



IFLA National Libraries Section

Annual Report 2007

Standing Committee

Ms Ingrid Parent, Assistant Deputy Minister, Library and Archives Canada, continued as Chair of the National Libraries Section in 2007. At the Division 1 meeting in Durban, Ingrid was also elected as Chair of Division 1 for 2008-2009.

Ms Genevieve Clavel-Merrin, Director, National and International Cooperation, Swiss National Library, completed a four year term as Secretary of the National Libraries Section. At the first Standing Committee meeting in Durban on 18 August 2007 Ms Jasmine Cameron was elected as the new Secretary of the Section.

During 2007 the following members were elected to the Standing Committee for 2007-2011:

Ms Genevieve Clavel-Merrin, Swiss national Library (2nd term)
Ms Antonia Ida Fontana, Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze, Italy (2nd term)
M Zhan Furui, National Library of China
Ms Magdalena Gram, National Library of Sweden
Ms Kristina Hormia-Poutanen, National Library of Finland
Ms Galina Kislovskaya, Russian State Library
Ms Colette O'Flaherty, National Library of Ireland
Mr Lucien Scotti, Bibliotheque nationale de France
Mr John Kgwale Tsebe, National Library of South Africa
Ms Tiiu Valm, National Library of Estonia
Mr Martyn Wade, National Library of Scotland

These new members join the following members who remain on the Standing committee:

Ms Ingrid Parent (Chair), Library and Archives Canada
Ms Jasmine Cameron (Secretary), National Library of Australia
Mr Martin Bossenbroek, Royal Dutch Library
Ms Renee Herbouze
Ms Deanna Marcum, Library of Congress
Ms Elisabeth Niggemann, National Library of Germany
Ms Araceli Sanchez-Pinol de Anta, National Library of Spain

Ms Vigdis Moe Skarstein, National Library of Norway
Mr Vladimir Zaitsev, National Library of Russia

The Chair would like to thank the following members of the Standing committee who completed their terms in 2007:
Mr Osvaldo Avallone, Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale-Roma
Mr Kai Ekholm, National Library of Finland
Mr Victor Fedorov, Russian State Library
Mr Andrew Green, National Library of Wales
Mr Graham Jefcoate, University Library Nijmegen, Netherlands
Mr Zoran Krstulovic, National and University Library, Slovenia
Mr Evgeniy Kuzmin, Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation
Ms celia Ribeiro Zaher, Blue Sheild Brazilian Committee
Mr Georgios Zachos, University of Ioannina Library, Greece

Strategic Plan 2007-2009

The Section's Strategic Plan was revised in 2007 and a new plan for 2007-2009 was developed. The new strategic plan supports IFLA's three pillars: *Society* through its work with the World Summit on the Information Society and its support for national libraries worldwide; *Profession* through its close cooperation with the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL), the IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards (ICABS), its contribution to Division 1 and collaboration with other IFLA Sections on conference sessions and satellite meetings; *Member* through its information program, including regular newsletters, leaflets and e-list.

New actions within the strategic plan that will advance the three pillars include:

- Working with colleagues in Division 1 to develop guidelines on 'twinning' with other libraries, with the aim of assisting developing national libraries
- Developing a directory of national libraries to enhance communication and collaboration between national libraries
- Working more closely with CDNL to ensure that the priorities of the National Libraries Section support CDNL

Overview of IFLA Durban 2007

The National Libraries Section was involved in three sessions at the Durban conference. The Section's main session, *The Future of National Libraries: Convergence and Partnerships*, was held on

Sunday 19 August 2007. The session featured papers from Canada, Singapore, Kenya and Denmark. A modified version of the paper from Kenya, *From Beer Halls to Public Library: the Story of the Naivasha Community Library* delivered by Irene Kibandi from the Kenya National Library Service will be published as report in the *IFLA Journal* in 2008.

The Section collaborated on two other sessions: with the Bibliography and Indexing and Classification sections on Monday 20 August 2007 for a session on *Re-thinking National Bibliographies in the Digital Age* and with ICABS and the Information and Technology section on Tuesday 21 August 2007 on *National Libraries and Resource Discovery Strategies-Local, National and Global*.

All sessions were well attended with audiences of approximately 200 at each session.

At the Standing Committee meeting of 24 August 2007 it was agreed that the section's main session would be a joint four session with the Statistics and Evaluation section on performance indicators and evaluation for national libraries. It was agreed that this topic was timely given the work by Roswitha Poll on the ISO standard for performance indicators for national libraries. There will also be a joint session with the Audio-visual and Multimedia Section on legal deposit for audio-visual materials.

Newsletters

The Section newsletter remains the primary method of communicating with members. In 2007 two newsletters were compiled, in June and December.

Closer Cooperation with CDNL

During 2007 Ingrid Parent and the Chair of CDNL, Ms Penny Carnaby, CEO and National Librarian, National Library of New Zealand, met on several occasions and agreed that both groups would look at ways in which to work more closely together in the future. The Chair of CDNL will be invited to future Standing Committee meetings in order to help align the respective programs and activities of both groups.

IFLA Project Grant for Directory of National Libraries

In 2007 the section made a successful application for IFLA project funding to assist with the development of a directory of national libraries. It is intended that the directory be publicly accessible via the Internet. The work will be undertaken in 2008 and is scheduled to be completed by the IFLA conference in Quebec.