



## SECTION ON LIBRARY AND RESEARCH SERVICES FOR PARLIAMENTS

2013 Standing Committee Meetings (SCI-II)

### SC I - Singapore, 17 August 2013 (15:15-17:45)

#### Minutes of the meeting

#### **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS – INCLUDING ROLL CALL OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS\***

The meeting was opened by the Chair of the Section, Mr John Pullinger, who welcomed all Standing Committee members and observers attending the meeting. The presence of a large number of observers was acknowledged with satisfaction.

Mr. Pullinger reminded that only current SC members (including those ending their term in 2013) are allowed to vote during the meeting when the SC is called to take formal decisions. However, all voices will be welcome to participate in discussions and to share ideas. Incoming SC members (whose term starts at the end of the 2013 WLIC) are not entitled to vote but their thoughts and ideas on the future of the Section are warmly welcome.

#### ▪ **Roll call of standing committee members\***

<b>Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Andrzej Dziubecki	Lu Haiyan	Anita Dudina
Moira Fraser	Junko Hirose	Eunhee Hyun
Alim Garga	Jarle Skørestad	Esther Kamau
Lillian Gassie		Susan Mansfield
Sonia L'Heureux		
Stelina Maria Pinha		
John Pullinger		
Innocent Rugambwa		
Cecilia Stadius		
Raissa Teodori		
Ellie Valentine		
Christine Wellems		

With 12 SC members attending the meeting, a quorum was reached.

\* Soledad Ferreiro – Serrano resigned from the Standing Committee after retiring from her job as director of the Library of the Chilean Congress

Observers attending the meeting were:

Chinwe Adelekan, Mitsuaki Amino, Clara Bessa, Sunita Bhalla, John Christopher, Katherine Close, Agnes Congo Tapsoba, Domingos B. Cunha Goncalves, Marialyse Delano, Eleni Droulia, Ridwan Faridan, Hannah Fischer, Helio Freitas, Eduardo Goldstein, Dianne Heriot, Meena Kandwal, Agata Karwowska-Sokolowska, Jan Keukens, Wojciech Kulisiewicz, Gert-Jan Lodder (incoming SC member), Keorileng Peter Moatswi, Chama Mpundu Mfula, Rebecca Musungu, Mundia Njekwa, Albert Ntunja, Esther Nxumalo, Takashi Ozawa, Alfonso Perez (incoming SC member), Alex Read, Donna Scheeder (IFLA President elect 2013-2015), Karel Sosna, Susan Swift, Gerald Tan, Rian Thornton, Nassa Traore Diallo, Satya Vijay Ram, Mustika Wati.

## **2. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA**

The proposed agenda for the meeting was approved. The Chair clarified that point 12 of the agenda (*Other business*) would include an update and discussion on the Survey on Attendance to IFLA Conference conducted by Moira Fraser on behalf of the Section. The Section had applied for funds from IFLA to conduct this project.

It was agreed that at the end of the meeting the SC would agree on the items to be discussed during the second SC meeting, to take place on Wednesday 21 August at 11:30.

## **3. STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

### **▪ New Members of the Standing Committee**

Mr. Pullinger reported on the elections for new SC members, whose term (1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>) will start after the end of the 2013 Congress.

The newly elected SC members for the 2013-2017 term are:

- Sonia L'Heureux, 2<sup>nd</sup> term;
- Gert-Jan Lodder, 1<sup>st</sup> term;
- Hayan Lu, 2<sup>nd</sup> term;
- Alfonso Perez, 1<sup>st</sup> term
- John Pullinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> term;
- Innocent Rugambwa, 2<sup>nd</sup> term;
- Ellie Valentine, 2<sup>nd</sup> term;

As a result of the election process, the Standing Committee for the period 2013-2015 will be composed, of the following 15 members:

Alim Garga; Lillian Gassie; Junko Hirose; Sonia L'Heureux; Gert-Jan Lodder; Hayan Lu; Susan Mansfield; Alfonso Perez; John Pullinger; Innocent Rugambwa; Jarle Skørestad; Cecilia Stadius; Raissa Teodori; Ellie Valentine; Christine Wellems.

