**MINUTES - LPD/SC meeting Helsinki, Finland**

**SC1: 11 March 2019; 9:15 – 16:00 (Kaisa Library of the Helsinki University)**

 **SC2: 13 March 2019, 11:30 – 16:30 (Celia Library)**

1. **Opening and Welcome**

The Chair of the LPD Section, Kirsi Ylänne, welcomes all standing committee members to the meeting

1. **Apologies**

Mike Marlin

Kristina Passad

1. **Introductions and Attendance list**

*In attendance:*

Kirsi Ylänne (Celia Library, Finland)

Karen Keninger (NLS , USA)

Jelena Lesaja (Croatian Library for the Blind, Croatia)

Yasmine Youssef (Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt)

Anthea Taylor (Vision Australia)

Ingvild Aanensen (NLB, Norway)

Christian Felsmann (German Central Library for the Blind, Germany)

Irmgard Reijntjes (Bibliotheekservice Passend Lezen , The Netherlands)

Hiroshi Kawamura (ATDO, Japan)

*Observers:*

Misako Nomura (ATDO, Japan)

Saskia Boets (Flemish Library for Audiobooks and Braille, Belgium)

Koen krikhaar (Dedicon, The Netherlands)

Lisa Wadors (Benetech, USA)

Heleen van Manen ( National Library of the Netherlands)

Laurette Uzan (Association Valentin Haüy, France)

Sanja Botolova (Saint Petersburg State Library, Russia)

1. **Accepting the agenda / adding last minute items**

The committee accepted the agenda

1. **Minutes of meeting**

The committee accepted the minutes of Kuala Lumpur meeting without changes.

1. **Timetable for 11-14 March**

Kirsi went through the timetable for the three days. (See basecamp for the complete timetable)

1. **Membership**

This year the LPD committee has a ballot. Members will have to vote for 11 members out of 12. The ballot paper comes by mail, Kirsi asks everyone to make sure they receive it and to vote. The deadline for receiving the votes is the 28th of March.

Kirsi reminds the committee that there will be officer's elections next August. Yasmine has finished her second term as officer and the committee will have to elect a new secretary. Kirsi’s first term will end, and she is willing to continue for a second term.

1. **News from LSN:**

LSN had a successful meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria on March 7th and 8th. Misako briefed the committee on their meeting’s updates. They are focusing on accessibility issues, and have two approaches; first is to encourage IFLA to promote accessibility at the annual IFLA congress, so they made a report on accessibility congress in Kuala Lumpur, creating a check list for a successful IFLA congress. Misako will share it with LPD members and encourages everyone to send her their comments. Second approach, the accessibility checklist for libraries, it's available on the LSN page, and she will also circulate it. They would like to expand this list, and after completing the extended version, she will share it with LPD for comments.

As for LSN session in Athens, they have been developing on guidelines for library services to people who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf blind. It is entitled "The uniqueness of dialogue in Silence: Library Services who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or Deaf Blind”. One of the speakers is a deaf-blind person, but she can speak English fluently. Her presence will have a great impact, but they are still looking for funding request to support her trip to congress. LSN is looking for good practices on this topic, and is asking LPD members to suggest any examples if they know any.

LSN also discussed the satellite meeting proposal and draft program presented by Hiroshi.

1. **Planning the Satellite meeting in Alexandria August 2019**

The organizing committee (OC) had a meeting one day before the first LPD/ SC meeting. The main point of discussion was the program. LPD an LSN are jointly responsible for the professional content of the meeting.

The satellite will be held on the 20th and 21st of August, and the venue is the library of Alexandria. The meeting will be two full days with half-day workshop on accessible book reading which will have Egyptian audience. The language of the workshop is Arabic, however, it’s a hands-on session and international experts are welcome to attend.

Hiroshi briefed the committee on the draft program, and went through the potential speakers identified by the OC. And the OC is working on getting confirmations.

The first day will start with a welcome by OC; it will be delivered by one of the chairs of LPD/LSN and closing delivered by the other. First session is about the right to read, discussing the UNCRPD, and Marrakesh treaty. Second session is about the accessible book publishing, focusing on born accessible publishing and alternative book production, standards with good demonstration of born accessible books and a model about the relationship between publishers and service providers. The third session is about global sharing of alternative accessible books, suggested speakers: ABC representative. And other models like the American or Australian model. The Fourth session will be divided into parts covering good practices from across the globe, the DAISY project in Egypt and services for refugees.

