



**IFLA Section
Management of
Library Associations**

**Minutes of Management of Library
Associations Standing Committee
Business Meeting II
Teleconference (Zoom), 19 September
2023, 14:00 – 16:00 (CEST) (Amsterdam)**

Attendance:

Loida Garcia Febo (Chair) loidagarciafebo@gmail.com UNITED STATES
Micheline Brule mbrule@fmdoc.org (Information Coordinator) CANADA
Marwa El Sahn marwa.elsahn@bibalex.org EGYPT
Hella Klauser klauser@bibliotheksverband.de GERMANY
Nicholas Poole nick.poole@cilip.org.uk UNITED KINGDOM
Ana Carolina Lopez Scondras carodras@gmail.com ARGENTINA
Jorge Moisés Kroll do Prado jorge.exlibris@gmail.com BRAZIL
Deepali Talagala d.talagala@gmail.com SRI LANKA
Wai Tat Wilson Hoi hoiwaitat@gmail.com MACAU SAR, CHINA
Julia Demasi julia.demasi@gmail.com URUGUAY
Antoine Torrens Montebello antoine.torrens@hotmail.fr FRANCE
Imad Bachir imad.bachir@gmail.com BAGDAD
Jeli Saveta Blagojeric jelisaveta.blagojevic@skupstina.me (SIG Convenor, New Professionals)
MONTENEGRO
Paria Aria paria@tamu.edu (SIG Convenor, Women, Information and Libraries) UNITED STATES
Loy Jyoon Chin (Secretary, Minutes) jyoonchin57@gmail.com MALAYSIA

Excused:

Dijana Machala dmachala@nsk.hr CROATIA
Vidar Lund vl@norskbibliotekforening.no NORWAY
Alicia Sellés Carot alselca@gmail.com SPAIN
Namutenya Hamwaalwa hnamutenya@gmail.com NAMIBIA
Adama Kone adams.kone@gmail.com COTE D'IVOIRE
Lynn L. Jibril jibrill@ub.ac.bw BOTSWANA
Wang Yanhang wangyh_lsc@163.com CHINA
Irina Trushina trushina@nlr.ru RUSSIAN FEDERATION

1. Welcome and Confirmation of Agenda

Loida Garcia-Febo, MLAS Chair welcomed all participants present at the meeting. She then informed that today is the first official MLAS Standing Committee Meeting for the newly elected Standing Committee Members, New Professionals SIG Convenor, and Women, Information and Libraries SIG Convenor. The Chair also informed that there are 21 MLAS Standing Committee Members and invited the participants present to introduce themselves. The Chair also welcomed Karin Byström, Division C Chair as a guest in the meeting. MLAS Chair informed that MLAS Standing Committee Members not present today sent their apologies. The agenda for the meeting was confirmed without any amendments.

2. Minutes MLAS Standing Committee Business Meeting, 20th August 2023, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Loy Jyoon, MLAS Secretary presented the minutes of the MLAS Standing Committee Business Meeting which was held on Sunday, 20 August 2023 from 13:30 - 15:30 (CEST Amsterdam) at Room Dock 1, Ahoy Convention Centre, Rotterdam during WLIC 2023 in a hybrid format. The minutes were approved with no amendments or comments. The Chair thanked Loy Jyoon for preparing the minutes.

The Chair informed that technology issues prevented members from joining the meeting online. These issues were informed to the IFLA Secretary General and the Governing Board.

3. Report from the IFLA Governing Board

MLAS Chair as a member of the IFLA Governing Board highlighted the following matters which include establishing a Working Group to look into new ways of presenting the IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC). The Working Group has not met yet and the MLAS Chair is in the Working Group; notary on the IFLA Code of Ethics and IFLA Handbook; Advisory Referendum on IFLA WLIC 2024 Dubai; Updating IFLA Strategy (2021-2025); Brief Meeting with the Stichting IFLA Global Libraries (SIGL) Board.

She also informed that the next IFLA Governing Board Meeting will be held on 5th October 2023 via Zoom and on 4th - 6th December 2023 in The Hague, The Netherlands (In-person).

