



NEWSLETTER

Regional Section for Latin America and the Caribbean

Nº 14 March 1990

Manager Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho

EDITORIAL

The setting up of IFLA's Regional Office in São Paulo, where the Brazilian Federation of Librarians Associations offered space to hold it, had began by a serie of contacts invitaded by FEBAB's presidents Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho and Selma Chi Barreiro with the support of Ivone Tálamo. Both presidents ended up living abroad and the edition of this first Newsletter published by the Regional Office has thus been delayed.

However, the engagement of the involved professionals required to carry on this work has not decreased at all. Actually, they did their best to cooperate with the Section of Latin America and Caribbean, as well as with all efforts for the development of regional librarianship.

We hope that this will be a successful enterprise, not depending only on the Managers and collaborators work, but also on the regional professionals who are expected to participate in these activities, in order that the Regional Office can act as a true communication channel for everyone.

THE SETTING UP OF THE IFLA-RO-LAC

Since 1987, some arrangements have been in progress for the setting up of the Regional Office in São Paulo.

In February 87, Hans-Peter Geh and Guust Van Wesemael visited Brazil and went to FEBAB's office. In June 87, some representatives of Brazil met Rosario Gassol Horowitz, at the time president of IFLA/LAC and responsible for the Clearing House. In August 87, in Brighton, the setting up of IFLA-RO-LAC at FEBAB Office was reinforced and afterwards approved.

In November 1988, Paul Nauta and Guust Van Wesemael have been in Brazil in order to discuss the function and the setting of the Regional Office. The material for the Clearing House which should arrive in December 88, ended up arriving in August 89. At this time, a meeting was organized for the representatives of the outstanding library associations and institutions in São Paulo.

FEBAB is ready to collaborate with RO in

order that their functions can be adequately accomplished, as both will be in the same building.

REGIONAL OFFICE TASKS

The Regional Office of Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) is the main point of IFLA's regional activities, considered by IFLA as its long arm.

Its tasks are: 1) to send information about IFLA to the regional members and interested people, and mainly to the Standing Committee from LAC Section. On the other hand, it will be also responsible for sending information to IFLA about regional activities; 2) to manage the regional clearing house that receives publications from IFLA and its sections. It includes the organization of holdings and its dissemination. Copies from publications will be delivered at nominal prices; 3) to publish the NEWSLETTER at least twice a year in a bilingual edition: Spanish / English. This will be the main channel between IFLA and the region. So that, *we ask regional members and Standing Committee members to send us some news for dissemination.*

The Regional Manager is responsible for the nomination of Standing Committee members, she shall work together with the Section Chairman and the Secretary on regional projects; she shall work closely with the Section.

SOURCE: IFLA Regional Office and Regional Manager: their objectives and tasks.

NEWS

BRIEF REPORT ON THE CONFERENCE ABOUT THE ALP-PROGRAM – ADVANCEMENT OF LIBRARIANSHIP IN THE THIRD WORLD, HELD LAST JANUARY 21-23, IN UPPSALA, SWEDEN

Birgitta Bergdahl, Manager of ALP-Project, coordinated the meeting whose schedule was the following:

- Discussions of its proposals.
- Presentation of libraries situation at the three regions (Latin America and Caribbean; Asia and Oceania; Africa). Presentation of some project proposals to Nordic development agencies. Priorities on projects will be re-discussed in March, in São Paulo.
- Preparation of Sections meetings in March.
- Participants of the Meeting – ALP Committee from the Swedish Libraries Association; Wolfgang Lohner, PGI/UNESCO representatives; Paul Nauta, IFLA's General Secretary; Adam Wysocki, IFLA's President of Programs Management Commission; Bart Nwafor, President of Regional Session (Africa); Marta Terry (LAC); E. K. Wisasuriya (Asia and Oceania) Ponpan Rattanabusit, Regional Manager from Asia and Oceania; Antoinette Correa (Africa) and May Brooking Negrão (Latin America and Caribbean) representatives of the Regional Offices.

Marta Terry will report extensively the conference for the members from the Standing Committee, at the meeting in March, São Paulo. The paper presented by LAC at the Conference will be distributed to the participants in March.

**BRIEF REPORT ON THE MEETING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE SECTION
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AND
WORK MEETING DURING THE
CONFERENCE OF PARIS (AUGUST 1989)**

Two meetings were held respectively in August 19 and 24. The first one was attended by 5 members from Section and 10 observers; for the second one, 10 members and 10 observers were present.

The main subjects discussed were the following:

- 1) A Seminar on Official Publications to be held in Brazil, in 1990;
- 2) The Core Programme of IFLA – ALP “Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World” that will be coordinated by Swedish librarians;
- 3) The problem of subscription fees at IFLA Conferences by people who will participate with presentation of papers;
- 4) A Seminar on Public Libraries to be held in Stockholm in 1990;
- 5) The place for future Conferences: 1991 – Moscow; 1992 – India; 1993 – Spain; 1994 – Cuba;
- 6) The theme for Latin America and the Caribbean Section for the Stockholm Conference: “Mobilization of Library Resources for Knowledge, Litteracy and Development”, to be presented by representatives from Caribbean (one of English and another of French language) and from Latin America;
- 7) The sending of the material for the Clearing House for the Regional Office in São Paulo, Brazil, by Rosario

Horowitz in August;

- 8) The meeting of the Standing Committee members to be held in March 1990;

The following papers were presented at section workshop:

- The impact of technology on information users, by Estela Morales Campos, from Mexico;
- The Venezuela experience towards and informed society, by Virginia Betancourt, from Venezuela;
- The economic crisis and the scientific, technical and cultural information services in Mexico, by Rosa Maria Fernandez Zamora, from Mexico;
- The development of university libraries in São Paulo, Brazil.

