



IFLA Section
Management of Library Associations

Minutes of Management of Library Associations Mid-Year Meeting Hybrid Meeting (In-Person/Zoom), 24 March 2023, 09:15 – 10:45 (CET) (Paris, France)

Attendance:

Physical (Paris, France) :

Hans Ulrich Locher (Chair) VPIRC.Management@outlook.co GERMAN(SWITZERLAND)
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1. Welcome and Introductions

Halo, MLAS Chair explained that today's MLAS Standing Committee Meeting was a hybrid meeting. Halo welcomed all the Standing Committee Members and NPSIG Convenor that were physically attending the MLAS Standing Committee Midterm Meeting in Paris, France, and MLAS SC comprising of Marwa, Loy Jyoon, Chutima, Jorge, and Namutenya who were attending via Zoom. The agenda was confirmed and approved by all the participants.

2. MLAS Standing Committee Zoom Meeting Minutes, 30th January and 28th February

The minutes of the MLAS Standing Zoom Meeting held on 30 January 2023 at 3:00 pm (CET) and MLAS Standing Zoom Meeting held on 28 February 2023 at 3:00 pm (CET) were approved without any remarks or amendments. The Chair thanked Loy Jyoon for preparing the minutes.

3. Results from MLAS Standing Committee Hybrid Meeting, 23 March 2023, Paris, France

An MLAS Standing Committee Hybrid Meeting to discuss "How to change from MLAS to Association Council" was held on 23 March 2023 from 11:15 to 12:45 (CET) at the Midterm Meeting. The hybrid meeting was attended by MLAS SC who were physically present in Paris and MLAS SC comprising Marwa El Sahn, Loy Jyoon Chin, and Jorge Moisés Kroll do Prado via Zoom. The Chair posted 3 questions to the participants for discussion:

- (a) What are your thoughts or remarks on the idea of an Association Council
- (b) Would you support MLAS as an Association Council
- (c) If you support the idea, how would you recommend doing that

All the participants gave their thoughts and ideas of MLAS being an Association Council and decided that the idea of an Association Council was not appropriate and would not be discussed further.

4. WLIC Rotterdam, 21-25 August 2023

a) Concept of MLAS session program

Dijana reported that IFLA HQ has approved the MLAS paper proposal for the IFLA WLIC 2023 Open Session with the title “Strengthening library associations with SDGs and advocacy impact evaluation”.

The theme of the IFLA MLAS open session was about strengthening the role of library associations and libraries in building a sustainable future and empowering their professional capacity to manage, evaluate and demonstrate library advocacy impacts.

The session would address library association roles in advocating for the policy or societal change in line with SDGs; present MLAS work to strengthen our commitment and capacity to evaluate advocacy activities; and finally combine the two, exploring how the impact of library advocacy on SDGs could be evaluated.

The proposed format of the MLAS Open Session would be 75 minutes panel discussions with 25 minutes for the first two parts and the third-panel discussion would take the remaining time.

IFLA MLAS panel discussion aim was to address the library sector's (libraries and library associations) role in advocacy impact evaluation practice and firming its position in their community settings in line to help attain SDGs goals and get an active part in providing desirable change. Panel discussion consists of three interrelated thematic parts. In the first part, the preliminary findings of the MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation project would be given followed by an enlightening talk from an expert from the field of advocacy impact evaluation theory and practice. Although advocacy has been recognised as a topic relevant to the library field at the global level, there was a certain lack of commonly recommended practices, appropriate methodologies, or guidelines for securing an independent impact assessment and evaluation process that would provide firm evidence of the effects and fundamental change of advocacy activities, both globally and in local settings.

The second part of the panel discussion would show how IFLA's International Activities Programme (IAP) to support the UN SDGs can be used by libraries and associations to do advocacy for themselves. The information about IFLA's MLAS

webinar series on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Library Associations would be shared.