Hella and Nick thanked Loida for the report. Hella reiterated that as library associations are important, MLAS should give more input to IFLA on matters such as IFLA WLIC and IFLA Strategy Plan. As MLAS has 21 Standing Committee Members, she suggested that a Working Group be set up for this purpose. Nick also supported this initiative. It was agreed that such group will be convened when the topics mentioned are on the table for discussion by the IFLA GB.

4. MLAS Action Plan ending in 2023

Loida informed that she has communicated with Megan for the login password to the system to key in the MLAS Action Plan. The three items from the MLAS Action Plans were completed in 2023 and the status of the projects are as follows:

- a. IFLA WLIC MLAS Open Session, 24 August 2023, Rotterdam
MLAS hosted an IFLA WLIC MLAS Open Session with the topic: “Strengthening Library Associations - The Importance of Advocacy Impact Evaluation and its Relevance to SDGs Advocacy” on Thursday 24 August 2023 at 01:15 pm-2:30 pm in Room Rotterdam A (Session ID: 181). Loida and Dijana Machala chaired the session whereas MLAS SC comprising Susan Haigh and Marwa El Sahn were among the speakers. The session was held on-site and recorded. The details of the session can be viewed via the link: <https://iflawlic2023.abstractserver.com/program/#/details/sessions/300>

- b. MLAS Webinars Series “Sustainable Development Goals and Library Associations”
A working group from MLAS led by Loida in collaboration with the New Professionals Special Interest Group (NPSIG), the Environment, Sustainability and Libraries Section (ENSULIB), and the IFLA Regional Divisions hosted four webinar series on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Library Associations for this year. The four IFLA Regional Divisions that responded were the North American Region, MENA Region, Asia and Oceania Region, and European Region. A representative from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Subcommittee was able to give a presentation in each of the four webinars held. The recordings of the four webinars can be viewed via these links:
 - i. North American Region, 6 March 2023
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjCFntqIDHw>

 - ii. Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region, 8 May 2023
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v9bfJqWZaFI>

iii. Asia and Oceania Region, 7 June 2023
<https://youtu.be/SZb6l7Cn3EE?feature=shared>

iv. European Region, 11 July 2023
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2TOs1-BpuwU>.

c. IFLA MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project

The IFLA MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project is a two-year project started in November 2021. The final project result, the Review of Advocacy Impact Evaluation Practices in the Library Field, is scheduled to be published in August 2023. The project aims to strengthen the advocacy impact evaluation practice in the library field by providing a set of guidance and recommendations about how to measure and evaluate the library advocacy impact.

The project which is led by Dijana has requested for an extension of the project to be completed at the end of 2024. MLAS agreed to extend the work of the Advocacy Impact Evaluation Working Group for one more year as the project will be significant for the field. MLAS also suggested the possibility that two outgoing MLAS Standing Committees who were in the working group that is, Susan Haigh and Pascal Sanz be co-opted members of MLAS SC. Loida will communicate with Megan to find out whether Susan and Pascal can be co-opted as official members of MLAS to continue working on this project.

Hella suggested that the project continue with a dialogue with people who are experts in this field like Nicholas Poole and also experts from other countries.

5. MLAS Annual Report 2022-2023

The Chair has also communicated with Megan for the login password to the system to key in the MLAS Annual Report 2022-2023. Loida and Loy Jyoon will work on the report. The report among others required input of the activities they participated in of each of the MLAS SC.

6. MLAS Standing Committee Mid-Year Meeting 2024

MLAS Chair informed that MLAS Standing Committee has held three hybrid (In-person and Virtual) Mid-Year Meetings in Chicago, USA at the ALA Office in February 2020; Saint Gallen, Switzerland in May 2022; and Paris, France in March 2023. Besides the meeting, there were visits to libraries; museum and talk by local representatives of the library associations.

MLAS SC agreed that the MLAS Mid-Year Meeting for 2024 will have more content as the Mid-Year Meeting as a conference rather than only a business meeting. MLAS Chair and a working group will explore the theme and location of the Mid-Year Meeting to bring to the MLAS SC. Members of MLAS at the meeting also agreed that it would be great to link with an existing event to hold the MLAS Mid-Year Meeting at the same time. MLAS SC is also highly supporting of a collaboration with another IFLA Section or Regional Division.

