

# Presidential Newsletter

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## NO. 1 SEPTEMBER 2007

Dear IFLA Members,



I have only just returned from IFLA's World Library and Information Congress 2007 in Durban. It was a great congress, filled with hospitality and joy, abounding with excellent papers and good discussions about the most diverse aspects of libraries and the information society. It mirrored our organisation's active professional life.

As the new IFLA president I welcome all new members of standing committees and I congratulate both officers and members of the new governing board on their election or re-election. I hope that my presidential theme "[Libraries on the Agenda \[III/PresidentsProgram.htm#President\]](#)" will foster the advocacy competencies of our organisation and of librarians throughout the world.

In Durban, we happily announced a one million dollar grant from the [Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to IFLA \[V/press/GatesFoundationGrant2007.htm\]](#) to continue our work to highlight the importance of providing public access to technology and the Internet through libraries to help improve lives.

We are able now to set up the long-hoped-for advocacy position at our Headquarters in The Hague to support Free Access of Information and Freedom of Expression as well as other advocacy initiatives aiming to put libraries on the agenda and strengthen our members' advocacy competencies. I firmly believe that advocacy competence is a key element in sustaining the development of libraries.

We also introduced our newly established IFLA language centres for [Arabic \[V/press/Arabic-SLII-established07.htm\]](#) , [French \[V/press/French-LC-established07.htm\]](#) and [Russian \[V/press/Russian-LC-established07.htm\]](#) and the new [Regional Office for Africa in Pretoria \[V/press/RO-Africa-established07.htm\]](#) .

The presentation of IFLA publications proved to be a rather successful event in Durban. The more than seven publications are another effective outcome of our association's work [<http://archive.ifla.org/V/saur.htm> [[V/saur.htm](#) ]].

With best wishes to all of you

Claudia Lux  
President of IFLA 2007 - 2009

September 2007

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The Letter of the President "*LOP*" is distributed by e-mail at least once a month to provide an overview of some of the current activities of the IFLA President, President Elect, the Governing Board and the Headquarters. It contains LINKS for further consultation and will be sent to [IFLA-L \[http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwwsympa.fcgi/subrequest/ifla-l\]](#) and all other mailing lists organised by IFLA.

