



IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO)

Minutes of Mid-Term Meeting (via Zoom) 17 March 2020, 11:00 (Hong Kong)

ATTENDANCE

Present:

1. Tina Tao Yang (Chair)
2. Nor Edzan Che Nasir (Secretary)
3. Wat Tat Hoi (Co-Information Coordinator)
4. Sanjay K Bihani (Chair for Division 5)
5. Soh Lin Li (Regional Office)
6. Amarjeet Kaur Gill
7. Arshad Mahmood
8. Dewi Kartikasari
9. Hiroshi Kawamura
10. Irina Shubina
11. ChihFeng P. Lin
12. May Chang
13. Nayana Darshani Wijayasundara
14. Ramesh C. Gaur
15. Winston Roberts
16. Yasuyo Inoue
17. Ying Chen

Absent with apologies:

1. Jayshree Mamtora (Co-Chair)
2. Dolores Carungui (Co-Secretary)
3. Cendrella Habre
4. Premila Gamage
5. Vicki McDonald

Absent without notice:

1. Dilara Begum (Information Coordinator)
2. Jihye Song
3. Lilit Harutyunyan
4. Margaret A. Terry
5. Mya Oo

Item	Agenda	Action
1.	Welcome, Introduction, and Apologies. Tina Yang as Chair of RSCAO opened the Meeting and welcome all members who were able to attend the Meeting which was held via Zoom. She wished for everyone to be in the	

	best of spirits during the COVID-19 pandemic. Every member was then given an opportunity to greet everyone else.	
2.	Adoption of Agenda. The agenda was adopted without amendments.	
3.	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Standing Committee Meetings held in Athens o 25 and 28 August 2019. The minutes which were previously circulated were passed without amendments.	
4.	<p>Matters arising from the Minutes. Follow-up actions were taken on matters arising from the last Standing Committee Meeting. Some items were further discussed at the present meetings.</p> <p>10. 2020 Mid-Term Meeting in Beirut, Lebanon. Tina Yang thanked Singapore for their acceptance to host the Mid-Term Meeting in Singapore from 16 to 17 March 2020. She also thanked Singapore for making the necessary arrangements for the Meeting, However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Meeting had to be cancelled.</p> <p>10. IFLA RSCAO Quarterly Newsletter. Soh Lin Li reminded all members who want to share their experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic in the forthcoming <i>Newsletter</i>, should send their write-ups to her.</p> <p>12. Feedback from the attendees of RSCAO’s Open Session. The response rate for feedback was extremely poor. Lin Chihfeng as Chair of the Program Sub-Committee stated that they will need to employ some other mechanism to get the attendees’ feedback during the Open Session in Dublin.</p> <p>13.1. LLA’s invitations to potential speakers for their conference. Since the Mid-Term Meeting in Beirut, Lebanon has been cancelled, the Conference is also cancelled.</p> <p>13.2. Taiwan and Bangladesh as hosts for Mid-Term Meetings. The Meeting took note that Vicki McDonald showed interest to host the 2021 Mid-Term Meeting in Australia.</p> <p>14.1. Collaboration with IFLA IT Section for Mid-Term Meeting or Satellite Meeting. May Chang stated that this will require further discussions for 2021.</p>	

