Minutes of Management of Library Associations Mid-Year Meeting
Physical/Teleconference (Zoom), 20 May 2022
10:00 – 12:00 CEST

Attendance:

Physical, Saint Gallen, Switzerland

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1. Welcome and Confirmation of Agenda (Chair)

The Chair gave a warm welcome and thank the participants for their commitment and time in coming to Saint Gallen, Switzerland to attend the Mid-Year MLAS Meeting. The Chair also thank the MLAS Standing Committee who will be joining the MLAS SC meeting via Zoom Teleconferencing today (20 May) at 10.30 am (CEST). This is the first time that MLAS SC Meeting is held via a hybrid conference. The Chair also inform that the MLAS SC visited the Textile Museum and Library and had a discussion on the MLAS Action Plans with the respective work group yesterday (19 May). The Mid-Year meeting will continue today with a visit to the Abbey Library of St. Gallen, Exhibition Abbey Plan, and Abbey Church and thereafter to the Cantonal and City Library Saint. Gallen
As there was only one presentation on IFLA MLAS WLIC Session “Empowering Library Leaders and Diversity Worldwide” by Nick on the 19 May due to time constraints, the Chair amended the Meeting Agenda to include two additional reports in Agenda 6, that is, 6.2: IFLA MLAS Review of Advocacy Impact Evaluation Process for Libraries and 6.3: IFLA MLAS, IFLA NPSIG and Regional Council Webinar Series “Empowering Library Leaders and Diversity Worldwide. The amended agenda was confirmed and approved by all the participants.

2. Minutes MLAS Standing Committee Meeting 21 April 2022

The minutes from the last MLAS Standing Committee meeting held on April 21, 2022, were passed with a slight amendment in Agenda 3: News from the IIFLA Governing Board (Chair), Paragraph 5.

Following the resignation of IFLA’s previous President-elect and Treasurer, IFLA will be holding extraordinary elections to fill these two key positions until the next IFLA General Assembly in 2023 to be amended in 2022.

3. IFLA Unit Policies

Loy Jyoon informs that the following four policies have been approved by the IFLA Professional Council and Governing Board and are to share these policies with the Standing Committee Members.

3.1 Process for determining co-opted members

Standing Committees may co-op members to either reach a full Committee membership or to increase the regional diversity of the Committee. The maximum number of members that can be co-opted for regional diversity is five.

Loy Jyoon informs the MLAS Standing Committee is well represented in the six (6) IFLA Regional Divisions except in Asia Oceania where the Oceania region which comprises Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands is unrepresented. The following are the breakdown of MLAS Committee member from the six (6) IFLA Regional Divisions:

North America: Loida Garcia-Febo (USA) / Susan Haigh (Canada)

Europe: Hans Ulrich Locher (Switzerland/ Germany)/Hella Klauser (Germany) /Vidar Lund(Norway)/Dijana Machala (Croatia) / Pascal Sanz (France)/Nick Poole (UK)/ Alicia Selles Carot (Spain)/ Ute Engelkenmeier (Germany)

Latin American and The Caribbean: Jorge Moisés Kroll do Prado (Brazil)/ Ana Carolina Lopez Scondras (Argentina)

The Middle East and North Africa: Marwa El Sahn (Egypt)

Sub Saharan Africa: Alim Garga ( Cameroon)/ Namutenya Hamwaalwa (Namibia)
Asia Oceania: Loy Jyoon Chin (Malaysia)/ Chutima (Thailand) / Ruijuan Huo (China)/ Mikhael Afanasyev (Russia). All the four Committee Members are from Asia.

3.2 Process for replacing members due to a casual vacancy

The resignation of a Standing Committee member during their term may result in a casual vacancy. MLAS has a casual vacancy as Alicia-Cristina Ocasa-Ferreira from Uruguay has resigned early this year due to work commitment. Depending on the time left before the next election cycle, the Chair may utilize the co-opting process to fill the vacant position to reach the full Committee Membership of 20.

The MLAS Standing Committee members agreed that we can co-op one member from the Pacific region as it is unrepresented in the MLAS Section. Loida suggests that she contact Kim Taunga, from LIANZA (Library Association, Aotearoa, New Zealand) to find out whether she is interested to be a co-opted member. The co-opting process will be discussed in the next MLAS SC Meeting. Hella and Marwa supported the suggestion.

3.3 Process for appointing Section mentors

Section mentors provide support to Standing Committees in a variety of areas which include guidance and mentorship for new members, expertise and advice on Section Projects, and regional support or perspective. Up to three mentors can be appointed to support the work of the Standing Committee.

MLAS SC decided that we do not need to have Section mentors at the moment as the MLAS projects and Action Plans are all progressing well.

3.4 Process for removing inactive members

Individuals elected to any IFLA committee are expected to participate fully in the activities of the committee. Members unable to attend a meeting or take part in activities for a defined time should send an apology to the Standing Committee Chair and Secretary so it can be noted in the minutes. Individuals who do not participate in the activities of the committee that is., do not attend meetings, do not sign up for a committee activity, do not respond to emails, and do not contribute in any way, may be removed from the committee.

