



**WLIC: 76th IFLA General Conference and Council, Gotheburg, Sweden  
Standing Committee of the Literacy and Reading Section**

**Standing Committee meetings:**

Tuesday 10 August 2010, 11:30 - 14:20

Saturday 14 August, 13.15-14.45

**1<sup>st</sup> meeting**

Attendees:

SC members: Ivanka Stricevic, Elena Corradini -, Leikny Haga Indergaard, Marian Koren, Virginia Walter, Elke Dreisbach, Lesley S.J. Farmer, Sook Hyeun Lee, Virginia Walter,

Corresponding members: John Y. Cole, Lisa Krolak, Mariétou Diongue

Observers: 12 observers

***1. Welcomes and Apologies for Absence; Introduction of Members and Observers***

Apologies came from Gayner Eyre, Robert Sarjant, Elsa Ramirez. SC members Ray Dioron, Samia Kamarti and Briony Birdi joined during the Conference and participated in SC meeting II.

***2. Approval of agenda***

The agenda is approved unanimously by the attendees.

***3. Section's officers – status and terms***

The Chair points out that the SC members are 15, and all observers coming to the meetings are invited to stay in touch also during the year, to provide new inputs to the Section's activities, help in organising them, writing articles for the Newsletter, or just to remain in contact for the future. The Chair then announces the change in the Secretary position because Gaynor Eyre had to resign. Elena Corradini was elected as new secretary and treasurer.

On this behalf, the Chair reminds SC members of their terms, because in 2011 elections will take place to renew vacant positions. Some of the SC members are ending their second term in August 2011, so they are invited to recruit new candidates from their countries/regions.

The SC members do not have comments on this topic and the issue is accordingly accepted.

***4. Minutes and matters arising from previous SC meetings in Milan 2010***

No comment received and minutes of the meetings were approved.

***5. Report from the Chair/Treasurer and 6. Report from the Secretary***

The Chair gives the report for the period August 2009 to August 2010. She also gives the Report from the Secretary because she was engaged in the Secretary work during the year. It covers items 5 and 6 in the agenda.

All planned activities in Milan have been carried out during the last year, thanks to the work of many of the SC members, who have been working hard on the various activities and projects.

The highlights from the Report:

- The Committee has 15 members and 5 corresponding members which makes it a good standing
- Sections has 59 members (June 2010), the same as a year ago; The Section's interest is to have correct and updated data, so the problem with incorrect mail addresses has to be resolved in cooperation with the HQ
- There were two SC meetings in Milan, no mid-year meeting; very dynamic e-mail correspondence
- The SC was working on the Gothenburg programme (Joint programme with the Multicultural Library Services Section); out of 27 proposals for the presentations 6 were chosen; all papers delivered on time and included into the proceedings; only two papers were translated to German plus one provided in English and German. The keynote speaker was proposed by the Multicultural Section.

- Cooperation with IBBY on a reading promotion data base creation, moderated by the Children's Section Chair, continues
- The Section was a partner in the Pre-Conference "With the right to Read" held in Oslo prior to the Conference in Gothenburg
- Publicity work – updates of the Section's leaflet and web contents were done during the year upon the need; there is a need for translations of the leaflet to other languages.
- Two issues of the Section's News were published and print version distributed on request
- The working group for the Section's Project (Guidelines – Using research to promote literacy and reading in libraries) was working during the year and produced a draft.
- The Section participated in two IFLA surveys – about language policy for IFLA Journal and about a conferences' format

Administrative fund for 2009 was 325 EUR; spent on the Newsletter costs. Project's budget is 1.100 EUR for 2010 which should be engaged by the end of 2010; finalized first part of the project is a prerequisite for 2011 budget.

All reports are approved by the SC members.

### ***7. Report from the Newsletter Editor***

As far as the newsletter is concerned, Leikny and Ivanka thank everybody who contributed to it. Two issues were published, in January and June. 350 copies were printed, that were distributed to the SC members, their institutions, and the authors of the articles in each issue. Some copies are available to be distributed during the Conference.

the observers and SC members to be distributed to other possibly interested people and the rest

### ***8. Report from the Information Co-ordinator***

Robert apologizes for not having been able to come to the meeting but he really takes good care of the website. There are more features available, such as a blog, a wiki and a forum, we are invited to use them, but it is very demanding work in terms of time and content control. Everyone can inform about changes or out of date information. Also, anyone can send news about literacy and reading in libraries, that can be included by Robert in the website. Briony was working on collecting our conference papers and making them searchable on the net. She stopped in 2007 when she left, but hopefully she will continue this work.

