



Report on the Symposium "Reading is a link between generations: Toward a more interdependent society", Tunisia, 21-23 September 2011

Le Ministère de la Culture, La Fédération Tunisienne des Associations des Amis de la Bibliothèque et du Livre (FENAABIL) in co-operation with IFLA Literacy and Reading Section organised international symposium :

"Reading is a link between generations: Toward a more interdependent society"
in Hamammet, Tunisia 21-23 September 2011.

The symposium was very successful.

Congratulations to Ahmed Ksibi from FENAABIL who was a key person of the symposium!

There was 110 participants from 12 countries at this international symposium, representing Tunisia, Algeria, Pakistan, France, USA, Canada, Norway, Croatia, Palestine, Gabon, Netherlands and Belgium.

The President of IFLA Ingrid Parent was a keynote speaker with the theme *Towards an inclusive society: how libraries bridge generations*. The second keynote was given by the former Literacy and Reading Section's Chair Ivanka Stricevic who stressed the role of libraries in building the cohesive society. The programme has more than 30 presentations in 9 sessions. Members of the Standing Committee on Literacy and Reading also gave their presentations: Leikny Haga Indergaard, the Section's Chair, spoke about projects of intergenerational reading in Scandinavia and Virginia Walter presented one intergenerational reading programme from US. All IFLA representatives were also engaged as moderators.

The symposium also agreed on a declaration: "The Tunis Declaration on libraries, reading and intergenerational dialogue: A strategy for building social cohesion". The Declaration is available at the Section's webpage.

Symposium follow up: The Section on Literacy and Reading will work on the proceedings of the Tunis symposium, and the same theme will also be in focus of our session at the IFLA Conference in Helsinki 2012.

Prepared by
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