



UNION INTERNATIONALE DES EDITEURS  
INTERNATIONALE VERLEGER - UNION

INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION  
UNION INTERNACIONAL DE EDITORES

## **LIBRARY FUNDING RESOLUTION**

This 27th Congress of the International Publishers Association meeting in Berlin from 21 to 24 June 2004, with publishers from 47 countries, passes the following Resolution:

### **Publishers support libraries as they face new challenges**

Considering the important role that libraries have played in making books and other reading material available to all members of society, considering the challenges that libraries face as their roles change in the networked information society and in the emerging knowledge economy, considering the lack of sufficient financial support that libraries are receiving from government for their important work in many parts of the world;

Publishers reassert the key role that libraries play in the ongoing improvement of literacy, learning and research in the information society; Publishers reaffirm their commitment to closer cooperation with the library community to enable mutual understanding and to jointly defend the role of libraries; Publishers call on governments to improve the funding of libraries to ensure that they can acquire the technology and the content that they need to ensure their future success.

Publishers call on the international community and governments:

- to stop cutting back the public funding of libraries;
- to promote libraries as hubs for Internet access, e-learning, literacy and computer literacy.

#### **IPA Background Brief:**

Publishers and Librarians share a passion for books and reading and jointly fight to preserve and develop the role of libraries.

IPA has been cooperating with the international library community on issues such as legal deposit, archiving, freedom to publish, acid free paper and access for visually impaired persons.

Governments worldwide have been cutting back subsidies in library services. Berlin has cut back its library budgets from €6.6m in 1992 to € 1.9 m in 2003. Further information can be found at [www.bibliothekssterben.de](http://www.bibliothekssterben.de)