

IFLA Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section

Action Plan 2015-2017

Introduction

The Library and Research Services for Parliament Section (hereinafter the Parliamentary Libraries Section) applies the general objectives of IFLA, and focuses on the following priorities;

- increase the effectiveness of parliamentary libraries and research services;
- develop and promote standards and best practices in providing information and research to parliaments;
- exchange information, knowledge and experience, and promote networking, amongst parliamentary libraries and research services as well as with others;
- provide a forum for addressing emerging issues related to legislative support and research processes;
- promote the establishment of libraries and research services as a fundamental component in the development of democratic legislatures throughout the world;
- promote openness, transparency and the strengthening of democratic participation through the provision of information about parliaments to citizens.

Objectives

1. Contribute to IFLA Strategic plan 2016-2021;

1.1 Promote library and research services, as well as the work of IFLA and the Parliamentary Libraries Section, in parliaments around the world

IFLA Strategic Plan 2016-2021;

Strategic Direction 1: Libraries in Society / Key initiative: Changing attitudes and perception

Project description;

This project aims to share innovations in parliamentary library and research services, thus helping bring new ideas to the attention of others within parliaments, and also within the library community. It is important that library and research services be recognized within the parliament as essential services, and sharing innovations is an excellent way to achieve this goal.

Activities/Actions;

- **1.1.1** Identify and share best practices on how to demonstrate the value of parliamentary libraries and research services
- **1.1.2** Conduct Peer-to-Peer training programs prior to annual pre-conferences for smaller and developing parliamentary library and research services
- **1.1.3** Produce a new leaflet/brochure about the Parliamentary Libraries Section

For communication and evaluation - see detailed sub-committee Action plan, and the Parliamentary Libraries Section's Communications plan (objective 1).

1.2 Promote the work of IFLA and the Parliamentary Libraries Section in regional networks

IFLA Strategic Plan 2016-2021;

Strategic Direction 4: Capacity Building / Key initiative: Enhanced Regional Presence

Project description;

This project aims to increase the participation of the Parliamentary Libraries Section in regional network activities.

Activities/Actions;

- **1.2.1** Collect information on regional networks to share with the Section, identify regional leaders and share the Section's activities where appropriate
- **1.2.2** Give presentations about the Section and IFLA at regional conferences, including non-library conferences
- **1.2.3** Network with Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Association of Secretary Generals of Parliament (ASGP) to inform and share information on new developments within the Section

For communication and evaluation - see detailed sub-committee Action plan, and the Parliamentary Libraries Section's Communications plan (objective 1).

1.3 Capacity building for parliamentary libraries and research services / training and knowledge sharing

IFLA Strategic Plan 2016-2021;

Strategic Direction 4: Capacity Building / Key initiative: Advancing Leadership

Project description;

This project aims at planning and implementing training and knowledge sharing activities for parliamentary libraries and research services, giving their leaders and staffs the necessary skills to gauge parliamentarians' changing informational needs and to redesign their services and products accordingly.

Activities/Actions;

- **1.3.1** Conduct a survey for parliamentary libraries and research services: (i) identifying clients' needs and measuring their satisfaction; (ii) the use of management tools to improve services; and (iii) perceived gaps in technical skills.
- **1.3.2** Create a training and knowledge sharing plan for 2016-17, considering; (i) workshops to be held at IFLA conferences and regional meetings; (ii) publication of guidelines; (iii) production of tutorials in video and/or slide presentation format; (iv) use of distance education tools; (iv) establishment of networks (via e-mail, LinkedIn) dedicated to specific training and knowledge sharing themes.

For communication and evaluation - see detailed sub-committee Action plan, and the Parliamentary Libraries Section's Communications plan (objective 1).

2. Inform the parliamentary community and other interested stakeholders about activities in the Section

Activities/Actions

- **2.1** Collecting and disseminating news, producing newsletter and other promotional material
- **2.2** Organise and promote pre-conference programs (Washington, DC (2016) and Warsaw, Poland (2017)) to attract speakers and participants
- **2.3** Organise and promote IFLA congress programs (Columbus, Ohio (2016) and Wrocław, Poland (2017)) to attract speakers and participants
- **2.4** Foster strong partnerships with IFLA sections and other key stakeholders

For communication, implementation and evaluation - see the Parliamentary Libraries Section's (objective 2).

3. Facilitate knowledge sharing and communication within the Parliamentary Libraries Section

Activities/Actions;

- **3.1** Introduce use of social media channels to increase effectiveness of internal communication
- **3.2** Introduce use of online tools for Standing Committee meetings

For communication, implementation and evaluation - see the Parliamentary Libraries Section's (objective 3).