Transportation will be arranged for delegates travelling to attend the WLIC in Athens to both Cairo and Alexandria airports, and it's sponsored by JICA.

1. **WLIC 2019 session in Athens**

We don’t know the date of the LPD session. So far we don’t have a deadline to submit the details. The theme of the session is “Technology as a gateway to inclusivity”.

ABC has requested to speak in LPD session. This will be a good opportunity about the new ABC consumer application that will be released soon. LPD members agree to invite ABC.

Kirsi suggests inviting DAISY consortium to talk about EPUB development and DRM trends. Another topic suggested is low budget reading tools and its impact on the reading experience of people with disabilities. Anthea will talk about the transition from CD delivery to online delivery and the Mega Voice player as an example to economical reading tools.

Karen will speak about the voice user interface in their next generation service and go completely digital. As for digital braille, Francisco was suggested as a potential speaker about e-braille as well as the European accessibility act, which will come into force this spring.

1. **Proposal for a conference in the Hague in the spring 2020 presented by Heleen van Manen, the National Library of the Netherlands**

Heleen presented the proposal for a conference in the Hague to the committee. The conference is about the integration of services for the print disabled and services for public libraries. Now it's easier to make the general collection accessible, and also to provide literacy and digital skills for print disabled. She also offered to host the midterm meeting of LPD, around March or May. We will try to avoid the overlapping the date of the public libraries committee.

(Proposal is available on basecamp)

1. **Location of the midterm meeting in 2020**

Heleen has offered to host the midterm meeting in 2020 in the Hague as well. LPD committee approved the proposal.

1. **WLIC 2020 in Auckland and a proposal for a satellite in Australia**

Anthea proposed a satellite meeting in Melbourne, Australia before the WLIC in Auckland, New Zealand. The suggested topic is inclusive publishing, and the publishers association is interested in jointly organize the conference. It will be held before the WLIC 2020 which will take place from the 28th of July to 5th of August. Anthea will be chair of organizing committee.

LPD committee approved the proposal.

1. **An update of the Action Plan 2018-2019**
	1. **update a directory of libraries serving persons with print disabilities in cooperation with DAISY consortium**

LPD has agreed to collaborate with DAISY on this directory. The Consortium developed the DAISY network partner which is a network to connect all stakeholders and professionals serving the print disabled.

Kirsi demonstrated how to sign up for the DAISY network partner. you can submit your contact details there, and they later set up a website where contact information will be published and general email address, you can also join an emailing list where you can submit your personal email. There will be two channels, first is the network partners announcement list, to keep everyone updated with the latest news, and the second channel is network partners discussion list, for organizations to communicate , request /offer advice or assistance. kirsi will send the link to everyone and encourages everyone to share it within their networks. **Action item 1**

Ingvild suggests we can put up the link on the LPD page. **Action item 2**

* 1. **Video stories:**

Karen and Jelena made a list of questions that can be used for the video stories. Jelena sent the committee the list of questions The questions is divided into three groups: importance of reading, role of library services, and reading preferences. (see list in basecamp).

Jelena made a video with one of the library's patron and also a librarian. And she showed the short video. It’s a 9 minute video, so she suggests video be 2 to 3 minutes short.

The deadline for video stories is end of August and it will be posted on Facebook by October. Videos can be done in English or national language and subtitled in both the national and English languages. **Action item 3**

Kirsi asked whether there are any guidelines for making accessible videos. Jelena suggests we create a checklist on how to make accessible videos. Kirsi will ask colleagues in Celia,

1. **Presentation on the Lithuanian Library for the Blind:**

The main purpose of the library is to satisfy the informational and cultural needs of the print disabled community in Lithuania. Their target groups are those who cannot read regular print. Patrons get the services through the main library located in the center of the capital, or go to any of its branches across the country (108 service points)

They can also receive books by post or the library's driver delivers the books. And the last way is to use their online library ELVIS. They have 4500 active users (2018), about 3500 are print disabled and 1000 are regular library users who use print collection. They produce 450 titles per year in special formats; 400 in audio , 25 in braille, and 5 DAISY multimedia ( text books) they organized 600 events and educational programs (2018) and receive more than 60,000 visitors per year. They also do outreach programs outside the library .