Comments or reports on Robert's report: Lesley will tag the 2010 conference.

### ***9. Report from the Leadership Forum (held in Gothenburg prior to the SC meeting)***

John Cole participated in the meeting and he reports that the meeting was not only about procedures, but also on organisational changes inside IFLA. Patrice Landry made a presentation of topics to be discussed in the following meeting on Wednesday 11 August with the Division Chairs. The Governing Board has made clear that there is a new way of organising topics inside the Conference Programme, namely according to five tracks, already used for this year's conference. This has been thought as a means to justify the presence throughout the conference of attendees, whose administrations may ask for justification of presence for more than one day. On this point, also satellite meetings shall have to be arranged in order to attract more participants to the main conference venue, not to deter them from that. In this respect, the Governing Board has decided to accept satellite meeting proposals if they will be organised close enough and timely enough to accomplish to these rules. The satellite meeting venues must therefore be reachable in less than three hours travelling from the main conference venue.

The Leadership Forum also clarified which Section belongs to which Division. As far as the Reading & Literacy Section is concerned, it is part of Division III, the biggest in term of members.

### ***10. Reports on projects***

The Section has agreed on a Memorandum of Understanding already in 2005 with IRA and IBBY, to set up good connections among these International Associations that have similar goals as those of the Section. From 2005 to 2010 a few meeting were scheduled to talk about common projects. Until now, it has been possible to register one person from IBBY and IFLA READ and CHILD to each annual congress respectively for free and to exchange links. This is not possible

with IRA yet. A closer connection with IRA failed until now because officers change quickly and there is no continuity. With IBBY our Section is trying to set up a database of reading promotion all around the world as a common project on a searchable database with posts from all around the world. Ingrid Bon, Chair of the Children and Young Adults Section is the moderator of the working group.

The Sections project for the period 2009-2011 is the Brochure about Reading promotion and research, which was approved by the Governing Board and financed. At the moment we have a first draft of the brochure, to which John Cole, Lesley Farmer and Roy Doiron were working. A special meeting to discuss the content of the brochure is scheduled for Wednesday 11 August. The extra meeting for the project has given following results: The Section will publish a kind of guidelines about using research in literacy and reading promotion in libraries, better as an IFLA Professional Report, having in mind both advantages (regarding printing and distribution) and disadvantages (standardized style) of this kind of publication, but thinking that delivery is more important, especially if this can be done by IFLA HQ directly. Lesley Farmer will moderate the work on the guidelines. The Section's focus will be on marketing and making the report widely available also through translations into the IFLA languages and into other languages as well. The members are invited to find contacts for qualified translations. The report will seek to include good examples and good practices of research based reading promotion in libraries, to be presented following a clear structure and to list literature worldwide.

### ***11. Gothenburg Conference schedule and discussion on session's organisation***

The Chair welcomes the speakers of Saturday's Session and invites them to join the discussion, which is now about interesting Sessions for IFLA Officers and SC members during the Congress. The Section's Session is numbered as 133, and the Chair resumes shortly the topics and gives some brief suggestions on how time will be managed during the Session, particularly concerning the final discussion and concluding remarks to summarize ideas. Some of the speakers have joined the SC meeting to introduce themselves, they are Randi Myhre and Ingrid Altestam, who briefly explain their topic.

The Chair recalls instructions and time schedule for the Session.

### ***12. Strategic Plan updates and development of Section's Priorities, 2010-2011***

The Sections do not have their Strategic Plans any more but Action Plans which reflect the IFLA Strategic Plan 2010-2015. The Action Plan will be published in the Newsletter. The Chair welcomes any comments and suggestions for improvement. The AP should include measurable actions that can be later evaluated. In fact, every point from former Strategic Plan should be changed into concrete actions to be undertaken. Two priority actions to be undertaken in 2010-2011 in regards in regards to the IFLA SP Priority Activities are:

- Development of publication *Using research to promote literacy and reading in libraries*
- Highlighting the UNESCO Decade of Literacy 2003-2012 by the programme *Beyond the United Nations Decade of Literacy: What Libraries Can Do*, to be held at the WLIC, Puerto Rico 2011

The Action Plan should be finished until November 30.

