**MLAS 2019 Midyear Standing Committee Meetings**

**Draft February 15, 2019**

**SC I**

**Time:** Thursday, 7 February 2019, 14.00-17:00

**Venue:** National Library of Norway, Henrik Ibsens gate 110, 0255 Oslo

**SC II**

**Time:** Friday, 8 February, 9:00 – 16:00

**Venue:** National Library of Norway, Henrik Ibsens gate 110, 0255 Oslo

**Participants:**

Michael Dowling (chair), Halo Locher (secretary), Rauha Maarno (information coordinator), Samia Hassan Al-Shiba, Alim Garga, Susan Haigh, Amandine Jacquet, Hella Klauser, José-Maria Nogales Herrera, Katre Riisalu, Pascal Sanz, Mariann Schjeide, Randa Al Chidiac (Corresponding member)

**Apologies:**

Judy Brooker, Amy Burke, Vanya Grashkina, Karin Linder, Marijana Misetic, Alicia Cristina Ocaso-Ferreira, Sabine Stummeyer, Adeline van den Berg

**Agenda SC I:**

1. Welcome and Opening

Michael welcomes everyone and noted that more than half, 12, of the members are present. He thanked Mariann for the organisation of the meeting and the Norwegian association for the invitation to dinner.

1. Apologies for absences: see above
2. Approval of the agenda: no more items are proposed
3. Approval of the minutes of the meetings, August 2018, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Pascal suggests that protocols of video conferences should also be added to the agenda. Michael recommended everyone to subscribe to IFLA’s general newsletter in order to be informed about the latest news. He has not yet been able to send the minutes of the GB meeting in December. It is proposed to send the minutes to the members of the section after approval. The minutes are approved unchanged and are owed.

1. Report on IFLA Governing Board December 2018 Meeting

The most important topic of the 20-member board was the start of the strategy process, which is now in consultation, will be revised based on feedback and will be presented at the WLIC in Athens. There was a two-day workshop for the GB before the regular meeting facilitated by the external consultant, Lumia. Once the strategy has been adopted, the issue of Governance of IFLA will be dealt with.

IFLA membership increased in 2018 from 1293 to 1316, an increase of 1.5%. The renewal rate of members was 92 percent, which is a very great percentage. 180 new members joined in 2018. Michael will contact IFLA HQ to provide detailed figures by member category, country and region.

3500 people attended the Congress in Kuala Lumpur, the most since Lyon in 2014. It is still far below the highest numbers around 5000 in Boston, Glasgow and Berlin at the beginning of the millennium. IFLA seeks a contribution 500,000 euros in support from host bidders to help make the Congress viable. The amount of net revenue to IFLA for the Congress is not very large with all the costs involved in creating an international conference. The Conference Subcommittee of the GB is looking at all the aspects of the Congress.   
An example is the off-site Satellite meetings as to whether there are too many do not bring revenue into IFLA. IFLA is sending out a new RFP for the professional conference planner contract. There are still three cities/countries in Europe being considered for the 2021 Congress. 2022 is scheduled to be held somewhere in Africa.

The Global Vision store has generated 8500 ideas from 154 countries. For the HQ, this is a challenge: how to process and translate different languages.

Global Libraries of the Bill and Melinda Gates-Foundation has officially ended, and all the Legacy Grant funds have been provided to IFLA. We are two years into the 10-year Legacy Grant already. So, we, as IFLA, need to work now on efforts to set up new sustainable funding to keep IFLA strong after the Legacy funds are done.

1. Reports on Success and Concerns of MLAS SC Member Associations

Rauha/Finland: Thanks to funding from the government, we have a new programme for public libraries to develop digital skills. In addition, the Finnish Foreign Ministry decided to fund a new project Libraries for All in Tanzania which will develop library services for the visually impaired and other print disabled users. In Helsinki, the new library has been opened, which has attracted a lot of attention to libraries. With a campaign, it is trying to borrow the entire stock of media.

Katre/Estonia: The association has prepared a strategy document. In the parliamentary elections, parts of it became the subject of public debate.

Mariann/Norway: Various municipalities are currently merging. The Library Act prescribes one library per municipality, which threatens the existence of libraries. The association is often not informed what is happening because the members do not get in touch. With e-books, the contract with publishers and authors expires and the whole system threatens to collapse. The Regierung has published a cultural model that does not meet our expectations, since it is more of an ideological concept. In the case of school libraries, we are following an approach inspired by Sweden.

Samia/Katar: We conducted a workshop on Agenda 2030/SDGs ourselves and without professional support. We changed the attitude towards how libraries can support the government in the SDGs. We focus on the school libraries and their core function.