All the MLAS SC has been actively involved in the MLAS Action Plans and Committee activities and response to emails. The attendance at Section Meetings has been good and there is good communication and collaboration among the members.

4. Presentation on World Expression Forum (WEXFO) [https://wexfo.no/]

Vidar Lund gave an overview of the World Expression Forum: Empowering Freedom of Expression. WEXFO aims to ensure and empower global free expression based on high-level guidance, best practices, and high-quality analysis. The World Expression Forum Entitled “In an age of dictators and trolls – strategies to promote and defend Freedom of Expression”. will be held in Lillehammer, Norway from May 30th to 31st May 2022. Anyone interested in attending the Forum can contact Vidar Lund.
5. Agenda for MLAS Business Meeting, Dublin, 25 July 2022

The Chair informs that the agenda for the MLAS Business Meeting scheduled to be held on the 25 July during the IFLA WLIC 2022 in Dublin will be discussed in the next MLAS Standing Committee Meeting. The MLAS Business Meeting will be held on 25 July (Monday) at 13:45 to 15:45 (CEST) at the Convention Center Dublin in Room Liffey A (Session 029 SC Meeting Management of Library Associations Section)

The Chair invites all MLAS SC to attend the IFLA WLIC 2022 which will be held from the 25th to 29th of July in Dublin. Chutima and Namutenya inform us that they will not be able to attend the Conference.

6. New Professionals Special Interest Group/ MLAS Action Plans
The Chair invites Magdalena, Dijana, and Loida to present their reports and then open for discussion.

6.1 New Professionals Special Interest Group (NPSIG): Approve Members:

Magdalena, Convenor for the NPSIG presented the list of ten (10) NPSIG committee members for the Chair and MLAS Committee Members’ approval.

1. Magdalena Gomułka (Convenor)
2. Marija Šimunović
3. Borna Udatny
4. Jelena Vuksanović
5. Paria Tajallipour
6. Elizabeth Mwangi
7. Andres Reinoso
8. Sabine Weber-Beard (new)
9. Caroline Ghostine (new)
10. Nurfarawahidah Badruesham (new)

However, a check by Pascal on the rules of the number of Committee Members for Special Interest Group (SIG) and Meghan from IFLA HQ confirms that SIG consists of nine (9) committee members including the Convenor. Seven (7) members from the previous term and two new members will form the NPSIG members. Nurfarawahidah Badruesham will be an informal member of NPSIG. Antoine Torrens and Assane Fall will be unofficial members (volunteers). The Chair informs that the formal election of the nine (9) NPSIG members will be held at the next MLAS SC Meeting.

6.2 IFLA MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project

Dijana as leader of the IFLA MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project Working Group gave an overview of the current status of the project based on the discussion by the workgroup during the MLAS SC Mid-Year Meeting in St Gallen.
Dijana informs that the aim of this project is the systematic literature review of advocacy impact evaluation methods, theories, methodologies, examples of best practices, case studies, and toolkits that are in use or could be relevant for the library field. The output of this project is the online publication of “Strengthening Advocacy Impact Evaluation in the Library Field: A Review and Recommendations”

Dijana also informs that the target group for this project is library associations. This project is also working in collaboration with the IFLA Regional Council, that is the European Regional Division and the Latin American Regional Division. She also highlighted that 50% of the Review will be completed by November 2022 and the whole project will be completed by July 2023. This project has a Basecamp Project page and the Working Group holds monthly Zoom meetings.

The link to this project Google documents is: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lNWJ3OUVa4TZxuFQGeYzmNjdXXfUNKZc622A_vmq3D_8/edit?usp=sharing and used Zotero Reference management https://www.zotero.org/

Loida informs that she has connected Dijana with Albina Krymskaya, Chair for the IFLA Education and Training Section (SET) for the Webinar Series for students.

6.3 IFLA MLAS, IFLA NPSIG and Regional Council Webinar Series “Empowering Library Leaders and Diversity Worldwide"

Loida as leader of the Working Group gave an update on the IFLA MLAS webinar series which is moving forward well in collaboration with IFLA NPSIG and MLAS colleagues in the respective regions. She thanks everyone for their help and enthusiasm in the webinar series especially the Working Group which comprises Chutima, Magdalena, Pascal, Susan, Marwa, Namutenya, Anna Carolina, and Alim Garga.

Loida also informs that she is sharing information on the webinar series with Nick for the preparation of the IFLA MLAS WLIC Open Session in Dublin scheduled to be held on 27 July. The insights gained from these webinars will then inform and enrich the MLAS Open Session which will focus on the same theme.