One of the observers from Africa (Ghana) asks if there are any projects and funds for Africa, where the basic problems and priorities are to teach kids and to train the trainers. While 1990 has been declared the International Year of Literacy, in Africa illiteracy has not been eradicated yet. The Chair answers that the Section's responsibility is not to invest money in some specific, continent-related or nation-related project, but rather to help with expertise, connections and information transfer. She also invites to connect with former and current African IFLA members, as to find qualified help (for instance, the Section's corresponding member C. Chisita from Zimbabwe and Kay Raseroka, former IFLA President).

### ***13. Working group for the Puerto Rico Conference planning***

The Chair invites all interested SC members to join the group discussion in preparation of the Puerto Rico program, scheduling a meeting for the next day at noon.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> meeting**

Attendees:

SC members: Ivanka Stricevic, Elena Corradini, Briony Birdi, Leikny Haga Indergaard, , Marian Koren, Lesley Farmer, Elke Dreisbach, Samia Kamarti, Ray Doiron

Corresponding member: John Cole

Observers: one observer and a special guest Liz Page, the Executive director of IBBY.

### ***14. Report from the Pre-conference held in Oslo 9 August: "With the Right to Read"***

Leikny H. Indergaard reports that the Pre-conference has been very successful, with 125 participants from many countries, mostly of which from China (74), so that simultaneous interpretation was necessary. All papers and presentations are going to be put on the website in a few days with a link between sections. The papers have been appreciated because they both covered theoretical and practical issues. After the pre-conference, a transfer to Gothenburg was organised with a stop to visit a prison library. The participants were very positively impressed. The Chair thanks Leikny for working for the pre-conference with the support of her library staff.

### ***15. Gothenburg Conference evaluation***

The evaluation of Gothenburg conference was good. There were about 260 attendees altogether. The Section is satisfied with the organisation, the presentations were good, with a nice mixture of different kind of styles and issues. The questions from the audience suggested that maybe presentations were not neutral. Anyway, audience questioners were invited to write for the Newsletter, so that we can gather their points of view and let them develop their thoughts, observations and suggestions.

Just 20 people used headsets. The room was also too big and not adequate for discussion. We shall be thinking about this in future, to avoid unnecessary translation costs and be given a room that meets our requirements for lively discussion.

### ***16. Conference planning and discussion: Puerto Rico 2011***

The program for the Puerto Rico conference has been discussed informally among the working group (Ivanka Stricevic, Elena Corradini, Leikny Haga Indergaard, Lisa Krolak, Virginia Walter, Lesley Farmer, John Cole), which came out with an idea, developed into a working title by Ginny Walter as: "Beyond the UN Decade of Literacy". Ivanka will check if National Libraries Section is interested in the joint programme and will try to identify possible speaker from the region. Lisa Krolak will identify possible speaker/s from Unesco. The banquet style room is needed as programme will be interactive with up to ten presenters chosen from proposals coming on Call for papers.

The plans are agreed by the SC.

### ***17. Selection of paper to be published in the IFLA Journal***

A discussion will go on via email within a week when everybody reads the original papers on web.

### ***18. Any other business or reports***

#### **Symposium in Tunisia**

The Chair gives some information about the Symposium which will be held in March 2011 in Tunis, Tunisia and gives the floor to Samia Kamarti that has distributed a leaflet in English and French. The SC members' role in symposium can be of sharing expertise, identifying people that can be valuable speakers, spreading all information about the conference itself and suggesting organisations that could support financially. There should be a clear connection with IFLA on all materials related to the conference (logo and support). Another condition should be the involvement of the Regional Office in Africa.

#### **IBBY representative at the Conference**

The Chair gives the floor to IBBY executive director Liz Page. The cooperation with IBBY started in 2005, and up to now the Section has at least communicated with this Association and exchanged delegates at conferences. Liz Page speaks briefly about the role of IBBY, and its

activities are carried out in various countries. Any recommendation, ideas, new ways of collaboration are welcome.

Contributions to the Newsletter

Before closing the meeting, it is agreed that the Newsletter will include:

- a) the IASL report provided by Lesley
- b) the conference program report in one page by Lesley
- c) the conclusions of minutes by Elena
- d) the announcement for the Puerto Rico session by Leikny
- e) an IBBY presentation by Liz

The deadline for submission is November 15.

*Elena Corradini, The LiR Section Secretary and Treasurer*