Nick suggested that MLAS could organize a MLAS and FAIFE event. MLAS will explore the content of the event taking into consideration that the following topics were mentioned as of interest currently to library associations which include intellectual freedom, censorship, freedom of expression, ethics, financial stability, membership retention, and strategic planning. MLAS will have to look for a theme that will benefit library associations.

The working group for MLAS Mid-Year Meeting 2024 will be led by Loida as MLAS Chair, Loy Jyoon, MLAS Secretary, and Micheline, MLAS Information Coordinator as they have specific tasks. Other MLAS SC is welcome to join the working group.

7. Planning to identify MLAS priorities for 2023 – 2024

MLAS Chair and Committee Members agreed that the summary of its 2021 Library Associations' Needs Survey Result be used as an initial conversation in identifying possible priority topics for MLAS Action Plan 2023-2024. The Survey results can be accessed via the link: https://reporting.alchemer.com/r/398650_60302de298d3f2.83679778. Several possible Working Groups for 2023-2024 were suggested as follows:

a. Communications Working Group

The Communication Working Group will be led by Micheline Brule, MLAS Information Coordinator with Antoine Torrens Montebello (France) and Vidar Lund (Norway) to support MLAS communications. Antoine suggested that MLAS SC from other regions such as Asia and Africa join the Communications Working Group as their communication channels are used differently. MLAS Chair explained that the Communications Working Group is a committee work and not an activity included in the Action Plan.

- b. **WLIC 2024 Open Session Working Group**
MLAS SC agreed that MLAS should have an Open Session during WLIC 2024 in Dubai. Marwa El Sahn and Imad Bachir will be attending WLIC 2024 and thus will be in the Working Group. MLAS Chair encouraged MLAS SC attending the WLIC 2024 to be part of this WG.
- c. **MLAS Associations Survey Update Working Group**
MLAS SC agreed that a survey of Library Associations Strategic Priorities could also be a MLAS Action Plan and the survey update may help to draft the new IFLA Strategy. Nick will lead this Working Group together with Loida. Other MLAS SC is also invited to join.
- d. **Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project Working Group**
MLAS SC agreed that the Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project Working Group be extended for one more year to the end of 2024. The Working Group will be led by Dijana with Hella and Alicia as the current Working Group. Loida will communicate with Megan on the possibility of Pascal and Susan as co-opted MLAS members based on their expertise.
- e. **Other possible working groups**
Hella suggests that a working group be formed to prepare topics that the IFLA Governing Board will discuss to give more input from MLAS. She cited that some of these topics are IFLA Strategy and IFLA WLIC. It was agreed that such group will be convened when the topics mentioned are on the table for discussion by the IFLA GB.

Loida reiterated that MLAS is successful due to the members working to produce resources that ultimately help and support library associations worldwide. Loida will send a Google document including the various MLAS working groups (2023-2024) to MLAS SC to add their names to a group in which they plan to work and dedicate time. The deadline is 4 October 2023. The Google document can be accessed via this link:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pVMokaLGAZYTkOfNIR13oR1VsAs-RJh8wOiqIX8JF_o/edit?usp=sharing

8. MLAS Meetings Next Dates

The next MLAS Standing Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 21 November 2023. This will be the last MLAS SC meeting for the year 2023. The opening MLAS SC Meeting for the year

MLAS SC Business Meeting II
19 September 2023

2024 is scheduled on Tuesday, 9 January 2024. All the SC members agreed that the time of the meeting would be at 14:00 (CET Amsterdam) to accommodate members from the different regions.

9. Overview IFLA WLIC 2023: Meetings and programmes from MLAS, NPSIG, WILSIG

The Chair decided that the IFLA WLIC 2023 programmes in Rotterdam hosted by MLAS will be discussed in the coming meeting due to time constraints- MLAS SC was okay with that. Loida thanked Julia Demasi, MLAS SC for the interesting report on her experience in WLIC 2023 Rotterdam. Her report can be read via this link:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vSCGaikGEtBM40W51EzXdKFyk-Jm3z7203K8gAuORLJiJsvR6VaygSD_8kMlrbtgUSVjOD9sIbZlb3s/pub

The Chair then invited Paria, NPSIG Convenor, and Jeli Saveta Blagojeric, WILSIG Convenor to give their overview on their respective WLIC 2023 programmes. MLAS is the Sponsoring Section for NPSIG and WILSIG.

