



**Minutes of First Standing Committee Meeting of
Government Libraries Section, IFLA
24th August 2019, Athens, Greece**

Present: Anoja Fernando – Chair (UK), Pavel Kiselev – Secretary (Russia), Neil Murray (EU – Member, Incoming Chair), Jonathan Ginn (UK – Joint Information Coordinator), Sunjay Bihani (India – Past Chair, incoming Governing Board member), Dr. Satendra Singh Dhaka (India – Member), Winny Nekesa Akullo (Uganda – Member), Azli Rahim (Malaysia – Member). Maria Goekeritz (Germany – Corresponding Member)

Guests Present: Vicky MacDonald (IFLA, Chair Division 1), , Norani Noran Abdullah (Malaysia – Observer), Mashizam Mohamad (Malaysia – Observer), K.L. Mahawar (India – Observer – speaker at GLS session), Dr. Sunil Gorla (India – speaker at GLS session), Mary Moulton (USA – Observer), Fabio Pappalardo (EU – Observer, Speaker at GLS session), Daan Smolders (Netherlands – Observer), Adetoun A. Oyelude (Nigeria – Observer), Young Jal (Korea – Observer), , Nigel Brown (Netherlands – Observer) Carol Riccalton (EU – Observer), Kris Kasanvitz (USA – Observer)

1. Welcome: Chair Anoja Fernando welcomed the Standing Committee members and guests to the meeting, announced apologies from members unable to attend and everyone introduced themselves. The Committee recorded agreement.
Apologies: Guillermo García-Capcha – Information Coordinator (Peru - Member), Reyna Josvah Rabiaza (Madagascar – Member), Vincenza Iossa (Italy –Member).
2. Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was accepted and the meeting commenced.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting: Minutes from IFLA WLIC in Kuala-Lumpur, Malaysia were accepted.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes, if any: none

5. Draft Annual Report from the Chair: Anoja expressed her gratitude to Secretary and information coordinators for support and arrangements for WLIC 2019. She also announced the results of GLS Officers elections – Neil Murray for Chair, herself for secretary and Jonathan Ginn remains as information coordinator. She also reported the election of three new Standing Committee members, Azli Abd Rahim (Malaysia), Katja Hilska-Keinänen (Finland), Sunil Gorla (India) and Cinzia Iossa (Italy).

Anoja thanked Jonathan Ginn for conducting a fair nomination process.

Anoja also thanked Winny Nekesa Akullo (Uganda – Member) for joining the nomination process for the post of Secretary and for the gracious support extended when Anoja was elected Chair.

The Chair also mentioned that as a result of satellite meetings in Malaysia in 2018 and Italy 2019, the section is hopeful of presenting the Revised GLS Guidelines in WLIC 2020, Dublin.

She also announced the mid-term conference in Westminster, London in late 2019 and invited all present to attend. She was in discussions with Chair of Libraries and Research Services for Parliament Section.

Pavel expressed his appreciation to Anoja, Guillermo and Jonathan for their cooperation in all section arrangements regarding the section and the program in Athens. He also mentioned that all papers will be presented at the GLS Session as confirmed. Pavel will be hosting all speakers' arrangements during conference and the time-table at the session.

See attached report from Chair (Attachment I).

6. Report from Information Coordinator: Anoja expressed her appreciation and gratitude to Guillermo, who has done an excellent job as Information Coordinator for GLS since he took up post and before Anoja joined the Standing Committee. During Anoja's terms, Guillermo has been a supportive Information Coordinator, particularly overseeing the whole process from call for papers to moderating selection of papers, liaising with speakers and IFLA HQ to upload papers in preparation for the GLS Conference Session.

See attached report from Information Coordinator (Attachment II).

