFLA/LAC Newsletter n.55 was published in December 2009. Following, Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho referred that the minutes of the IFLA event held in Milan were delivered to the Minister of Education and to the Minister of Culture in Brazil. She also referred to the presentation of the Milan Section poster, announcing the celebration of the 35 years of the IFLA/LAC Section and the 30 years of the Regional Office. She also referred to her participation as guest speaker to deliver a lecture on behalf of the Women Interest Group, Information and Libraries at the event in Milan, where she talked about the situation in Brazil on this regard, providing data about the set-up of a Special Secretariat for Women's Affairs. She also reported on the relevance of IFLA-LAC List as an excellent online communication tool connecting the members of the Section to the Regional Office.

She reported about her participation in the Caucus meetings for Spanish and Portuguese speaking participants, suggesting the integration of both. She went on to remark that the Spanish language Caucus has faced difficulties regarding meeting schedules. Jesus Lau made the suggestion that a petition regarding this issue be sent to the IFLA Governing Board before April. She also reported that she had attended FAIFE meetings together with Felipe.

Elizabeth also referred to the tribute the Section paid to Birgitta Berdahl, Birgitta Sandel, and Gunilla Natvig, for their successful performance in coordinating the ALP Programme, as well as for their support, collaboration and sensitivity regarding projects and activities in Latin America and the Caribbean, thereby giving a relevant contribution to the development of librarianship in our region.

She also reported on her participation in the II International Congress and the VII National Congress of Librarians and Archivists in Paraguay, held from 15 to 17 October 2009 in Paraguay, highlighting the organization work done by Emilce Noemi Sena Correa for the meeting sponsored by the Graduate Librarian Association of Paraguay (ABIGRAP). This meeting was supported by the President of the University of Paraguay and was attended by Dr. Alejandra Peña Gill (Director General of Archives, Libraries and Museums) and Dr. Zaira Caballero Rodriguez (Director of the National Library). The topics reviewed and addressed during the event included issues related to documentary heritage and the creation of national policies for conservation and development thereof and how to value the documentary heritage as a source of historical memory for a country.

Likewise, she reported on her participation in the II International Seminar on Public and Community Libraries and in the II Forum of Reading Delights, held on November 12-14, 2009, in the city of São Paulo (Brazil), where reviewed and discussed topics included the public incentive policies to support reading and libraries, the development of innovative services in and community public libraries, accessibility to information in such libraries, leadership in the management of libraries and reading spaces, and strengthening of the role of librarians; she highlighted that lectures were delivered in the meeting addressing issues like the book, reading and libraries by renowned Brazilian writers and by Brazilian and international experts, including Aldo Pirolla, Director of the Public Libraries System of Milan (Italy); Camila A. Alire, President of the American Library Association (ALA-USA); and Professor Yicel Nayrobis Giraldo, from the Interamerican School of Library Science (Colombia). The meeting was sponsored by São Paulo State Secretariat of Culture, in partnership with IFLA Regional Office, FEBAB, the Official Press of Brazil, and UNESCO.

She mentioned also her participation in the VI SENABRAILLE - Braille Library National Seminar, held between 20 and 23 November 2009 at the Auditorium of the Federal University of Paraíba, in João Pessoa (Brazil). This event provided a great deal of discussions on the topic "Overview of digital accessibility in Latin America and the Caribbean," and provided also an exchange of experiences between national and international speakers from different countries in Latin America, designed to strengthen the library services provided to the visually impaired. Elizabeth highlighted that Felipe Martinez received an invitation to act as an international observer. In addition, the event included the round table: "Brazil - public policy for the access of blind and low vision," which was attended by representatives of the Directorate of Books, Reading and Literature of the Ministry of Culture, and the Secretariat of Continuing Education, Literacy and Diversity of the Ministry of Education. The meeting was sponsored and organized by FEBAB/Brazilian Committee for Access and Information for Disabled People. Organizers also included the NGO BB&C (Braille Libraries & Communities Building Citizenship). This event was sponsored by the Ministry of Culture and by IFLA/ALP.

