

ANNUAL REPORT FOR DIVISION V

AFRICA

2013 Activities

Africa in 2013 got involved in many activities that helped to move the LIS profession forward. South Africa and Namibia were the main host countries for most of Africa's events for 2013. The University of South Africa Library, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the Regional Office for Africa and IFLA Africa Section, hosted the second African library summit under the theme, "The Horizon and Beyond", from 2 – 3 July 2013. This event was hosted on the University of South Africa, Muckleneuk Campus, Pretoria, South Africa. During this summit, many exciting workshops were organized and a project for emerging leaders was launched with many young African library professionals involved from different African countries and being the first of its kind. These leaders were sponsored to attend the summit. Another historic feature of the summit was the launching of the African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AfLIA), African Public Libraries Network (APLN) and Conference of African National Libraries (CANL). Besides the Library summit in Pretoria, South Africa, a symposium was organized in Namibia. This was a rendezvous point for African Library professionals who had a great opportunity of enriching the LIS profession. The theme of the symposium was directly linked to the theme of the current IFLA President, which is, "Strong Libraries, Strong Societies". This symposium took place in October 2013. The Africa section held its midterm meeting in Abuja, Nigeria from 6 – 9 February 2013.

2014 Activities

The Africa Section midterm meeting was held in Kumasi – Ghana from 8 – 9 February 2014. This was immediately followed by a regional convening of the Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) co-hosted by IFLA and AfLIA in Ghana with 45 persons in attendance. This BSLA meeting took a regional form after a country form with Cameroon and Botswana being among the first of the beneficiaries. IFLA Africa Section and the IFLA Section on Children and Young Adults are working on cohosting an open forum in Lyon – France during the WLIC on the theme, "Libraries in Africa meeting the needs of children and young adults". There will be over eight papers to be presented if all goes as planned. Africa through the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA), is currently working very hard towards hosting the IFLA WLIC 2015.

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