



Management of Library Association Section (MLAS) 21th Standing Committee II meeting on 21 August 2014

Minutes

Time: Thursday, 21 August 2014, 8:30-9:30 hrs
Venue: France, Lyon Congress Centre, Room: Salle Tete d'Or 1

Participants:

MLAS members:

Gerald Leitner (chair), Barbara Schleihagen (minutes), Margareta Taldriz Mas, Silvia Stasselova, Marian Koren, Jukka Relander, Michael Dowling, Vania Grashkina-Mincheva, Randa Al Chidiac, Marijana Miseti, Anoh Komao Antoise, Maria Cotera, Miura Taro, Jacques Hellemans

Guests:

Gloria Perez-Salmeron, Begona Batres, Danielle Chantereau, Eva Semertzaki, Sebastian Wilke, Bridgette Hendrix, Alicia Ocasio, Amandine Jacquet, Rosa Bjornsdottir, Sigridur Sighvatsdottir, Mandiayo Ndiaye, Samia Al Shiba, Evarisius Modesius, Teopolina Shunmbili, Hassan Saafi, Beba Stankovic

1. Welcome and Opening (Gerald Leitner, chair)

Gerald Leitner, MLAS chair, welcomes all MLAS SC members and all guests to the second MLAS SC meeting. He takes a quick glance back on the sessions in Lyon. There was an excellent MLAS high quality discussion yesterday together with IFLA/FAIFE. The president-elect session starts today also at 8.30 hrs, Donna would be happy if we could join her after the MLAS SC meeting at 9.30 hrs.

The association meeting was better than in last year, as many more participants actively participated. Currently the first MLAS SC meeting together with HQ staff and president and president-elect is right at the beginning of the conference, and the association meeting in middle of the conference. We started a discussion with HQ to have the association meeting early in the conference and to move some items from our SC meeting to the association meeting.

Action: Gerald will bring this up again to the agenda of the December Governing Board (GB) meeting.

Action: Barbara is asked to check the conference programme as soon as it is available to ensure that MLAS SC does not clash again with present-elect meeting next year.



10. MLAS Communication

a. MLAS Information Coordinator's report

b. MLAS Newsletter and beyond

Michael reports on a short meeting during the conference with Kelly, Gerald, Jukka and Barbara on the development of the newsletter. A blog should replace the newsletter that will hopefully be more interactive, posts items as they happen, asking questions and allow for more sharing of information on a constant basis. The email addresses of the subscribers to the MLAS-list should be migrated to the blog. Amadine asks whether it could be ensured that people receive an email if there are news. Michael confirms that this was the intention with the migration. Jukka offers that everybody sends information to him that should be included in the blog. Jukka will ensure all 20 SC members have the right to publish on the blog. Maria reminds that it is necessary to have a commitment that the blog is really active otherwise it looks bad. Sebastian suggests ensuring that there is at least one message per month, it is necessary to have one person being responsible. It is good to have the blog personalised, so that we see who the author is. The blog is hosted in Helsinki, the platform is already there.

Amadine ask about the status of the French Library Association in MLAS. Gerald explains that all associations are automatically member of the MLAS, however, there are only 20 elected representatives working as Standing Committee members.

Marian suggests ensuring that all associations have the minimum information they need. That is the content that needs to be on posted the blog, i.e. trend report, Lyon declaration, WIPO discussions. Amandine suggest producing also success stories. Gerald explains that IFLA HQ plans to have this separately, it should not be duplicated. The problem is the information overload on the IFLA website.

Gloria reminds that there is not only the trend report or the Lyon declaration but that it is also necessary to write on the results of the MLAS satellite meeting. Gerald explains that the section website does not allow including larger files, and that e.g. CLM had all the papers immediately up on the EBLIDA website. Gerald offers to host everything on the Austrian website, but IFLA should become active here and allow for larger files as well. Gloria confirms that the BSLA material is there, but we need to tell people that we have been working with the materials. However, it is about the new content by other speakers, e.g. the tailored version that was used by Gill Hallam in the MLAS/BSLA workshop in Lyon. Gill will send this to Michael and he could put this up on the website as a light version as this is smaller than 4 megabites. The IFLA library is not yet open for the material of the satellite meetings. Sebastian suggests that the blog could be in future the place for the files.

Randa states that it is difficult to regularly scan the whole IFLA website for new information. Could we make it easier with the blog for association members? Gerald explains that this should be part of our action plan, we could set links to the specific websites.

Gerald suggest to have one person each who monitors different themes (trend report, e-lending, WIPO, Lyon declaration). Silvia asks to include information on the regions.



Gloria advised members to subscribe on the IFLA website to the news feed to receive emails as soon as new information is available on the website.

Marian suggests that IFLA focuses on helping associations to monitor international developments. IFLA HQ should do this in a structured way and MLAS should support this. Gerald reminds that IFLA HQ information is being tailored to associations. The trend report is not focussed on library associations, but this is not so difficult. One of us could concentrate on certain issues and give information via the blog to the others.

There are many good ideas on the table and at midterm meeting early next year we could discuss this further.