## **4.2 Report of the Chair**

Filiberto Felipe Martínez Arellano, Chair of the Section Standing Committee (2009-2011), presented his report for the period from August 2009 to March 2010.

He reported that during this period the Section continued to work closely with the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office in the implementation of the ALP Programme (Actions for Development through Libraries Programmes), and also with FAIFE and librarian associations from the countries in the Region.

His report included information about his participation in the Division V Leadership Forum. This took place on August 23, 2009, during the IFLA General Conference in Milan, Italy. He was elected as Division V secretary (Regional Activities) during this event.

Following, he referred to the seminars, meetings and workshops he attended in the Region: Meeting "The Internet and libraries in the Information and Knowledge Society in the 21st Century," held in Lima, Peru, on October 20, 2009, which he attended together with Stuart Hamilton, IFLA Senior Policy Advisor, and Loida Garcia-Febo, Secretary of FAIFE Committee. At this meeting he delivered a lecture on the "IFLA/UNESCO Internet Guidelines: Role of Librarians in the Dissemination and Implementation."

He acted as an external observer at the 2nd Latin American and Caribbean Seminar on Library Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired People, which took place in the city of Joao Pessoa, Paraiba, Brazil, from 20 to 23 November 2009. During this Seminar he delivered the Lecture "Library services for visually impaired users in the information age."

He made references to his participation in the Workshop "IFLA Workshop of Experts on Library Statistics," which took place in the Hague on December 8-10, 2009. The purpose was to prepare both the agenda and the work materials for a workshop on the role of statistics as an element for promotion and advocacy in libraries. This has been designed to become part of the series of workshops entitled "Building Strong Library Associations, BSLA."

## **5. Activities with FAIFE**

Felipe Martínez Arellano referred that the joint work with FAIFE continues and this partnership keeps growing. A serie of workshops and activities were organized jointly, some of which were listed:

3<sup>rd</sup>. phase of the IFLA/FAIFE Workshop on Training for IFLA/UNESCO Manifesto Trainees, which took place in the city of Cuzco, Peru, October 19-25, 2009. The event was intended to gather together the facilitators trained in March 2009 for assessing the impact of the workshops on different regions in Peru. Stuart Hamilton and Loida Garcia-Febo and Felipe Martinez shared the leadership of the workshop. Doris Ivon Samanez Alzamora said that colleagues from 11 regions of Peru were trained in the first phase of this IFLA / FAIFE program: Arequipa, Cajamarca, Cuzco, Junin, Pasco, La Libertad, Lambayeque, Lima, Iquitos, Puno, and Tacna, as facilitators to deliver

workshops on the IFLA/UNESCO Internet Manifesto guidelines to other librarians in their regions and help them integrate the values of the guidelines in their daily work. The library of the Municipality of Santiago de Surco coordinated the implementation and provided the venue for the various phases of this project. Elizabet Ramos de Carvalho referred to how relevant the government support is for the project. The Librarians School of Peru was also represented, and the methodology applied built on seminars, interviews, and video presentations discussing the impact of the actions.

In partnership with the Mexican Association of Librarians (AMBAC), a Workshop on Information Resource for the Prevention of AIDS was designed and delivered during the celebration of the XL Mexican Librarianship One-Day Conference, in September 2009 in Acapulco, Guerrero. The workshop was sponsored by FAIFE and IFLA/LAC, in which Alejandra Martínez del Prado, from UNAM School of Medicine Library System acted as facilitator.

Finally, he mentioned that thanks to the support provided by FAIFE, IFLA/LAC, and AMBAC, the proceedings of the First Latin American Meeting of Library and Medical Information was published. The meeting was organized and held in November 2008 in the School of Medicine of the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

## **6. Meetings organization**

The Technology Internship Program for Latin America and the Caribbean Librarians was designed, coordinated, and eventually delivered from September 17 to October 16, 2009. Attendees included 15 librarians from the following countries: Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Mexico. 50 applications were received, and the selection of participants took into account the views from the members of the IFLA/LAC Standing Committee and from Library Associations of various Latin American countries.