Amandine/France: It's hard for our association to keep in touch with the small libraries in the province that are dependent on volunteering. Nevertheless, we appreciate this commitment, because otherwise there would be no library at all. We need money and are grateful for tips on how to raise money. The little money we earn comes from the congress and the sale of publications, because the membership fees are not very much. We are also losing members and have now begun to oblige course participants to be members at least during the courses.

Susan/Canada: The national library associations (Canadian Federation of Library Associations/Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques, Canadian Association of Research Libraries/Association des bibliothèque de recherche du Canada, and the Canadian Urban Libraries Council/Conseil des Bibliothèque Urbaines du Canada ) have been actively participating in Parliament’s Review of the Copyright Act, seeking to protect the balance of creator and user rights that characterizes our current legislation. The new CUSMA (Canadian, US and Mexico free trade agreement) will extend Canadian copyright by 20 years to life + 70 years (as in US, and Europe). The library community is also much preoccupation with indigenous matters with a view to developing new approaches, services and norms that advance decolonization and reconciliation. The library community is also actively supporting open government and open science (including open access scholarship and open data), and there is new federal funding to build Research Data Management capacity in the country. The process is under to name a new Librarian and Archivist of Canada, after the very successful last five years of Guy Berthiaume. This year a former Quebec library association, ASTED, voted to become a federation for francophone library associations and libraries in Quebec: the Fédération des milieux documentaires.

Michael/USA: ALA is working to relocate its headquarters to a different part of downtown Chicago by selling the existing building and renting space. A second call for tenders was made for the new CEO after the desired qualifications had been defined at the last meeting of the Board of Directors. The appointment is to take place in the course of 2019.

Halo/Switzerland: The two national associations of public and academic libraries decided in 2018 to merge, which came into force on 1 January 2019. The new board comprises 16 members from both previous boards as well as new faces, including the new president, a non-librarian who, as former Secretary General of the Conference of 26 Cantonal Education Directors, has an excellent network in federal Swiss politics. The new Executive Committee dealt with Global Vision at one of the first meetings and found the results to be very inspiring. The office continues to work with four full-time positions and is currently quite busy coping with the motivating merger..

José/Spain: In addition to libraries, the association also includes archaeology, museums and documentation centres and has around 1000 members. We have two big problems in the libraries: the age of the staff and the age of the buildings. We lack young members, which is why we are discussing a reduction for young people. Education in the library sector is also problematic. We celebrate the 60th anniversary of the association and maintain contact with the association in Portugal and with Ibero-American associations.

Randa/Lebanon: We currently have problems finding enough people interested in working on the board. Note from Rauha: In Finland each working group has to integrate one student, which is already bearing fruit by having 20 candidates for 8 seats on the board.

Hella/Germany: The image of libraries is improving - not least thanks to the brochure for politicians about our services. The Frankfurt School Library has received our prize of 20,000 euros as Library of the Year. The topic of Sunday opening continues to occupy us because public libraries are not allowed to open on Sundays because of the labour law. With financial support from the Ministry of Education, we can carry out the "just digital" campaign. We are inviting a small group of journalists to visit libraries in the hope that they will report on it. Our traditional partnership with a foreign association is moving from the USA to the Netherlands.

Pascal/France: We used the annual seminar in December to look at the objectives of Agenda 2030 and the IFLA IAP programme. We also promote Eblida, which is not yet very well known in France. We held an event on "fake news" in which Loida Garcia-Febo participated. In France, a linguistic aperitif was realized as an idea to improve the professional anglaise: <http://www.cfibd.fr/aperitifs-linguistiques-du-cfibd-a-la-bulac-saison-2/>

Alim/Kameron: No notes, because he had at that time of the meeting another meeting at the Norwegian parliament library…

1. Break
2. Review of MLAS Action Plan and Activities

Amandine suggests publishing the paper on Facebook after the cleanup (see point 24) so that we can feed it into the national communication channels. Randa noted that there is no translation of the Library Map of the World into Arabic. Alim notes that figures are completely missing in Africa.

1. IFLA 2019 Athens Session Updates and Discussion
   1. MLAS Open Session “Library Associations: Crossborder Actions"

Hella: There will not be an open call for papers/presenters this year. We plan a two hours session with presentations at the beginning with different topics presented in different forms such as interviews, and then move to discussions at tables to these topics. Approximately 50 minutes for the presentations and 70 minutes for the breakout discussions.

For presentations, Hella thanks for all received inputs: 1. CILIP (British): strategic level. 2. Baltic States: how they work together 3. German speaking associations and their collaboration on different topics. The organizing group is focused on the collaboration between associations, not between special types of libraries. Karin proposes the collaboration between Sweden and Kenia as a contribution. Hella mentions the partnership between the German association and US/Netherlands.