Mr. Pullinger also mentioned that, since two members had resigned before the end of their term (2015), the Chair is allowed to co-opt two new members to fill those positions for the remaining term, taking into account the balance of geographical representation within the SC.

#### ▪ **Acknowledgement of the contribution of retiring members of the Standing Committee**

Mr. Pullinger then acknowledged the contribution of SC members who would be stepping down from the SC at the end of the 2013 Congress: Anita Dudina, Andrzej Dziubecki, Moira Fraser (who has served as Information Coordinator and Chair of the Section), Eunhee Hyun, Esther Kamau, Stelina Maria Martins Pinha (who has served as Information Coordinator for the Section). Their involvement as active members of the Section will always be important.

He also took the opportunity to acknowledge the work of Soledad Ferreiro, who resigned from the SC in September 2012. Ms. Ferreiro has given great support to the Section, adding value and inspiration to its work.

#### **4. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS**

As already experimented for the elections of the 2011-2013 officers, in order to enable a smooth transition and hand over to the incoming officers during the 2013 Congress, the current Chair of the Section conducted the elections for the new Section Officers (Chair, Secretary and Information Officer) via postal vote, to be formally endorsed by a formal election during SCI at the IFLA WLIC in Singapore. The ballot was confirmed with no opposition and the new officers were proclaimed.

The Section officers for the 2013-2015 term are:

- Chair: Raissa Teodori (Italy)
- Secretary: Lillian Gassie (United States of America)
- Information coordinator: Cecilia Stadius (Sweden)

The Chair will also be the Section Treasurer, who will manage expenditure of the annual administrative funds allocated to the Section, as well as the application for project funding. Funds can be spent, as an example, on printing of Section leaflets or on inviting keynote speakers to meetings.

#### **5. REPORTS AND NEWS**

##### ▪ **Chair and Treasurer (Mr. John Pullinger)**

Mr. Pullinger reported on the Section's activities in the last year, acknowledging the support received from the Secretary and the Information Coordinator of the Section, as well as the tremendous assistance that the Section officers received from Mr. Chris Rhodes (UK House of Commons Library) with regard to the management and implementation of the Section website during the past year.

As a first and essential aspect of the Section's action plan, the Mr. Pullinger mentioned how the development of partnerships and joint activities with other IFLA Sections has been a key theme of action for the Parliamentary Section and for his Chairmanship, continuing on the work from the previous years. The Section sought to build or strengthen relationships with a number of Sections and Interest Groups, as well as with IFLA HQ and governing bodies; a specific item for discussion on the SC agenda will be dedicated to further discussion on this topic.

The second item for report was the relationship between the Section and the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments. During the IPU 127<sup>th</sup> Assembly held in Quebec in October 2012, Mr. Pullinger presented on behalf of the Section at a joint IPU-ASGP session, in partnership

with the IFLA section on Parliamentary Libraries and Research Services and the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament, on the theme “Parliamentary representation and communication, and the role of social media”.

Besides presenting at the event, Mr. Pullinger took every opportunity to build connections with Secretaries General on behalf of the Section, for example during their visits to the UK Parliament or during his visits to other countries and Parliaments. The objective has been to reinforce to parliamentarians the value of the Parliamentary library and the importance of making sure the library has the means to be effective. Besides Secretaries General, there were also opportunities to meet with Speakers.

The third item of report was the opportunity that he had, as Section Chair, to facilitate a Workshop of Parliamentary Librarians of Nigeria, a Federal State with 36 States, each of which has a Parliamentary Library. The meeting, organized by the Parliamentary Librarian of the National Assembly, who attended the 2012 Section’s meeting in Helsinki, represented a chance to present the Section. An outcome was the co-creation of a program that should result in the construction of a network in the next few years.

The fourth item was the meeting of the Association of the Parliamentary Libraries of Asia Pacific (APLAP) that took place two days ahead, to which the Section officers were invited. APLAP has in the last few years started to be active again, and the Section is very keen on building strong relations with this network as well as will all regional networks of parliamentary libraries and research services around the world.