They organize workshops for visually impaired students such as robot programming, which are very popular. They also started organizing screenings of movies with audio description.

They organized an international conference in 2016, "Libraries for an Inclusive Society”. They held seminar to discuss the Marrakesh Treaty in collaboration with EIFL, entitled "The Marrakesh Treaty: issues and solutions”. Keynote speaker was Victoria Owen, topic was from policy to practice: implementing the Marrakesh Treaty and making accessible books available.

At the end of 2018, the treaty was integrated into the national legislation of Lithuania. The cross border exchange is very important to the library, as they have Russian and Polish patrons of their library, they started doing it with Estonian library, and Saint Petersburg for the blind are exchanging braille titles. After Marrakesh, there will be more possibilities to receive books from Russia.

They are going to organize a workshop this year on the practical implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty. And they are going to partner with EIFL. Possible date is June. Representatives of countries that ratified the treaty will be invited.

1. **Statisitics of LPD member organizations :**

Anthea has collected statistics from LPD members. She has uploaded all information of each organization on basecamp. She did a comparison with some general figures. Of all the 12 organization, we have 722,499 registered members, 597,023 were active in 2018. Last year, over 28 million titles were distributed, produced 25,000 accessible format and exchanged over 18,000 formats, we hold over 1 million books. She didn’t include information about staff, because its difference in calculations from one organization to another, same goes for budget as well.

Anthea suggests refining what we need to collect, or to put on more details. And invite other organizations that are not on the SC, and start collecting information about libraries around the world. This information can be very valuable for everyone.

1. **Reports from organizations:**

See Annex 3.

1. **IFLA Representation in ABC Board:**

IFLA is going to have a permanent place at the ABC Advisory Board. LPD committee had an online meeting with Stephen Wyber to discuss the IFLA representation and how IFLA will select its representative. Currently Victoria Owen is representing IFLA, yet this was a rotating seat, and now IFLA can have a permanent seat.

Stephen explained the procedure of IFLA for selecting the new representative for the board. It’s the governing board's decision who is the IFLA representative. The GB selects a representative for a three year term at a time and there's the potential for one more renewal.

In 2017, Victoria was selected after consulting with Karen Keninger, as chair of LPD, and Winston Tabb, Head of the IFLA delegation to WIPO, Evelyn Woodberry, as chair of CLM, and they all approved with the suggestion of nominating Victoria.

The new term will start in 2020, either Victoria will continue or a new representative will be selected after consulting with the chairs of CLM and LPD.

1. **Feedback on Seminar "Marrakesh Treaty in Action":**

The seminar was held in the new Oodi Library. it was very successful, around 70 participants attended the seminar. It was livestreamed through the library's channel, and reached 987 views. The views are from 34 countries. Most views were from the following countries: Finland, Croatia, Sweden, Russia, Estonia, Iceland and Denmark.

Some members commented that the discussions were really interested, and thought that we should have given more time to them. Lisa suggests that we could have included comments from online participants on twitter in the conversation as well.

The videos will be available on Celia's website as well as the LPD page as suggested by Ingvild. **Action item 5**

1. **Update in MARC 21, accessibility fields:**

Kirsi encourages LPD members to contact their national libraries. When publishers are obliged to make their ebooks accessible. There should be tools in cataloguing to support that.

Celia approached Finnish national library, and they agreed to translate the new accesbility fields witht the support of Celia. The Finnish translation fo these fields will be soon published.

Kirsi suggests we discuss this again in Athens, and see if there are updates from LPD members.

1. **ABC news: Marrakesh Treaty in action, effects on the Global Book Service**

Anthea reports on behalf of Monica.

ABC global book service has 424,000 accessible titles, and 320,000 titles available for cross border exchange without the need to request authorization from publisher for countries who are MT compliant.

Currently 47 AEs have joined the service which is completely free of charge. The catalogue has accessible books in 76 languages, and over 5,000 music scores in Braille.