Samia will join Hella, Karin to help plan and coordinate the program. They will review all ideas and prepare a paper with a proposal and send it to the SC to review.

There was a discussion on possible table topics. How to integrate new professionals into associations and in the international integration (and possible IFLA/MLAS, tool kit for this topic) Pascal: France program for support participation of French speaking developing countries at WLIC. Rauha: Table “looking for a partner”. Alim: exchange between associations in Africa. Katre will give some input on cooperation in Asia/Australia. Marie-José: Network Spain-Latin America.

Mention the program at the MLAS Committee meeting and invite them to participate. Also mention MLAS at the different Caucus meetings. Special Interest Group Sessions and Activities

Both the Women SIG and New Professionals SIG’s are planning programs and activities for Athens. The Committee decided to assign individual members to be the main liaison with the SIGs. Mariann will take contact with the Women SIG. Pascal will be the relation to New Professionals. Michael will give the information about the positive decision to the conveners. Hella would like that the SIG send us a short information on their needs.

* 1. Co-Sponsored Satellite Meeting

“Leadership roles in international librarianship: how can information professionals from Africa, Asia & Oceania, Latin America & Caribe be part of it?” August 20-21, Bibliotheca Alexandria: Halo will participate as member of the MLAS SC and support the organization in the communication tasks. The GB accepted the proposal even the way to Athens is not within the rules for satellite meetings expect the direct flight Alexandra – Athens: book early if you participate at the meeting and WLIC.

1. Preview of SCII
2. Adjourn

**Agenda SC II:**

1. Call to Order
2. Presentation by Aslak Sira Myhre, Norwegian National Library

Direct Myhre provided a thought-provoking presentation on Norway’s digitalization programs. Costs are shared by publishers and the National Library (NL) with public access in all libraries. A New legal deposit act provides access for all students, and also in public libraries – only one document to store. Digital library for the whole Norway. It is an important link between National Library and public libraries that never existed before. NL is responsible to ensure that all libraries respect the library act and the education of librarians. In recent years, a storage library for all books in Norway has been implemented with an integrated digital infrastructure. Next plan: one Library Management System and one catalogue for all libraries in Norway.

Looking back could be an interesting strategy for libraries not just trying to be modern and at the edge of the development. Reading/books hasn’t change. Books haven’t died, like DVD’s etc. There is a symbolic value: shelfs with old books. It’s a suicide to build rooms without books. Kindle is just for travel. First function: educate people - make people able to self-educate. Bring Knowledge and culture out to the people. Creating spaces for knowledge. Idea of the new law: libraries as democratic institutions. 54 % of the habitants in Norway have used a library within the last month. (plus 12% to the time before a program started to educate librarians to organize events, lectures, exhibitions and so on.) It is necessary not only to care about the cultural heritage and to secure the remind but to remind the people on that heritage.

Handling coast between e-lending and lending! NL pays 1,5 million dollars for the copyright to digitalize all books before 2000 (4 cents by page as base). This agreement must be re-negotiated when Norwegian tries to make the time board (2000) flexible to a period of 5 or 10 years back. NL pays aggregators to deliver metadata, if they are not delivered by editors/producers. For users there is no understanding for the difference between archive and NB… and museums. They don’t care… There is nearly no use on digital collection. Librarians itself sometimes don’t know which access they have, because nobody asks for access. What kind of service users need and how do we make the users access and use of it, that is really worthful to discuss? We have huge costs for academic research access and no use… Librarian want to collect everything but is that possible and reasonable?

1. Break
2. IFLA Strategic Planning Process, Discussion, and MLAS Response

This is a first draft on which feedback will be sought from all Sections. After Sections respond a new draft will go to the IFLA GB at its April Meeting. This will again be worked on with the new strategic plan then presented in in Athens. Michael, Halo and Rauha will evaluate all the feedback in today’s conversation and send as draft of comments for your review until February 22. Michael will MLAS response by the deadline on February 25th.

**Basic findings**:

It is valuable and useful that such a document is developed with the involvement of many interested parties. The paper should be shorter, which also reduces the effort for translations. The sentences need to be simplified and shortened, which improves comprehensibility. After feedback and revision, it is recommended that a professional editor improves linguistic comprehensibility. What is completely missing in the paper and that is surprising in an association of associations: the activity of library associations. The importance and difficulty of IFLA's multilingual and multicultural activities are also lacking.

**Details:**

- Vision: empowering instead of powering - or advancing/reinforce

- Mission: use only one verb, but integrate the impact outside libraries and the link to stakeholders/politics

- SD 1: Correct spelling mistakes, add: achieving the countries economical an social development agenda (Agenda 2030). Replace Fora with Platform or venues.