7. Confirmation of Officers:

- Chair: Neil Murray

- Secretary and Treasurer: Anoja Fernando

- Information Coordinator: Jonathan Ginn

8. Feedback on IFLA Action Plan workshop, the Hague: GLS Action Plan 2019-2021 – [hand over to incoming Chair & SC]

Anoja explained the IFLA direction of strategy via the Action Plans. The SC discussed the Action Plan document in full and decided the objectives and Actions, Outcomes and measurements of success. Vicky MacDonald further explained how the Sections Action Plans contributed to the overall IFLA Strategy.

Following discussions/agreement Anoja Fernando handed over the Action Plan to Neil Murray.

9. Guidelines for Government Libraries focusing on Advocacy:

- report finalizing guidelines. Jonathan Ginn & Anoja Fernando
- preparation for Satellite meeting in Rome. Neil Murray & Cinzia Iossa

10. GLS Session Athens: introductions, format and confirmation of speakers.

There was discussion and several helpful suggestions from SC Members present upon the format and timing of the session. Anoja confirmed herself as the moderator of the presentations session. GLS standing committee members confirmed themselves to assist as facilitators at the knowledge cafe session.

Government Libraries Section Chair's Report – Friday 24th August 2019 15:15 – 17:45 – IFLA WLIC Athens, Greece.

A very warm welcome to all Standing Committee members and guests to the meeting

Standing Committee: Elections: 2019 was an election year for new Standing Committee members: I am pleased to report the election of three new Standing Committee members, Azli Abd Rahim (Malaysia), Katja Hilska-Keinanen (Finland), Sunil Gorla (India) and Cinzia Iossa (Italy). A warm welcome as the SC look forward to working with our new colleagues.

Guillermo Garcia and Elina Kähö leave the SC, having supported GLS in different ways for 8 years. Elina's presence and contributions during WLIC SC meetings have been widely respected. Guillermo's contribution as Information Coordinator to the GLS is immense. Guillermo's efforts kept GLS speakers, SC and programme focused on themes. Although funding to attend WLIC wasn't forthcoming; I wish to record Guillermo's commitment across time-zones to make the GLS programme successful by liaising with presenters and SC members. It is a fine example of online communication at its best. I am pleased that Guillermo has accepted my invitation to become a Corresponding Member for GLS.

Government Libraries Section Officials 2019-21:

Chair – Neil Murray (European Parliament, Brussels)

Secretary and Treasurer – Anoja Fernando (United Kingdom)

Information Coordinator – Jonathan Ginn

My gratitude to Jonathan Ginn for overseeing a fair election process. I am pleased Jonathan has agreed to continue as Information Coordinator.

Review of 2018-2019

IFLA Strategy 2019-2024:

The IFLA Global Vision discussion launched in Athens, 2017 and continued in Barcelona 2018; culminated in the 2019 IFLA Professional Units Action Planning workshop 12-13 June 2019, The Hague, Rotterdam. The objective was to collaborate on Action Plans in support of the IFLA Strategy 2019-2024.

As Chair, I participated in the IFLA Action Planning Workshop in Rotterdam from 12-13 June 2019. Each section was represented by a single officer. Following participatory learning, I forwarded the draft GLS Action Plan for 2019/20 to the Division Chair for agreement. The goal is for the GLS Chair to clarify next steps and support available for Action Planning, so the GLS SC takes ownership for implementation.

As I hand-over the GLS Action Plan to the incoming Chair, Neil Murray, I invite the whole Standing Committee, including Corresponding Members to support him. IFLA HQ is encouraging full SC participation for the strategy to become a global effort – 'from Vision to Implementation'.

Satellite meeting, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Kuala Lumpur – 23rd August

2018: Our gracious host was Mr. Abd Azli Abd Rahim, Chief Librarian, MITI with the Workshop being inaugurated by the Director of MITI. Attendees included, Mazli Razali (Sarawak Library), Fatima Lari (Head of Future Foresight, Abu Dhabi Police) and several colleagues from the MITI Library. GLS was represented by Neil Murray (European Parliament), Satoko Yoshima (National Diet Library), Jonathan Ginn (Royal College of Psychiatrists) and Anoja Fernando (Her Majesty's Government, UK).

