**MLAS Standing Committee Meeting / Minutes**

**Day/Time:** Monday 27 April, 3 – 5 p.m. CET

Type: Zoom Meeting

Participants: Dijana Machala , Marwa El Sahn, Ute Engelkenmeier, Susan Haigh, Amandine Jacquet , Karin Linder, Rauha Maarno, Loida Garcia Febo (Information Coordinator), Halo Locher (Chair), Chutima Sacchanand, Loy Jyoon Chin, Pascal Sanz, Amy Burke, Irina Trushina (for Mikhael Afanasyev), Evviva Weinraub Lajoie (SIG convenor Women, Information Libraries) , Magda Gomułka (SIG Convenor, New Professionals) , Hella Klauser (Secretary, Minutes)

1. **Welcome and Introductions (Halo, Chair)**

**- GB and Governance Review, General Assembly**

Governing Board will meet with zoom meetings in first half of May. The General Assembly will be a topic; there is no date yet from IFLA, but it must take place this year according to the statutes. The needed quorum will probably not be reached. Pascal Sanz (PS) asks about the delay of the governance review and the ballot on the small revision concerning the possibility to make electronic votes. Until May 7 returns of the revision of statutes are possible.

**Action:** It is agreed that Loida Garcia Febo (LGF) will send a reminder to members to participate at the vote. Halo Locher (HL) will ask at IFLA Headoffice about returnings to the votes already.

LGF will also send a mail to the group about using basecamp for our exchange.

1. **Approval of the Minutes (Attachment)**

**- Midterm Meeting 2020\_02\_27/28 \_ Remarks Pascal**

**- List Working Groups**

**- mark in bold: Head/contact to HQ**

The minutes of the Midterm meeting held in Chicago on February 27 and 28, 2020 were approved with the remarks from PS included and with a thank you to the secretary of the section.

Presentation of the list of working groups with naming a head of each working group to coordinate the group and being the contact to IFLA HQ.

Group 1: Lead: Susan Marwa, Chutima and Loida will join

Group 2: Lead: Halo it is decided to discuss the content of group 2 to make the mission statement even more specific.

**Action:** Susan Haigh will invite for a zoom meeting to members of group 2.

Group 3: Lead: Loida Amandine will join the group, Susan will switch to group 2.

Group 4: Lead: Amy It is decided that group 4 will be part of group 3. The communication plan will be discussed in the next zoom meeting.

Group 5: Lead: Hella PS adds that already a big step has been done by meeting regularly via zoom and creating the working groups.

Group 6 Lead: Halo Evviva will join the group. She notices that the group has a very big focus and proposes to wait first for the survey results to then work more specified.

Group 7: see separate topic on the agenda

Group 8: lead: Ute

A revised list of all working groups will be added to the minutes.

1. **Cancellation Dublin & consequences**

**- meetings MLAS**

**- open session MLAS**

**- proposal Amandine: spend grants to associations in need**

AJ’s proposal of proposing to IFLA or national associations to spend the grants’ money this year (because of the cancellation of the WLIC) otherwise to improve equipment to associations in need finds no support from the MLAS group.

Instead of the two business meetings during the WLIC the group decides on zoom meetings every two months, one in June and one in August. The proposal to open a meeting to MLAS members or preparing a webinar for all members of MLAS is rejected by the group for the moment.

The question of whether the planned open sessions of the WLIC 2020 will turn into an online conference is answered negatively.

**Action:** Ute Engelkenmeier (UE) will discuss possibilities with Group 7 and then inform the MLAS SC members.

1. **Session by our SIGs**

**- Wilsig: climate change / lifestream?**

Evviva Weinraub as convenor of the SIG has left the zoom meeting.

**Action:** HK will contact her and ask to send information to the MLAS group about any plans the Special Interest group might have instead of the onsite WLIC 2020 plans.

*(EW May 5,2020 by mail: We decided that we were going to postpone our session until WLIC 2021. We discussed the possibility of doing a webinar session, but decided that we would instead wait, and possibly expand the scope to include impacts from Covid-19 as part of our discussion. )*

**- NPSIG: Music and libraries**

Magda Gomułka (MG), convenor of the NPSIG, explains that the SIG prepares to turn their onsite session on Music and Libraries to an online session. They plan a combination of presentations and a music contest for librarians as webinar. Perhaps they will also keep the topic for the WLIC 2021 in Rotterdam. IAML and former NPSIG convenor Sebastian Wilke support the organization of the webinar. Magda will directly contact Helen Mandl at IFLA HQ about the plans, LFG spread the announcement of the webinar via our listserv as soon as the plans become concrete.