- SD 2: Looking forward can also mean to consider tradition and respect our core business that we already care very well. Contemporary can imply the old tradition of libraries. There must be a balance between tradition and innovation

- SD 3: “aligned” could be interpreted as authoritarian/dictatorial. Eliminate “no librarian left behind”. What means “unite passion”??? “Enable innovation” is part of SD 2. Cancel after “opportunities” the last two lines

- SD 4: Mission without “s”. Cancel first two sentences. Stop after “diversity” and adjoin regional/geographically (diversity). The size of the association is not discussed.

- Key Initiatives: should the national level be integrated?

1.4: “Champion” goes too high: use “professional” or “promote”. Shape also too strong: contribute, playing a strong role, influence, promote

2.1: “Flagship” – too high approach.

2.2: Without “high quality”

2.1/2.2: combine them?

2.3: should be at the prior place of 2.2

3.3: Clarify what “regional” means: Inside a state or regional in the viewpoint of Ilfa as a worldwide organization: regional = continental?

3.4: Every librarian should be an advocate. That does not consider the fact that most do not think really politically and too less economically.

4.1: Can we discuss funding without determining from which source we can accept it? On the other hand, we have to be aware that in 7 years, the funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will be lacking in order to work to the same extent. We must therefore help to ensure that we have other resources available by then.

4.2: What is missing here is the importance and the difficulties in dealing with a multinational organization. New techniques for translating the website and conferences should also be mentioned.

4.4: adjoin: “in all official languages”.

1. Break
2. IFLA Governance Reorganization Discussion

Amandine distributes a proposal and explains the central ideas. Close to half of the UN member states, those in the poorest, smallest, or those in strife do not have a library association. IFLA contributions are too high for individual members in developing countries. The program for the formation of strong associations has ended. The French association is dealing with these questions and hopes that the IFLA board will be committed to more diversity through quotas.

Discussion points:

Michael points out that governance issues should be dealt with after the strategy has been defined and therefore after the conference in Athens. However, he welcomes the proposal as a good basis for this work and is of the opinion that we as MLAS should concentrate on the promotion and development of associations.

Pascal welcomes a better representation of all continents and regions. The question also arises as to whether it makes sense for only the federations to have the right to nominate sections.

Mariann welcomes the paper of the French association, which is also supported by members from Finland, Norway, Sweden and Spain. It strongly perceives IFLA as an Anglo-American organization.

Hella explains that such proposals should be sent to SC members prior to a meeting so that they can study them and, if necessary, consult with their association bodies before taking a position on them.

Samia suggests that new associations could report on how they have successfully established themselves and refers to the example of Algeria.

Decision: Further feedback on the paper is welcome to Amandine. It will be assigned to the two subgroups of MLAS for Governance and Strategy for consultation, which will then submit a proposal to SC MLAS for further action. Possibly this can be discussed in the context of the next Zoom Call.

Subgroup Strategy: Susan Haigh (Chair), Randa Al-Chidiac, Weng Ian Au (Anna), Judy Brooker (or someone else from Australia), Pascal Sanz

Subgroup Governance: Pascal Sanz (Chair), Amy Burke, Alim Garga, Karin Linder, Mariann Schjeide, Sabine Stummeyer

1. Break
2. MLAS Membership Recruitment and Retention Discussion

Will be discussed in the next Zoom call.

1. Lunch
2. MLAS and Library Map of World and UN Sustainable Development Goals Stories

Pascal notes that the LMW was a good step. But the combination with IAP/Agenda 2030 doesn't work because it's too complicated for the members. They often lack the capacity to create and publish content. In addition, the previous examples do not meet the requirements of a "story".

Hella proposes to discontinue this part of the LMV. The gap between Agenda 2030 goals and the daily work in a library is too wide. There is also uncertainty as to who should receive material for this part of the LMV and what role the language centers should play. It is also unclear whether only associations should upload content or whether each library is permitted.

From the discussion results the proposal to offer an open platform in the LMV, on which only links to the different example collections biblio2030.de or France: <https://agenda2030bibfr.wixsite.com/agenda2030bib>

Two dozen examples have already been collected and published in Norway. Mariann sends a link to the SC. Randa has already held the second workshop in Lebanon, where the National Library and the Library of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were represented - unfortunately no members of parliament. She also will be making a presentations in Iraq. Halo says: couldn't that also be a topic for our open session?.

1. Break
2. MLAS Communications and Communications Plan

Not discussed. Topic for Zoom call?

1. Update MLAS Action Plan

Not discussed. Michael will update the draft. Topic for Zoom call

1. Other Business
2. Adjourn