This program was designed to be a training strategy that would enable participants to "learn by doing and learn by seeing." The purpose is to improve the professional practice of librarians in Latin American countries by providing them with a direct contact with a real-world working environment, complemented by a series of lectures, sharing of experiences and procedures carried out in the General Directorate of Libraries and at UNAM's Librarianship Research University Center (CUIB), combined with visits to those libraries that stand out by employing information technologies in their activities and services. Participants committed to multiplying the internship experience among the colleagues in their institutions and countries, in partnership with their local library associations.

"Library Services in Latin America/Servicios Bibliotecarios en América Latina - REFORMA Program. This program was developed in partnership with REFORMA, the National Association for Promoting Library and Information Services to Latinos and Spanish-speaking people in the United States. The program will take place within the framework of the Annual Conference of the American Library Association (ALA), to be held from 24 to 29 June, 2010, in the City of Washington, DC. The aim is to provide the participants in this program with an opportunity to share with their colleagues serving the Latino and the Spanish-speaking communities in the United States, cases of successful and innovative services developed in the libraries of Latin American

countries, thereby promoting an exchange of experience. The invitation was designed and released by selecting three of the twelve proposals submitted: "Scope of the cooperation programs of the Library of Congress and PCC in Latin America," "Virtual Library in Latin America," and "Program to promote reading through mobile libraries: an opportunity for children in socially disadvantaged areas of Tegucigalpa."

Regarding the IFLA General Congress in Gothenburg, Sweden, the call for papers was designed and released specifically to reach potential lecturers from the region (librarians, academics, and professionals) with an invitation to participate in the program to be sponsored by IFLA/LAC in Gothenburg, Sweden. Ten paper proposals were submitted, which are being evaluated by the members of the Standing Committee. Concurrently, an appropriate program is being designed accordingly, including the following topic: "Open access to knowledge - promoting sustainable development."

### **7. Earthquakes in Haití and Chile**

In face of the earthquakes in Haiti (January 12 this year) and Chile (27 February this year), Felipe Martinez reported that the Section contacted our colleagues in both countries in order to send updates to IFLA and the Blue Shield. On this regard, it is relevant to underline the role played by Danielle Mincio, Secretary of the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section and member of the IFLA Governing Board, in handling all reports. All updates about the earthquakes are available at:

<http://www.ifla.org/en/haiti-earthquake-2010>

<http://www.ifla.org/en/news/solidarity-with-chilean-librarians>

Participants made comments and suggestions. Elizabet Ramos de Carvalho referred to the application of Latin American experiences with bibliotherapy and other actions. Estela Morales Campos suggested that the entry "Library" be inserted into the International Reconstruction Package for IFLA. Araceli Gomez suggested to wait for an inventory of the damages before any decision is made. Felipe Martinez pointed out that different actions would be taken to benefit Haiti and Chile in view of the socioeconomic and political conditions of the two countries.

### **8. Activities of the Section in WLIC 2010 “Open Access to knowledge – promoting sustainable development”, Gothenburg, Sweden.**

The Chair reported briefly on the activities that will be carried out by the Section in WLIC 2010, informing that two guest speakers are expected - Emir José Suaiden (Brazil) and Adolfo Rodriguez Gallardo (Mexico). Following, he added that the Section received 10 paper proposals in response to the call released to invite potential lecturers from the region (librarians, academics, and professionals) to participate in the IFLA / LAC program in Gothenburg, Sweden, which were later submitted to the members of Standing Committee for evaluation and selection of two papers. He said that the Standing Committee meeting is due to take place in Gothenburg on August 11, 2010, from 1:45 to 3:45 PM, referring also that a second meeting will be held. The SC members will be notified as regards the date and time of said meeting.