▪ **Secretary/Information Coordinator (Ms. Raissa Teodori/Mr. Innocent Rugambwa)**

The Secretary reported on the Section's formal membership and on its informal network. She noted how the trend of the previous years did not change: although there has not been an increase of formal membership to the Section, the informal network has been growing and has been increasingly lively worldwide providing feedback and reacting on the Section’s communications and activities.

She mentioned that the Section should continue to work on both aspects (formal membership and informal enlarged network), and that there is the need to improve the flow of information to and within the network, so that the Section can serve as a reliable platform for information exchange, with attention to the need for multilingual communication capacity, in the context of parliamentary libraries.

A crucial step in this regard is to make sure that the Section’s mailing list (IFLAPar12) is fully functional, with a higher number of subscribers. The effort made in this regard has to continue, and will be a focus of action in the months to come.

As a last item she reminded that in 2012 the SC wanted to explore the possibility for the Section to use administrative funds to pay for a functional email account to be used by succeeding officers (which, compared to personal email address of officers, would better guarantee continuity, gathering of the Section history and easy handover for officers). Since, for technical reasons, IFLA cannot provide Sections with this kind of tool, a request was made to IFLA for permission to acquire a domain and create an email account with a commercial email provider. IFLA raised some concerns with this request but the Section will attempt to clarify this issue in the coming weeks.

The last item of report was the process that has started to gather all the papers of past conferences of the Section (pre-conferences and sessions during the main IFLA Congress). This has been an idea raised by John Pullinger in the last year and thanks to the work done by Ellie

Valentine this is now an ongoing activity. However it is not an easy task to gather them and to find their electronic version, so it is important that all colleagues support this work by sending their files to Ms. Valentine. In addition, the recently launched IFLA repository, which may be able to host satellite meeting documentation, appears to be the right place where to store the Section's papers.

▪ **News about Section members**

Mr. Pullinger mentioned the happy news that the election of Donna Scheeder, Section member and former Chair, will be the President-elect of IFLA for the term 2013-2015. Ms Scheeder is still working on her theme as President, but it could be related to the role of libraries in building strong communities. He also mentioned sad news that Keith Cuninghame, former Deputy Librarian of the House of Commons, and active supporter of the Section especially as author of the Guidelines for Legislative Libraries, had passed away during the last year. It is good to know that his work has been translated in so many languages and is available across the world.

It was also mentioned that the Director of the Library of the Swedish Parliament, Ms. Gunilla Lilie Bauer, has left the Library for a new Job. Ms Cecilia Stadius, SC member in the Section, will act as interim Director until the vacancy will be filled.

▪ **News from regional networks**

The new executive committee of **APLESA** (Association of Parliamentary Libraries of Eastern and Southern Africa) has just been elected : Ms. Esther Kamau (Kenya), President; Mr. Geraldo Cambiete (Angola), Vice President; Mr. Keorileng Peter Moatswi (Botswana), Secretary General; Mr. Innocent Rugambwa (Uganda), Treasurer; Additional Committee Members: Ms. Chama Mpundu Mfula (Zambia), Ms. Rina Da Cruz (Namibia), Ms. Laurenciana Bule (Mozambique). APLESA holds annual conferences, and the next one should take place in May 2014 in Zambia; that will be the right moment for reviewing the strategic plan of the Association.

**APLAP**, Association of Parliamentary Libraries of Asia Pacific. The Association has been very active in the last year, especially in preparation for the IFLA Parliamentary Section Pre-Conference and IFLA Congress. There has been a good participation from the Region and APLAP itself was able to provide financial support to attend to one country. At the end of the Pre-Conference APLAP held its business meeting and renewed its executive committee: Dianne Herriot (Librarian in the Library of Parliament of Australia), is the new President; Katherine Close (Parliamentary Library of New Zealand) has become Secretary; Widya Chalid (Parliamentary Library of Indonesia) is the Vice President for Asia; Elesallah Matatier (Papua New Guinea) is the Vice President for Pacific. APLAP hopes to hold a regional event in 2014 and will in the meantime work on building a website, also using the available funds.