The scope of the session was to inform and share the knowledge about best practices solutions, methodologies and guidelines on how the library sector could approach the planning and governing of the changes as a result of advocacy activities, project activities or strategic policy implementation and contribute in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals set both in its local or global scope.

b) Open questions

Dijana also reported that the MLAS Open Session proposal has been accepted by IFLA HQ with a remark that there should be more regional diversity for the invited speakers. At the moment, the proposed speakers are Susan Haigh, Loida and Dijana with Halo as the moderator for the panel discussion.

c) Responsibility

MLAS would be solely responsible for the MLAS WLIC Open Session in Rotterdam. Dijana as Chair of the Advocacy Impact Evaluation Working Group and Loida as Chair of the SDG Webinar Series Working Group would be coordinating the Open Session.

5. Election Officers SC MLAS

The Chair informed that there were 14 candidates for the 13 vacancies in the MLAS Standing Committee for the term 2023-2027. Thus, one candidate would not be elected. The timeline for the election of MLAS SC Officers which comprises the Chair, Secretary and Information Coordinator were as follows:

a) Self-nomination: June 1st – 19th June

All MLAS Standing Committee for 2021-2025 / 2023-2027 term could self-nominate for the three officer positions from 1st June to 19th June. The term of office for the officer positions would be 2 years (2023-2025). Hella suggested that the position of the MLAS Chair should be highlighted because the Chair is automatically a member of the Governing Board. She also encouraged incoming Standing Committee Members to take over officer roles.

b) Elections: June 26th - 10th July

The election of the MLAS Officers would be held from 26 June to 10 July online. Only MLAS Standing Committee Members for 2023-2027 term can vote.

c) Web Conference with candidates: 26 June 2023 / 8:00 pm (CEST) (Amsterdam)

The Chair and the meeting participants agreed that a Web Conference would be held if there was more than one candidate for the three positions. The proposed date and time would be 26 June at 8: 00 pm (CEST) (Amsterdam).

6. Webinars SDG

Loida as Chair for the Webinars SDG Working Group gave a background on the SDG Webinars Series. She highlighted that the United Nations has stated that the world is in the last Decade of Action to meet the SDGs. Libraries were sustainable accelerators. Library associations were key in moving forward the library agenda in each country. MLAS mission was to build and support strong library associations. Collaborating with other IFLA groups and regions of the world, this activity would allow us to support national library associations by highlighting effective strategies that would equip them to help their country to achieve development.

The webinar series “Sustainable Development Goals and Library Associations” follows the IFLA *Strategic Direction 1.1 Show the power of libraries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals*. A working group from MLAS in collaboration with IFLA New Professionals SIG and IFLA Regional Divisions would coordinate webinars about various top topics resulting from a survey MLAS carried out during 2020-2021. The webinar format includes interactive opportunities (breakout rooms) to engage attendees in conversations in languages spoken in the regions.

This webinar is part of a webinar series featuring all regions of the world presented by four units from the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). These were: IFLA’s Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS) in collaboration with the IFLA New Professionals Special Interest Group (NPSIG), the Environment, Sustainability and Libraries Section (ENSULIB), and the 6 IFLA Regional Divisions.

The schedule for the webinar series with IFLA Regional Divisions were as follows:

- a) North America Region : 6 March 2023
- b) MENA Region : 8 May 2023
- c) Asia-Oceania Region : 7 June 2023, 5:00 pm New Zealand and 7:00 am CEST

The webinar would be recorded and the video posted on the [IFLA MLAS YouTube](#). Target attendees were national library associations from all countries in the featured region, and any other at the global level that would like to join or access the video recording. The first webinar of the series featuring North America can be accessed via: <https://youtu.be/LjCFntglDHw>

7. Miscellaneous

- a) Term of the Current MLAS Standing Committee

The Chair informed that the term of the current Standing Committee ends as the new term of the Standing Committee begins after the IFLA General Assembly at the close of WLIC in Rotterdam on 24 August 2023. Certificate of Appreciation would be given to outgoing Standing Committee Members subject to their contributions to the Section and IFLA, provided they request it from HQ. The outgoing committee member should send an email to ifla@ifla.org stating the Section and in case they wish to receive a printed copy, an updated physical address should be informed.