With the ratification of the Marrakesh treaty in the US, the number of titles for cross border exchange will grow to approximately 370,000 titles.

For AEs that are in countries that have not ratified the treaty yet, ABC has over 20,000 titles with worldwide permissions clearances obtained from the copyright owner which can be exchanged around the globe.

In February 2019, participating AE downloaded nearly 2200 titles. There have been about 16,000 titles downloaded to date.

There's the business to business to consumer pilot that has 15 AEs participating. The selected AEs will then be able to let their patrons search the catalogue directly and request books through the B2B2C model. The delivery of the titles to the users will be handled by the AE through their distribution service. Some of the participating AEs are: Vision Australia, CNIB, Nota, Celia, AVH, Dedicon, and MTM.

Capacity building projects have been established in Argentina, Bangladesh, Botswana, India, Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Nepal, Mexico, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, UAE, Uruguay and Vietnam. Since the beginning of the capacity building 6,600 accessible educational books have been produced in national languages through training and technical assistance provided by ABC.

Inclusive publishing: ABC is working to enhance the power of the publishing industry by providing training for publishers in production of books born accessible. Towards this objective, ABC sponsors the annual ABC International Excellence Award for Accessible Publishing.

## ****Annex 1: Action Items****

1. kirsi will send the link to DAISY network to LPD members. **Action item 1**
2. Ingvild will put up the link of the DAISY network on the LPD page. **Action item 2**
3. Ingvild will upload shot story videos sent by october to LPD Facebook page. **Action item 3**

## ****Annex 2: Action items from Kuala Lumpur:****

1. . **Action item 1:** Anthea will prepare a sheet to gather statistical information on LPD member libraries **Status:** Done

2. **Action item 2**: Kirsi and Yasmine will contact LPD member libraries to get their approval to have their information enlisted in the list of AEs. **Status:** pending

3. **Action item 3:** Kirsi will contact all LPD members interested in joining the working group for the new guidelines. **Status:** Done

4. . **Action item 4**: Christiane has volunteered to be the new editor of the newsletter instead of Kristina. **Status:** ongoing

5. . **Action item 5:** Geert will submit a resolution on the accessibility of the new IFLA website on behalf of LPD. **Status:** Done

## ****Annex 3: Reports from Libraries:****

1. **NLS:**

They are in the process of a transformation that will take several years to be completed. They have spent the last two years looking at everything they do and the services they provide from a business perspective and patrons' perspective. They are envisioning is to have a completely digital system , with digital devices and direct delivery of digital content through their network, 5 or 7 years from now. This means a whole new infrastructure for their digital services and a lot of changes for their network libraries on what they do. There will be a need for more sophisticated technical support for their patrons, 80 or 70 % are of retirement age, and they need to be careful that that population is fully served by any changes that they make.

They are hoping that their next generation of services is voice controlled, so patrons don’t have to remember commands. Voice user interface not only for playback content, but also for searching the catalogue, and it’s not a well-defined system at this point. Hopefully patrons will be able to do more self-service themselves. They want patrons to choose their books on their own instead of the librarian or the library system to give them more independence.

To make this move, they are requesting extra funding to build the infrastructure for the digital distribution. They can now serve 50,000 to 70,000 people with their online service, but they are looking at expanding their services with Marrakesh Treaty now being in force, at least doubling the population over the next 5 to 7 years, so they need to build the infrastructure that will be able to serve 2 million patrons.

They are also researching with their patrons, their digital experience, access and capabilities to be able to understand how many have internet access and those who don't have and whether they will be able to provide that.

They are investing in digital refreshable braille devices to read braille books, and they are in the process of finalizing their contracts. It will take a year to get them into the patron's hands

The Marrakesh treaty Instruments were deposited in Geneva Last February and it will be in force by May 8th.

1. **Dedicon**:

They have been working for the last two years to better integrate the services that are provided from the educational side and the services that are coming to the patron from the library side, as both services are funded independently. Dedicon is responsible for the educational side. They got feedback from some users that they don’t have access to the study library because they are no longer studying, they didn't comply with the conditions requested to have access to the study library. A program was initiated to transfer some of the titles from the study library that was nonfiction to the public library side of the services.