### **9. Proyectos ALP**

## 9. ALP projects

In this part of the meeting a briefing was made on the state of the projects approved by ALP until the year 2009:

- Pasantías en Servicios Bibliotecarios Públicos para Bibliotecarios Latinoamericanos (393). This Project was developed from July 1<sup>st</sup>. to 30<sup>th</sup>., 2009. Adriana Betancur informed that a social network was created as a space where tutors and participants will be linked, information, libraries and interests of their areas will be shared, besides being a medium to follow through commitments and proposed working plans. Programs and manuals were distributed and the project will count on the contribution of the academic instructors in order to follow-up after the training stage.
- Base común del conocimiento ciudadano – BCCC – Training of young adults between 14 and 24 of the communities of the district Cidade Tiradentes (395). Project cancelled
- Pasantía en Tecnologías de las Información para bibliotecarios de América Latina (396). This Project was developed from September 17 to October 16 2009, sponsored by the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Concluded.
- Proyecto Casero Del Libro para el Mercado de Cajamarca (398) – Doris Samanez Alzamora informed that the Project has not been started yet, since they are expecting the end of the raining season to develop it.
- Proyecto Casero del Libro para el Mercado Central de El Salvador (399) – Olinda Gómez Moran informed that they are having numerous talkings with mayors and the library association for the implementation of the project. A committee was formed coordinated by the said Olinda Gomez Moran. She is expecting the start of the project in a close date with the support of several institutions.
- Workshop to promote reading and outreach activities in public libraries of the Hispanic Caribbean (701). Was developed from November 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> 2009 in San Juan de Puerto Rico. Doris I. Samanez Alzamora was invited to share experiences of the caseros del libro.
- El casero del libro para el Mercado de la Parroquial y alrededores de la ciudad de Guatemala (704). Project cancelled
- Sistematización de experiencias sobre bibliotecas indígenas (706). It was informed that the Project could not be developed and it was proposed to ask again support through the CUIB of UNAM in collaboration with César Castro (Peru). Jaime Ríos Ortega, from CUIB, agreed.

Regarding to the projects, Elizabet Ramos de Carvalho suggested that the reports about ALP sponsored projects be included in INFOBILA. Emphasis was placed on strengthening INFOBILA and, on this regard Jaime Rios Ortega reported that communication will be established to encourage the participation of library associations, librarianship schools, magazines publishers, and other institutions in Latin America and

the Caribbean. A web based data interface has been set up to be operated by the associations and institutions themselves.

Moreover, Filiberto Felipe Martínez Arellano reported that the Bill Gates Foundation donated 100,000 Euros towards the projects to be implemented in 2010, 75 000 Euros out of which will be assigned to projects related to the ALP Program for the Development and Support of Library Associations, and 25,000 Euros, to other projects. The 20,000 Euro balance from 2009 budget plus the 25,000 granted this year will be allocated to new projects in all three regions.

About the schedule of projects proposed to be developed in 2010, he informed that the deadline for submission is May, 1th., 2010. Approved projects will be announced as of June. Pending projects already discussed and approved by the Section may be considered Therefore, it was agreed that the project dealing with the Systematization of the Record of indigenous experience, which was not been developed yet, will be taken up by CUIB, and CUIB is expected to resubmit such project engaging all participating countries. In view of the interest, three potential actions were proposed: to compile the existing literature, to generate a publication on the various projects already completed, to build up a literature base in indigenous languages. Only the compilation of existing literature was considered to be feasible, however bearing in mind the potential implementation of a database, using for this purpose a predefined format.

It was also agreed to submit a proposal for a project on "Libraries on the Agenda" by Adriana Betancur (Colombia.) This project will develop a booklet including the strategies used by the library associations in Latin America and the Caribbean and setting the guidelines that are relevant for the region It was also agreed that Emilce Sena Correa (Paraguay) will submit a project on Casero del Libro for that country.