- b) Election Standing Committee MLAS (13 March – 12 April)

The Chair reiterated that the election of the MLAS Standing Committee would be from 13 March to 12 April via electronic voting sent by IFLA HQ.

- c) New Logo MLAS

The Chair informed that IFLA HQ has designed a new logo for all IFLA Sections. Halo would email the new MLAS logo to Loy Jyoon to be sent to all the MLAS Standing Committee.

- d) Library Diplomacy

Halo has contact with Stephen Wyber about a program for politicians during IFLA WLIC in Rotterdam. If anybody has such guests please inform the Chair.

- e) NPSIG Open Session Proposal Paper IFLA WLIC 2023, Rotterdam

Magdalena reported that the NPSIG Open Session Proposal Paper and the IFLA Camp Proposal Paper for the WLIC 2023 in Rotterdam have been approved without any remarks from IFLA HQ.

8. MLAS Standing Committee Next Meetings

The Chair and the participants agreed to the following dates and time for MLAS's next meetings as follows:

- a) 4 April, 3:30 pm - 4.00 pm CEST (Amsterdam), Zoom

The Chair and participants agreed that an MLAS SC meeting to elect Woman in Information and Library Special Interest Group (WILSIG) and New Professional Special Interest Group (NPSIG) Committee Members for the term 2023-2035 to be held on 4th April at 3:30 pm CEST (Amsterdam) via Zoom. The link to the zoom meeting is as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83663292997?pwd=OGZITmp4dFI2QINrTU9WTWM4MTNUZz09>

Meeting ID: 836 6329 2997

Kenncode: 883729

Magdalena informed that the current NPSIG team has proposed a list of nine candidates for the new term (2023-2025) for MLAS SC approval. Pascal suggested that the list of candidates be sent to all the MLAS Standing Committee before the meeting.

- b) 30 May, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm CEST (Amsterdam), Zoom

The Chair and the participants agreed that a Joint session with new MLAS SC members as observers with an introduction of MLAS and information about the election of SC MLAS officer positions be held on the 30th May at 3:00 pm CEST (Amsterdam) via Zoom.

- c) 26 June, 8:00 pm CEST (Amsterdam), Zoom

The Chair and participants proposed that a web conference be held on the 26 June at 8:00 pm CEST (Amsterdam) via Zoom if there was more than one candidate for the officer positions in MLAS Standing Committee.

- d) 24 July 2023, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm CEST (Amsterdam), Zoom

MLAS SC Zoom Meeting would be held on the 24th of July at 3:00 pm CEST (Amsterdam) in preparation for IFLA WLIC Rotterdam 2023.

- e) 20 August 2023, IFLA WLIC Rotterdam, Netherlands (Hybrid)

The Chair informed that there will be one MLAS SC Business Meeting on 20th August during IFLA WLIC 2023 scheduled to be held at the Convention Centre in Rotterdam. The Chair proposed that the time of the meeting be held at 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm CEST using hybrid technology so that all MLAS SC can attend. IFLA HQ will send the draft of the IFLA WLIC programme on 10 April with two weeks time to react.

Commented [LJC1]: Can we determine the time for the meeting so that we can book the room

9. Closing Remarks

Halo, MLAS Chair thanked all the participants for their great commitment in attending the meeting physically in Paris and via Zoom and their valuable input in this fruitful meeting. He especially thanks Pascal Sanz, Eléonore Clavreul and Jean-Baptiste Vaisman and all colleagues from the French associations and libraries in Paris for their hospitality. On this note, the Chair ends the meeting at 10: 45 am (CET) (Paris).

30.03. 23 Draft / adds by Halo 3.4.2023