They conducted a survey among vendors of DAISY tools, to give them insights on what the timeline would be for the DAISY playback tools based on CDs to fade out. The survey results show that the tools will be there for at least 5 to 7 years. So based on the results, Dedicon needs to take some strategic decisions and action plans together with other stakeholders. They need to change their delivery system from CD technology to streaming technology.

They are also working on presenting braille books in standard format, and not all patrons like it. So they are looking at printing braille in different formats for example single sided to make it easier for those who are not fluent in braille. They will launch through the website to pick a different format of the book called flex-braille (flexible braille)

They are putting together an accessible version of Donald duck magazine (weekly magazine), it’s the bestselling one in the Netherlands. They made a tactile version/braille and audio description as well as explaining what a comic is for an example there are text in the balloons and also sound. It was published last year and it was a big hit.

They are also developing voice user interface, but so far it's only limited to player side; navigate the books. They initially expected this will be helpful for the elderly, it found out it was used by the more capable users. Not many people use the voice controls. So they still need to gather more information about it and the digital skills using this technology.

1. **Passend Lezen:**

They collaborate in a lot of projects with Dedicon. Their focus for the past two years is to get more customers. 43,000 members so far, they have grown 5,000 members this year.

They are working on maintaining their members and gaining more. They started outreaching for their target patrons in other organizations where they think they can find them, they are also getting more organizations as members of their service.

They are working on national program to get more members. They are also updating their library system in collaboration with Dedicon.

They are working with the youth, as they have more youth than the elderly, especially with dyslexia. They are becoming a bigger group over time, and they have special reading needs. They noticed that they are interested in large print, so they are considering serving them or limiting their services.15% of the patrons of the library are above 80, they use DIASY players, and the digitization is something they have to think about for the next five years.

1. **Celia Library**

They started in 2018 a new service model for school allowing special education teachers to register for the service. All school text books are free of charge, so now more students have access to accessible books.

The number of users (children and young people) has more than doubled, it was about 4,000 and now has reached 15,000. The number of online users who download or stream has also increased a lot, now they have around 34,000 online users and 15,000 who borrow braille or audio books. The ratio used to be 50:50 but now with the increase of online users it has become 70:30. Now the challenge is to keep their users active.

1. **NLB:**

They are working on a new strategy 2019 to 2024. They are planning to cooperate more with publishers, public libraries and the national library. they also want to include accessibility in the new strategy of the national library.

They want to focus more on books and the new app. They will have lists of topics on the app. They are working on showing books especially new titles on the app.

They have a new project on speech synthesis. They are making two Norwegian voices. They are purchasing them from CereProc company.

1. **AVH**

At the beginning of 2018 AVH launched the second version of its web platform "EOL". The new version focuses on serving those with cognitive difficulties such as dyslexia. It has a lot of professional features for their partners, and a new setup API to be able to display the catalogue and all sorts of systems such as databases and reading apps. Now they are beginning to use and test these new features.

 They have a 10% increase in the number of active users. The new copyright exception law extended the exception allowing them to work with cognitive disabled people like dyslexic. This law came into force in March 2018. This consequently increased the number of users, the monthly subscriptions doubled between January and December 2018. Now they plan to train staff, and public library partners in serving those patrons, and to redesign their communication support with them.

Now most users are using the download service in comparison to CDs. Now 54% of the loans are done through download.

The public libraries network is growing; they have partnerships with 14 local services that represent 240 public libraries offering the AVH services. This means that 80% of the big cities are offering somewhere in their network their service and around 50% of the middle sized cities, yet in rural areas their services are not accessible at all. So they decided to work with department libraries, these libraries deliver services to town libraries, thus creating indirect partnerships.

In the new EOL they added some professional features, so that they can subscribe with the without AVH help new patrons to the services, to send them CDs, so they empower the public librarians with their infrastructure. They want to use these services they offer to public libraries to help them turn their DAISY based services into multi-disabled services using DAISY and adapted books. They are doing training for the public librarians.

Marrakesh treaty came into force on 20th of December. AVH is one of the biggest users of ABC global service. Their target for this year is to integrate 8,000 titles. They are exploring ways to get more titles in a less time consuming way.