Additionally, Felipe Martínez Arellano referred to the schedule set up for submission of ALP-supported projects in 2011. All projects related to the Section must be submitted starting from June 15, 2010. Regional Offices are expected to send all accepted projects to ALP by 1 November, 2010. In January 2011, ALP Committee will start analyzing and will report on all accepted projects. The current Advisory Committee consists of seven members: IFLA Policy Adviser (Stuart Hamilton), ALP Coordinator, Division V Chairperson, MLAS Chairperson or representative, one member of the Governing Board, and two other members. It was suggested that these two members should include an LAC representative and that Jesus Lau should be in charge of submitting this proposal to the Governing Board.

#### **10. ALP Building Strong Library Associations Program**

This new ALP-sponsored program provides a strategic and coordinated approach to the development and sustainability of librarian associations, thereby benefiting the associations, the libraries, and the communities. Jesus Lau reported on this ALP program, which provides a entirely new approach and perspective. The program will focus on a sustainable approach based on the evidence for the development of library associations, employing impact analysis and other methods, as appropriate, to assess the results of training and other activities. One country from each region will be selected to implement this program over a two year period.

Felipe Martínez Arellano reported that 25 000 Euros have been allocated to this project for each of the countries selected. The schedule for proposals was as follows: on 1 May this year, attendees for a training of trainees meeting to be delivered in The Hague will be selected. It was agreed that Ana Maria Talavera (Peru) and Felipe Martínez (Mexico) will attend this training program. In April, proposed host countries for this program will be announced. On April 20, 2010, ALP will evaluate the proposed host countries. Chosen host country will be announced in August, and the program will begin in September.

It was agreed to propose Panama as host country, as well as the participation not only of one association, but rather the participation of representatives from several Latin America and the Caribbean associations, seeing that this model of participation has proven to be effective in the region for several projects, which was endorsed by Jesus Lau in his presentation to ALP. As an alternative choice, proposing Peru as potential host country in Latin America and the Caribbean was discussed.

#### **11. Activities of the Section in WLIC 2011 “Libraries beyond libraries: integration, innovation and information for all”, San Juan, Puerto Rico.**

Considering that the IFLA Conference 2011 will be held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, a call was released to invite satellite meetings. The intention to provide five satellite meetings supported by IFLA/LAC was reported. The proposal for such satellite meetings will be submitted by the submission deadline, 1st May:

Art Libraries. Sponsored by the Art Section of the Mexican Librarians Association, to be held in Mexico City; Public Libraries. Sponsored by Lasalle University of Colombia under the theme Libraries and regional development. To be linked to the IFL Public Libraries Section and to be delivered in Bogota. It is consensus that Adriana Betancourt should participate.

Cataloguing. Sponsored by UNAM's University Librarianship Research Center, to be held in the University City, Mexico D. F.

"The school library in school performance." Sponsored by the Library Association of Panama and the National Library of Panama.

Women, Information and Libraries. Sponsored by the Interest Group on this topic and the Michoacan Librarian Section of the Mexican Librarian Association.

In this regard, Felipe Martínez Arellano pointed out the contradiction detected in the call, where the countries referred to above are indicated as potential host countries, but at the same time it is requested that the host cities have direct flight connections to San Juan, Puerto Rico, and that flight time do not exceed 5 hours.

#### **12. Other topics**

Felipe Martínez Arellano reported on the release of the announcement of "IFLA LIS Student Paper Award 2010," sponsored by the IFLA Education and Training Section Standing Committee and by EKZ Corporation.

Following, he added that a partnership was entered with Stuart Hamilton regarding the translation of IFLA communications to be sent to IFLA members asking them to support IFLA's national representatives before the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), to participate by completing the questionnaire to be sent with questions on exceptions and limitations to copyright related to educational activities, libraries and archives; people with disabilities; social, cultural and religious activities; digital technology, and questions related to other areas.

The issue raised by Paraguay in connection with the removal of the Director of the National Library was discussed, and it was agreed that IFLA/LAC should submit a note pointing out how important it is to rely on the actuation of a professional librarian in order to ensure the proper operation of the National Library in a country.

Finally, emphasis was given to the work of communication done by both the Regional Office and IFLA/LAC President and Secretary to keep the Standing Committee and Section members updated through the corresponding lists.