**ECPRD**, European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation. The ECPRD Working Group on Libraries, Research and Archives held a very interesting meeting in June in Paris, in the French Senate, regarding the role of parliamentary libraries for preserving the historical heritage of their parliaments and countries. The coordinator of the WG, Ms. Elisabeth Dietrich Schultz, is expected to stand down. The name of the new Coordinator will be announced at the ECPRD annual correspondents meeting to take place in October in Warsaw.

## **6. REVIEW OF TRAINING DAY HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

On 14 August 2013, ahead of the Pre-Conference, a training day on strategic management of ICT in Parliamentary libraries was held, specifically for Heads of Parliamentary Libraries from developing countries in the Asia Pacific region. The training was the result of a joint effort of the IFLA Parliamentary Section, APLAP, the Parliament of Singapore and the Parliament of Australia (which supported the attendance of a number of participants). The training built on previous training sessions that the Section held with the support of the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament in conjunction with the Section's past annual pre-conferences (2009, 2011, 2012) for parliamentary staff of Africa, Latin American and Arab legislatures, focusing on the role of technology in enhancing library services in the targeted regions. The Global Centre for ICT had a role this year in initiating the process and facilitating initial contacts between the Section and the Parliament of Australia regarding the training.

The feedback on the training was very good. A good number of participants from the region gathered for this extra day, in a smaller setting than the preconference, which facilitated networking and encouraged cooperation and initiatives at the regional level. The training sessions focused on: 1) ICT in parliamentary libraries, using as a base for discussion the Handbook on ICT in Parliamentary Libraries published in 2012 by the United Nations, the IPU and IFLA; 2) the use of social media in a parliamentary context, using as a base for discussion the Social Media Guidelines for Parliaments published by IPU in March 2013, which the Section was involved during the drafting process; 3) getting the best out of regional groups and regional resources; 4) managing your working relationship with ICT.

As in previous years, librarians from other countries of the world (from Africa in particular) participated as observers and provided very good input to the discussion. These trainings are an important opportunity to provide targeted support to share knowledge with smaller or less advanced parliamentary libraries, and the hope is to be able to organize such kind of activities in the future.

## **7. REVIEW OF PRE-CONFERENCE HELD ON 14-16 AUGUST**

The extraordinary hospitality of the Parliamentary Library of Singapore in the wonderful Li ka Shing Library made the pre-conference a very successful and well-organized event.

Both days of the program were interesting. Interactive discussion, held especially on the second day, was very much welcome and should be included in the program for Paris in 2014, both in smaller groups and in the plenary setting. The knowledge café held during the Pre-Conference in 2010 in Sweden was recalled as successful and could be considered for 2014.

The management workshop day that the Section used to run in the past was also mentioned as a useful activity, very much based on interaction. There were thoughts about trying to have one in France. The new officers of the Section will explore the availability of a venue and verify the possible cost of renting a venue for one day or half day.

The importance of welcoming newcomers and helping them to feel comfortable by introducing them in the Section and in the conference was underlined. It is important to encourage them to participate and to make them feel comfortable in talking, especially for those who are not native English speakers.

## **8. PUBLICATIONS AND TRANSLATIONS: *GUIDELINES ON LEGISLATIVE LIBRARIES, HANDBOOK ON ICT IN PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES, SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES FOR PARLIAMENTS***

The Chair mentioned how the Section has put a lot of effort in publications and translations in recent years. The *Guidelines for Legislative Libraries* is now available in 8 languages: English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Myanmar and Vietnamese. This was possible thanks to the volunteer effort of parliaments and individuals around the world.

The *Handbook on ICT in Parliamentary Libraries*, published by UN, IPU and IFLA through the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament, is being translated and will soon be available in English, French and Spanish.

As mentioned, the Section was active in preparing the draft of the *Social media Guidelines for Parliaments*, whose main author was Andy Williamson. It was mentioned that he participated in a videoconference discussion around the Guidelines organized by APLIC, which was very interesting, and that he is available for other similar remote activities in the future.