<p>5.</p>	<p>Report from the Chair, IFLA-RSCAO Tina Yang mapped the activities of RSCAO to IFLA Strategy 2019-2024. RSCAO’s activities from September 2019 to February 2020 were mapped to Initiatives 1.1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2 and 4.4.</p> <p>Action Plan for 2021 Following from that Asia and Oceania Section requires new Action Plans for 2021 and Tina Yang requested for suggestions. She emphasised on the need to look at critical issues within Asia and Oceania. The members deliberated and provided two possibilities.</p> <p>a. Language documentation and digitization; digital archiving of languages, digitisation of manuscripts; digital technology for presentation; auto translation; literacy in indigenous languages; preservation of indigenous culture, Language is an important component of a community and its culture. It has to be properly documented and this would give libraries an opportunity to work closely with the community. This should include non-script and sign languages. Asia and Oceania Section can collaborate closely with various sections to extend our reach to library related fields such as the Section on Indigenous Matters and Section on Metadata. There is a need to defend the rights of the indigenous community to write their own stories and upload them on the Internet for others to access. Public policy issues concerning the Internet can also be explored. We also need to work with the Information Technology Section to look at the technology that can capture the oral language and translates it.</p> <p>b. COVID-19 stories; how libraries are supporting the communities during the COVID-19 pandemic Libraries in Asia and Oceania are putting in various initiatives and measures to reach out to their user community during the COVID-19 pandemic. This would include but not limited to lessons learnt, best practices, stories and disaster recovery plans. The re-emergence of fake news is another issue that libraries can tackle. However, this should not be restricted to only the COVID-19 pandemic but also include natural disasters such as forest fires, typhoons, earthquakes and volcano eruptions. For a start, members can submit these events to our SDG Stories.</p> <p>Action The Strategic Planning Sub-Committee 2019-2020 will look into these two possibilities.</p>	<p>Jayshree Mamtora and Strategic Planning Sub- Committee 2019- 2020</p>
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<p>6.</p>	<p>Report from the IFLA Regional Office Soh Lin Li from the IFLA Regional Office (RO) presented her report which was previously circulated to the SC members. She noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is an increase in the number of members with 266 memberships and 43 member countries as at 31 July 2019. - Brochures on SDG are available from the Regional Office. - Slides on Library Map of the World are also available from the Regional Office. - The April issue of the <i>IFLA RSCAO Quarterly Newsletter</i> will feature COVID-19 related stories. - IFLA will support a Malay Caucus, led by Malaysia, during WLIC 2020 in Dublin. <p>Winston Roberts enquired on the Division 5 Resolution that was made in Egypt. Sanjay Bihani stated that it has been submitted to the IFLA Governing Board.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Report from the Information Coordinator, IFLA-RSCAO No report was forthcoming from Dilara Begum as the Information Coordinator.</p> <p><u>Action</u> Dilara Begum has to submit the Information Coordinator Report to the Secretary.</p>	<p>Dilara Begum</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Reports from Sub-Regional Conveners Reports were available for only 4 sub-regions namely Central Asia (Irina Shubina); North and East Asia (Ying Chen); South East Asia (Dolores Carungui); and West Asia/Arab Countries (Cendrella Habre). However, the report from South East Asia is incomplete. There were no reports from South Asia (Arshad Mahmood) and Oceania (Winston Roberts).</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Arshad Mahmood (South Asia) and Winston Roberts (Oceania) have to submit their respective Sub-Regional Reports to the Secretary. b. Dolly Carungui has to submit a complete report for South East Asia to the Secretary. 	<p>Arshad Mahmood Winston Roberts Dolly Carungui</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Report from the Communication and Marketing Sub-Committee 2019-2020 No report was forthcoming from Dilara Begum as the Convener of the Sub-Committee. Members of the Sub-Committee are as follows: Dilara Begum (Convener) Wat Tat Hoi (Co-Convener) Ying Chen (North and East Asia) Irina Subhina (Central Asia)</p>	

	<p>Dolores Carungui (South East Asia) Arshad Mahmood (South Asia) Cendrella Habre (West Asia/Arab Countries) Winston Roberts (Oceania) Tina Yang (Chair) Jayshree Mamtora (Co-Chair) Nor Edzan Che Nasir (Secretary)</p> <p><u>Action</u> Dilara Begum has to submit the Communication and Marketing Sub-Committee Report to the Secretary.</p>	<p>Dilara Begum</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Report from the Strategic Planning Sub-Committee 2019-2020 Members of the Sub-Committee are as follows: Jayshree Mamtora (Convener) Cendrella Habre May Chang Premila Gamage Ramesh Gaur Sanjay Bihani Vicki McDonald Winston Roberts Tina Yang (Chair) Nor Edzan Che Nasir (Secretary)</p> <p>Due to unforeseeable circumstances, Jayshree Mamtora has replaced Cendrella Habre as the Convener of the Sub-Committee. In the absence of the Jayshree Mamtora and Premila Gamage, Tina Yang presented the Sub-Committee's report.</p> <p>10.1 Action Plan 2019-2020 The Focus Areas of the Action Plan were narrowed down from three to two: a. Develop an advocacy document on how libraries in the Asia Oceania region support the attainment of the UN Sustainable Development Goals b. To create awareness about IFLA to new members and engage them in IFLA activities</p> <p>The Action Plan was finalised and submitted to IFLA HQ on time by 15 October 2019.</p> <p>10.2 SDG Stories from the Asia and Oceania Region The IFLA HQ had collaborated with the Sub-Committee to revise the submission form for the IFLA Library Map of the World and developed a new, simplified form to collect SDG stories from the Asia and Oceania region. IFLA have helped set up the form in Survey Gizmo and the link has been widely distributed around the region: through mailing lists, social media, and through committee</p>	