The links to the recordings of the webinar for the North American Region and the European Region are as follows:
Empowering Library Leaders and Diversity Worldwide - the North American Region Experience: https://youtu.be/eQIfNZi7pxA

Empowering Library Leaders and Diversity Worldwide - the European Region Experience: https://youtu.be/6Xqg-CJOk74

There will be four more webinars in the following Regional Division and the dates, times, and languages for the interactive rooms are as follow:

MENA:
Date: 25 May
Time: 6 pm Cairo, Amsterdam/9 am New York

MLAS Standing Committee Physical/Zoom Meeting
20 May 2022
Interactive rooms: Arabic/English/French

Sub-Saharan Africa:
Date: 26 May
Time: 3 pm Cape Town, Amsterdam/12 noon New York
Interactive rooms: English/French

Latin America & Caribbean:
Date: 15 June
Time: 1 pm Costa Rica/ 2 pm Mexico/ 3 pm New York/ 4 pm Argentina/ 9 pm Amsterdam
Interactive rooms: English/Spanish/Portuguese
Registration Link:  
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqceGvqDgrHNPryY4gycDM8pRcUpA1Z7Zf0

Asia and Oceania:
Date: 21 June
Time: 7 pm New Zealand/ 3 pm Beijing, Manila, Malaysia/ 9 am Amsterdam.
Interactive rooms: English/Chinese/Malay Language
Registration Link:  
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ldeCrqT8rG9adDvJwggji5uUi459XUYQJk

Loida on behalf of MLAS has applied to the IFLA Professional Committee to request funds to provide (machine-generated) zoom translation for the webinars in Latin America and Caribbean (English/Spanish) and Asia & Oceania (Chinese, English, Malay Language).

7. Next Meetings

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Time/Venue</th>
<th>Programme/Activity</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 June 2022 3.00pm CEST, Zoom</td>
<td>MLAS SC Meeting</td>
<td>The Chair has cancelled the meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 July 2022 3.00 pm CEST, Zoom</td>
<td>IFLA MLAS WLIC Open Session, Dublin, Ireland</td>
<td>All MLAS Standing Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 July 2022 1.45pm-3.45pm CEST, Physical Convention Center, Dublin, Dublin, Ireland, Room Liffey A</td>
<td>MLAS Business Meeting</td>
<td>All MLAS Standing Committee, IFLA Members. A minimum of 10 MLAS SC is required for the meeting quorum</td>
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<tr>
<td>26-29 July 2022 Physical Convention Center</td>
<td>IFLA WLIC 2022, Dublin, Ireland</td>
<td>All MLAS Standing Committee are encouraged to attend the</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date/Time/Venue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dublin, Dublin, Ireland</td>
<td>Conference.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>27 July 2022</strong></td>
<td>IFLA WLIC MLAS Open Session &quot;Empowering Library Leaders and Diversity Worldwide&quot;</td>
<td>MLAS SC and IFLA Members and Non-Members</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Wednesday) 8.30-10.30 am (CEST),</td>
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<td>Convention Center Dublin, Dublin,</td>
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<td>Dublin, Ireland</td>
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<td><strong>29 August 2022</strong></td>
<td>MLAS SC Business Meeting II via Zoom</td>
<td>MLAS SC and MLAS Members</td>
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<td>(Monday) 3.00 pm (CEST), Zoom</td>
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8. **Miscellaneous**

8.1 **Best Librarian in Poland**

The Chair and MLAS Standing Committee congratulate Magdalena Gomulka for winning the "Librarian of the 2021 Year" competition in Poland. The Polish Library Association will present the award to Magdalena in a ceremony at the Book Faires in Warsaw.

8.2 **Minutes of MLAS SC Meetings**

Pascal suggested that the minutes of the MLAS SC Meetings be sent to all MLAS members. Loida informs that the minutes can be sent via the MLAS Listserv.

8.3 **News from the IFLA Governing Board (Chair)**

IFLA MLAS SC was grateful for the opportunity to meet with Barbara Lison, IFLA President in St. Gallen this morning and to have a full discussion of the recent challenges facing IFLA.

The Chair and MLAS Standing Committee agreed that a statement is drafted based on the discussion with the IFLA President to be shared with other members of MLAS.

Nick and Susan drafted the statement as in the link [https://docs.google.com/document/d/19WtTsWCvCAEpXJPNuqMmXAgGxOq5NKzwN-fLhzW3P38/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/19WtTsWCvCAEpXJPNuqMmXAgGxOq5NKzwN-fLhzW3P38/edit). The draft was approved with slight amendments proposed by the IFLA President and Loida.

9. **Closing Remarks by the Chair**

The Chair thanked all the participants for their active and fruitful engagement and also their great commitment to attending the MLAS Mid-Year Meeting in Saint Gallen. The Chair looks forward to meeting physically again at the MLAS Business Meeting in Dublin, Ireland. The Chair closed the meeting at 12 noon (CEST) by wishing all participants a safe and pleasant journey back to their respective countries.

MLAS Standing Committee Physical/Zoom Meeting

20 May 2022