## **9. PROSPECTS FOR THE MAIN IFLA CONFERENCE**

### **▪ Feedback from IFLA Leadership briefing**

The meeting considered the following topics: the new repository, IFLA library, that will be a very useful tool to gather and search all the papers from Conferences and is now being launched; a goal is for the repository to include pre-conference papers and the Section should take advantage of this. The Chair mentioned that there is a clear intention on IFLA's side to make sure all actions, projects and events organized within IFLA are in line with the Key Initiatives for 2010-2015 (Digital Content Programme; International Librarianship Leadership Development Programme; Outreach Programme for Advocacy and Advancement of the Profession; Cultural Heritage Disaster Reconstruction Programme; Multilingualism Programme), on which a specific meeting will take place. Project funding will also be focused on the areas defined by the key initiatives.

Ms Scheeder mentioned also the IFLA Trend Report Session recommending that members attend the session. In more general terms she mentioned how IFLA is getting more and more involved in relevant processes such as the review of the WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society).

Another issue that was discussed during the Leadership briefing was procedures for elections for Standing Committees and especially officers, in particular with reference to the need of facilitating handover from one team to the next one. In fact, the Parliamentary Section has is ahead in this regard, since the Section has been experimenting with remote elections in the spring, ahead of the conference, in the last two elections.

### **▪ Conference sessions**

The programme for the Congress week is very rich and offers the opportunity to attend sessions about topics that one is not usually exposed to and that might seem more far from the routine. The Chair mentioned as examples Library Buildings and National Libraries. He recommended members attend the Opening Session and encouraged them to go to the exhibition opening. He then recalled all the Sessions where the Parliamentary Section was involved as co-sponsor or partner with other Sections: Knowledge management, Law Libraries, Information Technology, Preservation and Conservation. He also mentioned other highlights during the weeks, such as a session on open source organized by the IT Section. He reminded members about the Section's second SC meeting and the Section's session on Research Resources for Parliamentarians. The

President elect planning session was also mentioned, which is open to everyone. Newcomers sessions are also recommended and it may be useful to explore the programme looking for keynote speakers in different sessions.

- **Meeting with IFLA officers on librarians and democracy**

Section officers and members attended a meeting in Helsinki on the topic of librarians and democracy. This topic can be seen and approached from different levels, for example to make sure that parliamentary documentation is freely and easily available from parliamentarians and for citizens, and in general helping citizens to understand the parliamentary process and have their voices heard.

## **10. PROPOSALS FOR IFLA 2014 IN PARIS (PRECONFERENCE) AND LYON (MAIN CONFERENCE)**

This item will be a major object of discussion during SCII. The theme for the preconference needs to be defined as well as the one for the individual session during the main congress. Maybe a bit more focus on research could be welcome for the preconference next year.

Ms Fraser pointed out two topics that emerged in the preconference as relevant and on which participants would like to discuss more deeply: 1) Evaluation and assessment of services, especially when facing budget costs; 2) Research, especially overlap and differences between library and research services, as well as establishment of new research services, and related structural model options.

Another aspect to be discussed is which other IFLA Sections to collaborate with for joint sessions, including those with which the Section has a stable cooperation (IT, Law Libraries, Knowledge management) as well as new partners, for example FAIFE, or Library training. Contacts with other Sections officers will be ensured during the week and reported at SCII.

The general theme for the main Congress in Lyon is *Libraries, Citizens, Societies: Confluence for Knowledge*.

## **11. COOPERATION WITH PARTNER ORGANISATIONS**

- **IFLA and other IFLA Sections**

The Section wishes to strengthen even more its relations with other IFLA Sections who share common areas of interest or methodology. Over the last few years, the relationship with IT Section, Law Section and Knowledge Management Section has become mature and very fruitful. The Preservation Section is a starting relationship. As mentioned on point 10 above it could be worth trying to get in contact with new Sections. It is also important to consider that relations with other Sections can be carried out not only through joint Sessions during the congress but also through other means, such as common projects or publications, or simply mutually linking to information on each other's webpage.