The current version of the API, allowed them to integrate AVH catalogue to the dolphin easy reader, and this was launched two weeks ago. They also have a project with EDRLAB to integrate the AVH catalogue and DAISY playing service on google home.

1. **Croatian Library for the Blind**

Their average user reads 40 titles per year. Also, the number of users with reading disabilities subscribing to the library is increasing. More than 40% of the users are now using the download service, yet the mail service is still the most popular lending option.

The number of braille readers is declining, so to support braille literacy , they encourage their users to engage in their braille contests, and they offer them interesting titles.

They started also a Facebook book club group, and braille workshop for professional, teachers and anyone who works with visually impaired people.

They offer full text DAISY books as well as audio, but they are not as popular.

They are more focused on policies and legislations, they have made their service more transparent to the public.

In 2017, they started conversations with the national copyright agency, and in November 2018 the new copyright act was published, and now they don’t have to pay to the publishers nor the author and the spectrum of the beneficiaries is wider now. However, the problem appeared with exchange policies, they had to stop exchange activities with neighboring countries that have not ratified the treaty.

They organized a regional symposium on Marrakech treaty, David Hammerstein and Karen Keninger were keynote speakers. This was a starting point to collaborate and help countries in the region to lobby for Marrakesh treaty ratification.

This year they are collaborating more with public and school libraries.

They are in the process of making a new website.

1. **Saint Petersburg state library for the Blind:**

They have about 16,000 patrons who have disabilities. The library collection is about 600,000 titles including braille, audio, printed books and other special formats.

They have a publishing department that is responsible for reviewing the DAISY book, digital braille, printed braille books. The department of services is responsible for offering information service for the visually impaired people not only inside the city but also the areas around it. The DAISY format is not really popular in Russia, mainly because the players are not widely available. So they need to work on this, and encourage students and younger generations to use DAISY. The library also provides service for across the country such as workshops, seminars, webinars as well as preparing hand outs and guidelines for other libraries on how to serve the print disabled people and accessibility.

Since they have a publishing department, they have the right sign copyright agreements with authors. They are planning to share the books the copyright of which they own with ABC.

They are in close contact with the local Russian blind union. They provide a lot of support in some library initiatives on new services.

1. **Vision Australia**

Vision Australia was the first Library to end the distribution and delivery of DAISY audio on CD, and the deadline was end of December 2018 and they successfully met the deadline. This process took a couple of years; notifying patrons, putting out announcements through different media channels and social media. They had to notify a list of over 3,000 patrons.

One of the options they provided was the envoy connect device, a solar powered, simple device to download up to 25 books. They had sent out to 800 users the envoy connect to replace the use of CDs.

The device is connected to a docking station connecting it to the library system. The device is checked out to the patron, each has device’s serial number matches to the client’s record, then it goes into the docking station, and it recognizes the patron’s profile, and based on it, it selects relevant titles (same as DAISY on demand system works), then the device is posted out the client. They are also given the option to keep the device and do the download themselves or return it to the library, and they will upload with new titles. They are also working on another docking station that they can use in their regional offices, and to the public libraries. They will be screening the records of their patrons to see how this new system is working for them and evaluate their experience.

They have been working with one of their major audio producers for a contract, and it was just signed. They are buying around 3,ooo audio files featuring Australian and international authors. They are also collaborating with Hachette in Australia, to convert some of their audio books into DAISY and also train their sound engineers and producers to build in DAISY from the beginning in the audio books and then VA buy these titles. Also penguin house are also interested in following the same model as Hachette. However, titles that are purchased will not be shared with Marrakesh treaty with other AEs.

The braille readership is declining so they are looking at braille literacy strategies.

VA has signed a contract with Benetech for Bookshare to develop and deliver a new platform, to replace the VA online catalogue, and the library management system. It’s the first of its kind, and it’s still in the design phase. It will deliver the online content and also gives them access to Bookshare’s content. This will be implemented by October 2019.

1. **Bookshare:**

Currently, Bookshare has around 700,000 titles (five formats each). Most of these titles are inside the US only. At least 50,000 are available worldwide and it is slightly different from one country to another. They add between 5,000 to 7,000 titles a month. Books are available in 34 different languages and 80 countries. They have around 625,000 users worldwide. In the US 80% of users are people with dyslexia, and 15% to 20% are visually impaired and around 5% with physical disability. However internationally, the figures are flipped, they serving more Visually impaired people. Currently they have over 850 publishing partners working with collaboratively.