Jukka explains that the blog is a platform and that it is up to us to become active. Michael suggests that it should be in the action plan to concentrate our work on the Lyon declaration, so we could build on the success stories, this will help the blog.

Whether regional information will be included in the blog will be discussed at midterm meeting.

c. Guidelines for Association communication

Marian reports on the developments with the guidelines on communication. It links communication with the strategy of the association. Basic elements are included in the guidelines based on the respective BSLA modules. It would be good to circulate the draft to receive comments. Additionally, there is now the standards committee manual with various criteria. As this was published simultaneous, the communication guidelines have to be checked against this. However, even if it does not fit with the standards we can still use it. There is an agreed procedure that the guidelines have to be endorsed by the Professional committee. Marian has not yet checked all procedures as the manual aims at two types of standards. Two papers have already gone through the procedure which is time consuming. Marian proposes to check the questions of the manual with the working group that worked on the guidelines. Gerald thanks the working group for their input and asks when the guidelines will be sent to the PC.

Action: Michael, Sebastian, Barbara and Marian (coordinator) will check the standards manual and will decide on it by the end of the year. Gerald can talk to the PC in December.

14. Plans for midterm meeting 2015

Michael has already outlined that the Lyon declaration will be the main activity in 2015. Therefore Gerald suggests supporting IFLA HQ activities again as it was done with the trend report and with E-lending. He has spoken to Stuart and Fiona about the toolkit for library associations so that we can work on it during our midterm meeting. He suggests organising a one-day conference for the colleagues of the region, to refine the MLAS strategy and have the guidelines on communication ready. The midterm



meeting will be held in first quarter of 2015. We could then also concentrate on the topics for Cape Town and present them at the congress and organise a session on that. Maria reports that another satellite meeting will be organised about the Lyon declaration and that in the conference session the highlights will be presented for discussion. There could also be feed in to the MLAS session from the WLI SIG satellite meeting.

Michael suggests we consider again a satellite meeting together with BSLA in Cape Town. There will be many associations from Africa in Cape Town so that it would be good to have something organised. Maria reminds of the procedure for satellite meetings and that the deadline was already in March. Gerald is open for discussion but not totally in favour of a satellite meeting. Marian suggests that we have a welcoming meeting instead of a satellite meeting. Barbara suggests organizing a satellite meeting only every second year as it takes a lot of efforts. Randa reminds that the Arab countries would be there as well so that they could be targeted in Cape Town. Qatar is planning to set up a library association, in some countries, however, it is not allowed to create associations. IFLA will work with African library associations on setting up BSLA workshops. Marijana thinks that the satellite meeting was very useful and even better than the whole IFLA conference.

Gerald reminds that we can only organise a MLAS/BSLA satellite conference with PC money and wonders who would be able to organise it. Gloria offers help as a member of BSLA. Michael suggests approaching LIASA to organise the satellite conference to discuss the issues. BSLA should take the lead, but Fiona needs a committee to organise the event. Michael suggests organising a un-conference.

Marian wonders whether we could, just as the conference of national libraries, set aside a day for discussions during the IFLA conference. We could discuss further development and how to do advocacy.

Randa reminds that many participants cannot afford to attend both, a satellite meeting and the conference, therefore she is in favour of taking up Marian's suggestion of having an one day off-site meeting during the conference. Maria agrees and suggests that we need somebody to host us. But we cannot have this off-site event at the same time as the session.

Action: The MLAS SC decides to have an off-side event. Maria would be happy to follow this up.

Action: The MLAS SC members agree that Gerald contact BSLA so that we have a workshop together during the midterm meeting.

Giorgios has invited us last year to Athens. Eva confirms the invitation to all associations on behalf of the Greek library association to Athens. All SC members are pleased and happy to come to Athens for the midterm meeting.



Action: Gerald will agree on the exact date with the Greek library association, it will be the end of February or the first week of March. Support with the organisation will be given by Michael, Marian, Barbara and Gerald. Gerald will contact Stuart and inform the SC members about the format.

16. Any other business

Barbara explains quickly the draft action plan that she has worked on. All members agree that it can be presented in this format as the section's action plan. She also presents the information on eligible members for the coming elections of the standing committees.

Kelly reports on the press release on a new grant. What implications does that have on MLAS work for association? Gerald explains that IFLA will work starting in September with a consultant on the programme. We will have more information on that during midterm meeting.

Marian reports on the NOIR meeting. There will be another meeting next year. Marian will send the report for the minutes. Maybe this group will ask MLAS to become the hosting section. The topics could become a small module in the BSLA. Kelly will approach Fiona to fit this in.

Amadine points out that the last issue of magazine "Bibliothèques" was about international cooperation.

Margareta says goodbye to the members as she is not eligible for re-election, as she is no longer president of FESABID.

Gerald closes the meeting and thanks everybody for their active participation. The way the section is communicating in future is much clearer now. Also the offsite event during the conference is a good idea. The action plan is also very useful. He hopes to see everybody in Athens for the midterm meeting.

For the minutes:

Gerald Leitner, chair

Barbara Schleihagen, secretary