1. **Dealing with inactive SC members (report by Loida on actions)**

Topic is postponed to the next zoom meeting.

1. **Corresponding members**

**- Assane Fall (Senegal): Yes**

**- Randa Al Chidiac (Lebanon): Yes**

**- Mitsuhiro ODA, President of Japan Library Association (nominated by Chutima)**

**- Vadim Duda (Russia): no answer till 20\_04\_21 – time line: 26.04.2020**

Situation/distribution on continents:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Kontinent** | National Associations | % | All Associations | % | SC today % |
| Europe | 61 | 44 | 76 | 41 | 50 |
| Asia & Oceania | 36 | 26 | 42 | 23 | 15 |
| Africa | 16 | 12 | 21 | 11 | 10 |
| Latin America & Caribbean | 14 | 10 | 26 | 14 | 10 |
| North America | 11 | 8 | 20 | 11 | 15 |
| Total | 138 |  | 185 |  | 100 |

The chair describes the geographical distribution of our MLAS members and proposes to name candidates from Asia&Oceania and from LAC. Irina will ask Vadim Duda if he is interested in joining and will get back to HL with his response. HL asks the two members in our section from Latin America to name candidates.

**Decision:** the group agrees to invite Randa Al Chidiac (Lebanon) and Mitsuhiro Oda (Japan) as new corresponding members of the MLAS. HL will confirm to both of them.

1. **Other business**

**- social media info (Loida)**

LGF refers to the communication plan which will be discussed during our next zoom meeting. She proposes to add information about our library associations on our facebook page which has bout 540 members, many of them coming from India for example.

**- date midterm 2021 Paris: ? (Pascal)**

PS will propose a concrete date for the MLAS midterm meeting in Paris 2021 later on. As the book fair Salon du Livre will take place March 19 – 22, 2021 with the inauguration Thursday, 18th of March, it is possible to have our meeting around March 17./18, 2021. The organization of the meeting will be together with abf.

**- Survey demands of associations for training (Susan?)**

SH is working on this, but it is not done yet.

During our next zoom meeting we will decide who will contact which association.

**Dates for our next zoom meetings:**

June 30, 2020, at 2 pm (CET)

August 31, 2020, at 2 pm (CET)

During the August zoom meeting we will discuss the draft of our mission statement; HL will take the lead. HK will invite for the meeting by sending the link to connect into zoom.

1. **Closing remarks**

Before closing the zoom meeting, the chair asks for a short description of the up to date situation in the different countries because of the covid-19 crisis:

France: is hoping for the reopening middle of July; the association prepares guidelines for the libraries.

Croatia: is dealing with corona plus the earthquake damages; together with the Ministry of Culture they prepare guidelines for libraries on how to go back to normal; Libraries are allowed to reopen after one month of closure. A website was created about how libraries are dealing with covid-19.

Thailand: the situation gets better, but schools are still closed probably until the end of May. libraries are also closed because they are places where people come together. There will be no conference this year and only an online book week. But the digital services were built up. Financially a difficult situation.

Russia: libraries and schools are closed until May, no plans yet on how to go on. Many activities, lectures, readings, information move online; the library association is monitoring the situation and puts information on to the website.

USA: every state takes its own decision. NY for example has a shut down until May 15,then evaluation. They compile a document for libraries and adapt to local government with security measures etc. 800 librarians lost their jobs in NYC, others don’t receive salaries.

Poland: libraries are closed, but steps are on preparation by the government on how to return to normal life, libraries’ openings will be in step 2, probably in May and only by returning books.

Egypt: libraries are still closed, also universities and schools, webinars and zoom meetings are organized and working from home. Staff will return to the libraries after Ramadan, but probably may not yet open to the public.

Germany: Libraries, Schools, Universities are still closed. As dates and decisions differ within the 16 federal states of Germany, the library association provides information on the website and information to support the libraries. Staff work from home. Online activities and information has increased a lot. The national annual conference with about 3500 participants has been cancelled; there will be an online conference instead.

Malaysia: The total lock down is planned from March 18 until May. Online information, competitions in storytelling, videos etc. online increase. The World book capital Kuala Lumpur has been cancelled, but online activities are going on. Translations of fake news are an important service; guidelines to prepare the re-opening are in preparation

Switzerland: the libraries are closed as well as shops and schools. The library associations gives support to the libraries by developing information and guidelines to prepare the re-openings and by putting emphasis on digital information and activities like online reading contests.

The chair thanks all for participating, gives a special thank to HK for organizing the meeting and ends the zoom meeting with best wishes to all to take care in this difficult time.