They are currently collaborating with Vision Australia and RNIB.

One of the initiatives they are working on building infrastructure libraries such as CELA, and another library in the UAE. The platform will be able to hold more than the five formats already available in Bookshare (DAISY, EPUB, word, music Braille, Human narrated audio files).

They are also launching a program with their university systems. So now they have a program running with 7 different university systems, working with their disability services offices to develop a platform that they can share to avoid duplication.

In Africa and South East Asia they are working with organization to provide national libraries. They are providing the native language interface, and provide books also native titles of these countries.

Global Certified accessibility is another program of Bookshare, where they work with publishers, to help them create born accessible titles. Some of their partners are Elsevier, Harper Collins, and Penguin Random House. It’s collaboration between DAISY Benetech and Vision Australia.

1. **ATDO:**

The Japanese Library association published for the first time, born accessible EPUB commercial publication. The subject is how to make libraries accessible. The final product is reflowable EPUB, and measured by EPUB accessibility standard, it's AA. So far the testing of the publication by DAISY/EPUB player was successful, for example PTR3 which is designed for Blind users, audio only, it's good for both DAISY and EPUB. The EPUB publication rendered successfully just as a DAISY audio only. Unprotected EPUB publications can be easily copied. The concern of the Public librarians is that if they lend it out, it will be easily copied. And the copyright law is very rigid when it comes to copying books. They are completely influenced by the DRM industry, and they prioritize protection by DRM over accessibility of information.

Text books publishers are requested by law to give a digital copy of the text book to the Ministry of Education; however the format used is pdf which is not accessible. They have been working on changing that. And soon EPUB will be the national standard of the digital accessible text books.

They have been pushing forward to make accessibility mainstream, not just for people with disabilities. One major area of mainstreaming is the official development assistance between the Japanese government and its counterparts in developing countries. Soon a project between Japan and Egypt will start; it will implement the DAISY multimedia production and also the advocacy campaigns to raise awareness on the issue of equitable access to information. They are collaborating with Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the National Library and the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of Egypt to ratify the Marrakesh treaty shortly and then disseminate the Arabic DAISY multimedia in Arabic speaking area. The project is now in implementation stage.

1. **Luisterpunt:**

The Library is the in the process of integrating the titles in the ABC global book service, and they are still considering how to manage the integrating and acquisition of titles from ABC.

They are not planning to end the use of CDs anytime soon, as they have a lot of users who are elderly and are keen on using them.

They just recently purchased a number of DAISY players for the public libraries, as they wanted to replace the old players they had.

They developed a new service for public libraries, schools and elderly homes. They can subscribe the users through their account for streaming and downloading books. This was very helpful for children in particular those with dyslexia.

Belgium has a new copyright law which broadened the target groups. There is no remuneration requested. They are hoping to expand to other groups such as newcomers or immigrants.

They are working on some short videos for public libraries to use to promote the app, and DAISY online reading.

1. **German Central Library for the Blind:**

**The new copyright law was out beginning of this year. According to the new law, they have to keep records and also pay remuneration, something they have been doing before the new law, so it's calculated within their budget.**

**During one of the German library conferences, Christiane invited librarians to make up this group of accessibility in digital libraries, at the moment the group has reached 100 librarians. They met again in November discussing Marrakesh and all aspects of accessibility.**

**They are in the process of changing the name to German library for accessible reading. At this moment they are only serving visually impaired, and they are going to expand their target group to include other print disabilities like dyslexia. And now they are doing some outreach to organizations working with dyslexic, to explain to them how the DAISY books can serve them.**

**This year they are celebrating the 125th anniversary of the library.**

**In Germany, the broadcasting stations have to provide audio description, so at the moment they have 1500 audio description titles, and they are within their talking book catalogue. They have more than 7,000 loans of these titles last year.**

**They have music scores, tactile books and soon will have digital braille.**

**To promote born accessible publications, they have developed a tool called BACC (born accessible content checker). It is an open source tool.**