Paria reported that NPSIG hosted an Open Session “Library Job Stories: Finding Jobs and Learning about the Requirements” and IFLAcamp#9 in Rotterdam, (<https://iflacamp.wordpress.com/>) during IFLA WLIC 2023. NPSIG will be hosting the IFLAcamp#10 during IFLA WLIC 2024 in Dubai and is looking for a host. MLAS Chair and SC expressed their heartfelt thanks to NPSIG for their support, commitment, and contribution to MLAS.

Jeli Saveta Blagojeric, WILSIG Convenor reported that WILSIG is planning the Action Plan for the next two years. Jeli then enquired about the role and expectations of WILSIG in MLAS. Loida explained that IFLA Special Interest Groups are autonomous and can host or co-host any activities in IFLA. MLAS Chair is an ex-officio in WILSIG and NPSIG being the Sponsoring Section.

10. Miscellaneous

Loida welcomes two guests, that is, Claire McGuire from IFLA HQ and Karin Byström, Chair Division C in the meeting today. However, Claire McGuire from IFLA HQ was unable to attend the meeting.

- a. Claire McGuire, IFLA HQ: Library Associations Climate Survey- IFLA HQ Project

Loida reported on behalf of Claire who is conducting an IFLA HQ Project entitled” Calling

All Libraries and Library Associations: How do you power climate communication and education?" IFLA HQ is inviting libraries and library associations to share their experience with climate action, communication, and education in a survey [[more information here](#)].

The responses will provide a basis for creating one or more climate communication and education (CCE) indicators at the country level related to the greening of libraries and library associations.

The link to the survey from the perspective of a library is: [Take the Library Survey here.](#)

The link from the perspective of a library association is: [Take the Association Survey here.](#)

The dateline for the survey is 15 October 2023.

b. Karin Byström, Chair Division C Updates

Karin Byström gave an update on the Professional Division C Committee which comprises the Officers and Convenors from each Unit organised under this Division. There are four sections and two SIGs in Division C which comprises: The Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section; Education and Training Section; Library Theory and Research Section; Management of Library Associations Section; LIS Education in Developing Countries SIG; and New Professionals SIG. All the 8 Professional Division Chairs formed the Professional Council. The Professional Council Chair, Te Paea Paringatai is an ex-officio in the IFLA Governing Board. Among the updates is the Action Plan for the Professional Council; planning the WLIC programme; and the IFLA Unit review.

Loida informed that she, Loy Jyoon, and Micheline attended the Professional Division C Committee meeting chaired by Karin Byström held on 12 September via Zoom.

c. MLAS /FAIFE Webinar – Rescuing our world from the harms of censorship: Providing access to information in unprecedented times

Loida informed that MLAS in collaboration with the Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression Advisory Committee (FAIFE), will be organizing a webinar to discuss access to information under siege across the world, as well as best practices and strategies from library associations and librarians. Loida thanked MLAS SC for supporting this collaboration and the NPSIG who will be providing the technical support for the webinar.

As in previous years, this October 1-7 of 2023, we commemorate “Banned Books Week”. An initiative from the American Library Association that seeks to bring together the entire book community - librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types -in shared support of the freedom to seek and express ideas.

MLAS SC is invited to add resources about banned books to the following Google document. The list of resources will be added to the event's page via https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CT40oeNMjTLVTos5q3GV7iltfF_tL60M_zszwBXe70I/edit?usp=sharing

11. Closing Remarks

MLAS Chair thanked all the MLAS SC, NPSIG Convenor, WILSIG Convenor, and Division C Chair for their active participation and valuable inputs which have contributed to a very fruitful meeting. The next MLAS SC Business Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 21 November 2023 via Zoom. The meeting ended at 15:45 CEST Amsterdam.

MLAS 211123 Final