It was mentioned that it is important to attend the regional Sections (such as the Africa Section) and to establish a link between it and, for example, APLESA.

- **IPU and ASGP**

It is crucial for the Section to develop relationships with these high level inter-parliamentary bodies, to make the voice of parliamentary libraries heard and their values more visible. The annual ASGP and IPU meeting will take place in Geneva in October, and a Parliamentary Development Practitioners Meeting will take place in i. John Christopher is planning to go and is happy to give feedback to the Section.

- **Global Centre for ICT in Parliament**

The most significant partnership developed by the Section outside IFLA is the one with the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament, starting from 2007. With regard to joint activities in the last year, after the 2012 IFLA Congress in Helsinki, in September 2012 the Section ran a session on libraries during the World e-Parliament Conference 2012, held in Rome in the Chamber of Deputies. Section members were invited to chair the session and to speak. There was a good audience at the session. The WePCs allow libraries and the Section to be in contact with Members as well as SGs and other high level decision makers in Parliaments. In the future it may be useful to have libraries speak in mixed panels of the Conference where the audience might be representing other parliamentary stakeholders.

The Declaration on Parliamentary Openness of Parliamentary Monitoring Organizations (PMO's) was also launched at the end of the WePC 2012, on 15 September, International Day of Democracy. The WePC 2012 Report is now available on line on the Global Centre for ICT website ([www.ictparliament.org](http://www.ictparliament.org)).

- **Regional networks**

Supporting the development of regional networks of parliamentary library and research services has been a priority for the Section in the past two years. Regional networks complement the global mission of the Section. IFLA needs to keep active and strengthen relations with regional networks and all members of the Section should encourage and support these networks in their region, to engage with them and to make sure IFLA is mentioned in those contexts.

Next year's congress in France is an important opportunity to involve the Francophone community, and the *Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie* will be an important partner in this context.

## **12. OTHER BUSINESS**

The IFLA funded project carried out by Moira Fraser on assessing the value of attendance to IFLA conference is mentioned. The survey is still ongoing and all those who have attended IFLA conferences are welcome to answer it. Sixty responses have been provided at the moment.

## **13. AGENDA FOR SECOND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING: PROPOSALS FROM MEMBERS**

Mr. Pullinger closed the meeting by reading through the topics that came out during the meeting and that will be deepened during SC II.



## SECTION ON LIBRARY AND RESEARCH SERVICES FOR PARLIAMENTS

### 2013 Standing Committee Meetings (SCI-II)

#### SC II - Singapore, 21 August 2013 (11:30-13:15)

#### Minutes of the meeting

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The meeting was opened by the Chair of the Section, Mr John Pullinger, who welcomed all the Standing Committee members and the observers attending the meeting. The presence of a large number of observers was acknowledged with satisfaction.

##### ▪ **Roll call of standing committee members**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Andrzej Dziubecki	Lu Haiyan	Anita Dudina
Moira Fraser	Junko Hirose	Eunhee Hyun
Lillian Gassie	Jarle Skørestad	Esther Kamau
Dianne Herriot*	Alim Garga	Susan Mansfield
Sonia L'Heureux		
Stelina Maria Pinha		
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Cecilia Stadius		
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Ellie Valentine		
Christine Wellems		

With 12 SC members attending the meeting, a quorum was reached.

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\* Dianne Herriot, Parliamentary Librarian of Australia, was co-opted in the Standing Committee during the week. Since she is taking the office of a member who resigned before end of term she is continuing her mandate and is therefore already part of the Standing Committee

Observers attending the meeting were:

Lynn Brodie, Katherine Close, Agnes Congo Tapsoba, Domingos B. Cunha Goncalves, Marialyse Delano, Jonathan Enamu, Karin Finer, Hannah Fischer, Helio Freitas, Claire Germain, Eduardo Goldstein, Dianne Heriot, Agata Karwowska-Sokolowska, Jan Keukens, Charlotte Kyomuhangi, Wojciech Kulisiewicz, Gert-Jan Lodder (incoming SC member), Keorileng Peter Moatswi, Chama Mpundu Mfula, John Bagonza Mugabi, Robert Newlen, Albert Ntunja, Esther Nxumalo, Takashi Ozawa, Katharina Pausch, Alfonso Perez (incoming SC member), Donna Scheeder (IFLA President elect 2013-2015), Shagufta Shaukat, Karel Sosna, Susan Swift.