Source: Actas de la Secretaria de la Seccion, Rosa Maria Fernandez de Zamora.

**IFLA STANDING COMMITTEE FOR LATIN
AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN MEETING**

It will be held in São Paulo in March 21 and 22. There will be present: Some members of the Standing Committee, Birgitta, Bergdahl, General Manager of ALP. Project – “Advancement for Librarianship in the Third World”. IFLA’s President, Dr. Hans-Peter Geh, will also be present at the meeting and in March 23 he will open the Regional Office.

**REGIONAL SEMINAR ABOUT PUBLIC
LIBRARIES SYSTEMS IN AMERICA LATINA
AND CARIBBEAN. CARACAS, NOV. 13-17,
1989**

Participating countries: Brasil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Conclusions and recomendations. The Seminar ended up with the creation of the Association of Public Libraries in Latin America

and Caribbean. Previous meetings have been held since 1982 and in 1989; the main points for development were defined according to UNESCO program for World Cultural Development for the Next Ten Years.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

"Regional Seminar of Public Library Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean" (Nov. 13-17, 1989)

The participants, representatives from Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Uruguay and Venezuela; the representatives from the international bodies, Regional Center for Book Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLALC), and the International Federation of Libraries Association (IFLA/LAC); and the national host organization of the meeting, the Independent Institute, National Library and of Library Services (IABN); the participants from Venezuela who met in Caracas, in November 13-17, 1989, at the "Regional Seminar on Public Library Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean", convoked and organized by CERLALC and IABN, agree with the principles established at the Regional Meeting on the present situation, and the strategies for the development of public library services in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in October 1982, and found at the "Caracas Declaration"; with the conclusions of the Pre-Seminar on Library Services in Rural Areas, held in Chicago, from August 11 to 16, 1985; with the Uruguayan Declaration on Bordeline Information and Creativity Centers in Latin America; with the "Uruguay Declaration", approved by the Heads of State of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela who from the "group of the Eight", at the second meeting held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in October 1988; with the "Brasilia Declaration", as a result of the First Meeting of Culture Ministers from Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Brasilia, August 1989; based on these, propose some action lines for the cultural development of the region and at the moment of the celebration of the "World Decade for the Cultural Development", by UNESCO, consider:

- 1 - That the multiple and plural access to and use of information are the main prerequisite to promote the development and the social changes required urgently in Latin America and the Caribbean, and that public libraries have a leading role in the democratization of information and the access to the various kinds of cultural elements.
- 2 - That it is necessary to develop some mobilizable projects whose priority is the improvement of life quality for groups from less favoured people, found mainly at city surroundings and rural areas.
- 3 - That as 1990 is the "International year of Literacy", it is the adequate moment to promote and integrate efforts for the creation and strengthening of public libraries as permanent centers for reading development and for the support to the permanent education of different population groups.
- 4 - That is urgent to develop strategies in the recreational and information al reading area, in order to prepare children and young people from marginal socio-cultural layers to participate creatively in the social, cultural and economic lives of their communities.
- 5 - That the efficiency of library services offered to the communities are a goal that will be attained on condition that the responsible human resources are adequately prepared.
- 6 - That the World Decade for Cultural Development celebrated by UNESCO is adequate for the creation and strengthening of regional action, that enables the demystification of science and technology, trying to make them accessible to the big sectors of population in the developing countries, and that the public library offers an adequate extent for it.
- 7 - That it is an engagement and a challenge to incorporate creative innovations that promote policy definition and global plans for the development of public libraries

systems in the Latin American countries, as a factor of social development in them, aiming to turn them official and consolidated in the general national guidepost for education, culture, information and recreation.

IBEROAMERICAN NATIONAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

In June 26 and 27, 1989, a Commission of Iberoamerican National Libraries Directors met in Caracas in the establishment of the Iberoamericana National Libraries Association. The Project was carried out by the National Library of Venezuela and la Fundación Germán Sánchez Luipérez de España.

The Association aims to improve knowledge information and experiments interchange, as well as the development and strengthening of National Libraries by means of coherent policies, adaption of suitable technical standards for mutual cooperative and assistance programs.

Representatives of Mexico, Brasil, Chile, España, Peru and Venezuela were present at the meeting. Afterwards, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama sent their approval to the document.

During the meeting some arrangements for the Exhibit on Bibliographic Documents from the Iberoamerican New Culture, to be held in 1992, in Madrid and Latin America, were also developed.

SOURCE: INFOLAC, Boletín Trimestral, 2(3):15-6, jul./sep. 1982.

NEWS

Acuril XXI – Conference to be held in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, from April 22 to 27, 1990, sponsored by ABH (Haitian Library Association) and AAH (Haitian Archivists Association). The subject will be "Production Systems and Book Diffusion in Caribbean".

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