Following presentations from Mr. Azli on the work of MITI Library, Jonathan presented the draft of the **Government Libraries Guidelines – Advocacy** for discussion and agreement. It was an excellent opportunity for the Standing Committee members to engage with colleagues from Malaysia and Sarawak Libraries, the Diet and Abu Dhabi Police Library to incorporate their country experiences and professional insight into the final draft. After a long day of discussion, the draft was agreed by those present for circulation amongst the SC for final approval prior to presentation to IFLA HQ.

Conference Programme and Forward Plans

IFLA GLS Programme 2019: Thanks to Guillermo and Neil & Jonathan: I am, once again, very grateful to Guillermo for coordinating the process for the selection of speakers, liaising with them to confirm attendance at conference and gathering all the presentations together to ensure Wednesday's session runs smoothly. It is a demanding exercise, especially given that Guillermo finds it difficult to attend WLIC. I wish to express my very personal thanks to Guillermo for his continuous commitment to deliver remotely through the year.

We have received excellent compliments for the 2019 Programme. Please encourage a good audience.

Satellite meeting, Ministry of Education, Universities and Research, Rome 30th – 31st August 2019: Cinzia Iossa (Corresponding Member, Italy) will host this meeting following WLIC Athens. We will be discussing case studies to use in the published version of **Government Libraries Guidelines - Advocacy** at this meeting.

It has been a privilege to launch this project and continue discussions and reach milestones at each satellite meeting hosted in different regions of the world. These forums to collaborate with colleagues from all corners of the globe and incorporate their experiences/insight will enrich the final document giving it an authentic international direction.

GLS Social Media: Consolidating on Guillermo's excellent GLS Social Media Communication Plan 2017-2019, we hope to explore ways in which we can incorporate this document as a separate section to the Revision of Guidelines, i.e. Chapters on Advocacy; Social Media; Open Policy Making.

Although Jonathan & I became expert Tweeters in Columbus & Wrocław, due to time consumed by the Global Vision consultation and preparation for Satellite meeting, we have not been tweeting as much as we would wish. We tweeted from Kuala Lumpur and plan to do so in Athens & Rome. The GLS Twitter account currently has 700+ followers.

Informed Parliaments, Engaged Citizens, Effective Government - IFLA Government Libraries Section mid-term conference, Westminster, London UK 5-6 December 2019:

Theme: UN Sustainable Development Goal 16 – Building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

I discussed the programme with IFLA Policy Manager, Stephen Wyber, who met my senior decision-makers in March 2019. Stephen Wyber & I successfully received support from my employers, Department for Work and Pensions, Her Majesty's Government, to host the conference. Two Keynote Speakers were invited and have accepted invitations. One representing Her Majesty's Government and another representing the IFLA strategy on SDGs and Government Libraries.

Stephen and I would appreciate the widest possible cooperation from GLS to give the occasion a representative global voice.

I have invited incoming Chair of IFLAPARL for possible collaboration.

I am grateful to the Standing Committee for their support. I hope colleagues will join me in celebrating another successful year.

Thank you.

Anoja Fernando, Chair Government Libraries Section.

24th August 2019

Session 160: 2nd Standing Committee Meeting, Government Libraries Section - 27 August 2019

Co-Information Coordinator's Report

By Guillermo A. García

Dear members,

It is a pleasure to greet you again. As every year, I duly inform on the activities realized as Co-Information Coordinator.

I contributed with tasks around the selection of speakers for the session co-sponsored with Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section. I prepared the Call for presentations and gave proper information to the selected speakers on the format of the session. Hope the session can be quite attractive for the audience attending.

I conclude my activities as Information Coordinator this year. It has been eight years of fruitful work, mostly at distance but learning anyway from the collaboration of valuable colleagues in the Section. Hope I can stay in touch and looking forward to future projects as Corresponding Member.

Have a rewarding conference.

Sincerely,

Guillermo