## **2. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA**

The proposed agenda for the meeting was approved.

## **3. REVIEW OF THE 2013 WLIC IFLA CONGRESS**

At the time of SCII the Congress was still in progress and the Section's individual session still had to take place. However a number of sessions involving the Section have already taken place.

An issue was raised about the right approach towards joint sessions to make sure that they would really be relevant for the Section, in terms of theme, presenters and audience. Some joint sessions seemed, to some, to be not very parliamentary focused. Perhaps there could be a stronger marketing of the call for papers of the joint sessions within the parliamentary community in order to encourage more parliamentary focused presentations. However it was noted that joint sessions represent an opportunity for Section members to be exposed to a larger range professional approaches and content that can still be relevant although not coming from the parliamentary professional environment. The joint session with the Law Libraries Section has always been very relevant in this respect. A balance should be found between these two perspectives. Also, it would be useful if SC and Section members would take the responsibility of following up on joint sessions and work to ensure that the parliamentary perspective is taken into account.

## **4. PLANS FOR IFLA CONGRESS 2014 IN FRANCE**

### **▪ Preconference in Paris: theme and discussion on the structure of the day**

The theme of research, and how library and research services work together emerged as relevant, confirming the outcome of the discussion held during SCI. Therefore, with regard to a theme for the Section day for the preconference in Paris, a title such as "Research and Library services working together (or not?) to meet clients needs" was proposed. A member raised the proposal: (why not?) instead of (or not?). Along this idea, another possible topic for a session in Paris was proposed: "How can libraries and research services work together to support democracy?"

This discussion will be followed through email by the SC during the weeks and months to come in order to define the programme for the coming preconference in Paris.

### **○ Other aspects**

There is a wish to have a training day, especially focused on the French speaking countries and the parliamentary libraries that are part of the francophone community. Funding, logistics and partnerships will be explored in the following months.

- **Main Conference in Lyon**

- Individual Session theme

During SC I the question of “Engaging citizens” emerged as important. The theme / title “Libraries for democracy: engaging citizens” was proposed and supported, also considering that it can involve different perspectives and points of view. In fact, parliamentary libraries can play different roles and functions in this regard and carry out activities to engage citizens in different ways, not only by physically opening the library building and/or services to the public (for example education activities, or reference / information service by remote).

This could also link to IFLA priorities and initiatives linked to democratic engagement and citizens empowerment, which is becoming increasingly central in IFLA activities.

- Joint Sessions and contacts with other Sections

The Chair of the Law Libraries Section is attending the meeting together with Robert Newlen. The feedback from the 2013 joint session of the two Sections is that the fact that the Parliamentary Section was mentioned as co-sponsor attracted more people to the Session and was part of its success.

The Law Libraries Section has two different ideas for a programme in Lyon, and would be happy to use one theme as individual session and the other one as joint session. The two themes are: 1) “Law libraries at the digital crossroads. Innovative solutions for complex challenges”; 2) “Digital authentication of legal material / parliamentary material – Success stories”. This could be also the basis for some Guideline under IFLA’s hat. The Law Libraries Section is thinking about inviting a keynote speaker to open the session, and who might be able to address the audience covering both the law libraries side and the parliamentary side. The feedback from the SC of the Parliamentary Section was, in general terms, very positive and the Section will be in contact with the Law Libraries to follow up the discussion and agree on a final theme/title for a Joint session.

In general terms the SC reacted positively to the idea of developing some joint activity with FAIFE. A joint session on open access to legal and parliamentary information, or on similar topics, would connect the Parliamentary Section to both FAIFE and Law libraries.

Relationships with Information Technology and Knowledge Management Sections have by now become mature and fruitful. This connection should be carried out also for next 2014.

