

SC I August 18, 2001

Members present: Werner Stephan (Chair), John Byrum (Secretary), Kristin Waneck (Information Coordinator), Marcelle Beaudiquez (Honorary Advisor), Barbara Bell (Project Consultant), Francoise Bourdon, D. Whitney Coe, Alan Danskin, Pilar Dominguez Sanchez, Tuula Haapamaki, Talbott Huey, Unni Knutsen, Anne Langballe (Project Consultant), Eva Murtomaa, Bohdana Stoklasova, Eva Tedenmyr, Alexandra Teplitskaya, Claudia Werner, Beacher Wiggins, Maya Zumer. *Guest:* Carmen Perez Pais.

1. Introductions were performed, including the seven new members.
2. The agenda was approved, with the addition of discussion to choose a location for a Sunday get-together luncheon.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and the Secretary thanked.
4. Elections were held for new Section officers. Bohdana Stoklasova was nominated by Francoise Bourdon and elected by acclamation. Unni Knutsen was nominated for secretary but withdrew; Talbott Huey was nominated and elected. Kristin Waneck was thanked for her past work as Information Coordinator, and she agreed to continue in the position. John Byrum and Werner Stephan were unanimously asked to be Honorary Advisors to the Section as they retired from their positions.
5. Reports were presented on Section work.
 - A. In the annual report Byrum acknowledged the hard work of Section members in accomplishing important points of the Action Plan, including:
 - the valuable reports by Barbara Bell and Anne Langballe on national bibliographies and by Unni Knutsen updating the Holley survey of 1996,
 - arranging the Divisional Open Forum presentations by four speakers,
 - organizing the Section workshop, involving twelve speakers, including translation.Stephan thanked Alexandra Teplitskaya for her Russian translation, and also announced an informal meeting of Division IV members after the Open Forum.
 - B. In the financial report, Stephan announced that this year the Section had Hfl 1350 for administrative expenditures and Hfl 2000 for projects. The latter had been paid to Bell and Langballe for travel expenses, but was insufficient, and it was proposed and agreed that a balance of \$77 would also be offered. The Section income in 2000 was Hfl 930, which IFLA supplemented to Hfl 1350; most of this was spent on travel and newsletter postage, leaving a balance of DM720. Stephan announced that the Coordinating Board has money available for small or short projects—perhaps Hfl 1800 for a year; application should go through Ia McIlwaine at division level. Bourdon suggested that our current metadata (FRANAR) project might apply. Stephan also noted that in the past there had sometimes been problems with unregistered invited speakers. In an effort to solve the problem, the Professional Board has allocated money for one-day registration for one such speaker per division. Requests for same should be submitted by March 15, 2002; only librarians will be considered.

Further notes: registration for the 2002 conference in Glasgow will open in the morning of the first day, rather than in the afternoon. Planning for section workshops and open forums should follow the theme of the conference [“Libraries for life: democracy, diversity, delivery”]. One whole day of the conference will be scheduled to take place in Edinburgh.

Knutsen asked if the recent demise of FID would have any impact on IFLA. The question was referred to Ia McIlwaine at division level.
6. Reports on projects: Bell, Langballe and Knutsen were thanked for their valuable accomplishments.
 - A. Bell commented on the preparation of the report, noting that the field of national bibliographies was moving rapidly, and that the report was a “snapshot” of the current situation only. Langballe commented that some of the latest national bibliographies were difficult to obtain. The report contains suggested actions in each area of the world, and in general can be summarized as 1) the

need for updating legal deposit arrangements; 2) stressing timeliness; and 3) producing effective introductions to the bibliographies. Knutsen and Waneck stressed in response that the Section must plan and act to improve national bibliographies by concentrating on the suggestions of the report, by increasing cooperation with other sections, and by attempting further to reach the 57% of National Bibliographic Agencies which did not respond to Bell/Langballe requests for information.

Stoklasova urged the Section to actively inform NBAs of the advice in the report and of new and available information models such as electronic publishing. Beaudiquez also stressed Section action in cooperation with NBAs and pointed out that it has long been clear that it is in the interest of NBAs to make their nations' publications better known; universal bibliographic control still seems a long way away. Stephan agreed that the Section must take action to make the results of the report known to the public, to librarians, and to NBAs in our own countries and elsewhere. Bell noted that the ICNBS recommendations were still not well known in some areas of the world. The discussion raised the question of whether the report could be considered indiscreet or offensive in pointing out the shortcomings of individual efforts. Tuula Haapamaki suggested there should be mechanisms to measure future progress, such as updates to the current report. Stephan suggested the report be published in some form by Section action, and the possible modes of editing and publication were discussed. A small group was set up to discuss further in connection with our strategic plan.

- B. Knutsen briefly described the scope and method of her survey following up the survey of NBAs done by Robert Holley in 1996. She concentrated her questions and analysis on bibliographic control and inclusion, pricing, and anticipated future developments. Many of the reporting NBAs talked of revision and greater inclusiveness, and the materials under control were more varied than five years ago. Some, however, seemed to be moving too rapidly into electronic media to the slighting of the print version; the question of preservation was thus raised. The breadth of inclusion of materials remained a debated topic. Beaudiquez agreed, noting that the relationship between legal deposit laws and NBAs was not always clear, and standards of inclusiveness were not clear. Stephan referred to the experience of the Deutsche Bibliothek as of interest.

- 7. Stephan gave an overview of the relevant sessions planned for the Boston conference, namely the Division Open Forum (8/20), the Section's public session (8/21) and the workshop on national bibliographies held jointly with the Section on National Libraries (8/23). Two Section members (Bourdon, Stoklasova) volunteered to join a working group set up by the Section on Classification and Indexing on subject gateways.

A guest from Azerbaijan rose to request that the Section make a point of taking action to give advice and assistance to NBAs not yet familiar with the proper methods of producing national bibliographies. The Chair took the suggestion under advisement.