	<p>members as well as all IFLA members in the Asia and Oceania region. The intention is to obtain a case study from every country of our region, and at least each area represented on our committee, for each of the 17 SDGs. The final aim is to develop a booklet of SDG stories from Asia and Oceania. The timelines were outlined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submissions were open from January 2020 - Deadline for submission: 31 March - Production of booklet: April – July 2020 - Launch of booklet: August 2020 <p>An implementation team had been set up to oversee the project led by Premila Gamage, with support from Vicki McDonald and Winston Roberts.</p> <p>10.3 SDG Stories Submission</p> <p>As at 13 February 2020, the total number of submissions is 69 and the total number of partial submissions is 61. There are only 8 complete submissions from Fiji (1), India (1), Kazakhstan (3), Lebanon (1), Malaysia (1), Pakistan (1). Out of the 8 completed submissions, 2 stories are already featured in IFLA’s Library Map of the World. It is recommended:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the Administrator has to delete the partial submissions and clean up the database, b. considering the current state of global health and the very low number of stories that have been submitted, it is best to extend the deadline for submission, and c. sub-regional convenors’s support is needed to promote the call for submissions widely and encouraging colleagues to submit their stories. <p>The members agreed to an extension in the deadline to allow for more submissions from the region. It was also agreed that if a story has appeared in the Library Map of the World, an abridged version can be submitted to RSCAO’s SDG Stories,</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Administrator of the platform has to clean up the database - Jayshree Mamtora b. Extend deadline for submission – Jayshree Mamtora. c. Sub-Regional Conveners to promote call for submissions - Ying Chen (North and East Asia), Irina Subhina (Central Asia), Dolores Carungui (South East Asia), Arshad Mahmood (South Asia), Cendrella Habre (West Asia/Arab Countries) and Winston Roberts (Oceania). 	<p>Jayshree Mamtora Ying Chen Irina Subhina Dolores Carungui Arshad Mahmood Cendrella Habre Winston Roberts</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Report from the Programme Sub-Committee 2019-2020</p> <p>A Zoom Meeting was held on 7 November 2019 to make preparations for the Open Session in Dublin. The theme of RSCAO’s Open Session is “Sharing our stories: libraries in Asia</p>	

	<p>and Oceania supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”. A call for papers was sent out and 36 abstracts were received. A total of 19 abstracts were rejected since they did not comply to the abstract format and 17 abstracts were accepted. Out of the 17, one abstract was rejected since it did not address the theme. A total of 16 abstracts were reviewed by a panel of reviewers and 5 abstracts that scored the highest marks will be presented at the Open Session and another 2 will be kept as reserves. A keynote speaker has been identified but confirmation of his/her acceptance is subject to the date of the Open Session.</p>	
12.	<p>Mid-Term Meeting 2021 Australia has shown an interest to host the 2021 Mid-Term Meeting, Bangladesh for 2022 and China for 2023. However, Soh Lin Li noted that the Regional Office has not received any request and she advised countries that are interested in hosting the Mid-Term Meetings to send an email to her and Tina Yang. IFLA allocates Euro 5,500 for the Mid-Term Meeting to pay for lodging and meeting venue which will be paid directly to the hotel.</p> <p><u>Action</u> Any country that is interested in hosting the Mid-Term Meetings has to send an email to Tina Yang and Soh Lin Li.</p>	All members
13.	<p>Other Matters</p> <p>13.1 2020 Action Plan Mapping GIOPS Project GIOPS will be conducting a needs assessment of GIOPS Section member. They have identified Asia Oceania as a possible partner.</p> <p><u>Action</u> Nor Edzan Che Nasir will wait for further action from GIOPS.</p> <p>13.2 ApriGF (Asia Pacific Regional Internet Forum) Winston Roberts reported on this. There was a Lightning Talk on ApriGF in Athens. The Forum will be held in Kathmandu from 27 to 30 September 2020. There are 1 to 2 places for speakers from Asia and Oceania, preferably from South Asia. Those who are interested can take a look at their website. RSCAO members are encouraged to attend the forum. Ramemsh C. Gaur expressed his interest to be a speaker and had requested for details to be sent to his email. Winston Roberts also facilitated the application for Mya Oo and Dolores Carungui for the APSig (Asia Pacific School on Internet Governance) Fellowships.</p>	Nor Edzan Che Nasir
15.	<p>Close of Meeting The Chair announced the closing of the Meeting and thanked everyone for their presence.</p>	

	The Meeting came to a close at 13:40.	
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NEN/8 June 2020