Partnership with Preservation Section as well as Library buildings can be explored. Statistics and Evaluation Section and Continuing professional development and workplace learning Section could also be contacted to start relationships.

It is important to make sure that for all joint Sessions the call for papers goes out to all the involved IFLA communities.

- Other aspects

A management workshop day could take place if the Section is not able to obtain joint sessions and enough extra slots of hours, in order to have a richer programme.

## 5. SECTION WORK PROGRAMME

The following items were listed as relevant and to be taken into account when planning the work of the Section for the year to come:

- New version of the *Guidelines for Legislative Libraries*: this thought should be put on the table.
- *Guidelines for Research Services*: the need or interest for this kind of publication is emerging in the last years. If the Section undertakes this work there will be the need for a working group and a coordinator. The Section can apply for project funding for this. Publication and copyright issues will be investigated and negotiated with IFLA. It was pointed out that the Guidelines should include evaluation issues, methodology, benchmarks, cooperation. It was pointed out that in developing countries some parliaments have libraries but need to develop research services, therefore such Guidelines would need to be able to support such processes.
- *Project funding*: IFLA made it clear that requests for project funding might be successful if linked with IFLA priorities and key initiatives. It is also possible to put IFLA's funding together with external funding for the same project. At the moment the Section has no thought-out proposal on the table to request for funding before the December 2013 deadline. It is unlikely that the Section will make a request this year, but members can use the time to build a well focused project and apply for funding in 2014.
- *Relations with IFLA – IPU – ASGP – Global Centre for ICT in Parliament*: contacts should be kept alive and strengthened with all these organizations.
- Relations with Regional networks: relationships between the global network and the regional networks and associations are crucial and important. France 2014 should represent an opportunity to link more closely with the francophone community. It was mentioned that there is an ongoing idea of creating a network of French parliamentary libraries, with the objective of helping French speaking parliamentary colleagues to benefit from knowledge sharing and mutual exchange of experience.  
Relations with francophone countries and the *Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie* has to be a priority in the perspective of IFLA 2014.

## 6. PROPOSALS FOR THE THEME OF IFLA 2015 PRECONFERENCE

The theme proposal “Parliamentary Libraries for National Development” was proposed and discussed by SC members. The overall idea was welcome but there were some suggestions: 1) research services should be included, for example as “Parliamentary Libraries and Research Services for National Development”; 2) why not use “Nation building” instead of “National development”.

There were different opinions regarding this alternative and the SC decided to keep the discussion alive on these or other options, so that the Section could be ready for the March 2014 deadline for submitting the form for the 2015 Satellite meeting proposal.

## 7. OTHER BUSINESS

Francis T. Kirkwood, longstanding member of the Parliamentary section and former staff of the Canadian Library of Parliament, joined the Section meeting to inform the Parliamentary Section

SC about a Conference for the Russian speaking world which would take place in Crimea in 2015, as an event of the series of the Crimea Conferences.

The Crimea Conferences are an official IFLA event for the Russian speaking region, meant to reach people who are not able to go to IFLA Conferences to allow them to participate in IFLA activities. In this context an IFLA Forum takes place every year, in the second week of June, in which the IFLA President or a senior official attends and talks about the latest developments in IFLA policy and strategies. There is a rotation through IFLA Sections in trying to organize a relevant programme. The idea on the table is that the 2015 event could be the right year to organize a Parliamentary Section presence at the Crimea Conference, as a special session to take place at the Parliament of the autonomous Republic of Crimea. Parliamentary librarians from the Russian speaking world and from Europe are expected to attend.

This was an introduction for Section and SC members, and to gather names of people to be part of an organizing committee.

#### **8. HANDOVER TO NEW OFFICERS AND CLOSURE**

The outgoing Chair, Mr. John Pullinger, announced that a new Standing Committee member had been coopted during the week, Ms. Dianne Herriot, Parliamentary Librarian of Australia.

Finally he handed over the Section offices and responsibilities to the new Section officers, Ms. Raissa Teodori (Chair and Treasurer), Ms. Lillian Gassie (Secretary) and Ms. Cecilia Stadius (Information Coordinator) and then closed the meeting.