



IFLA ASIA OCEANIA REGIONAL QUARTERLY NEWS

February 2021 issue

SPOTLIGHT

Message from IFLA RSCAO Chair



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The year of 2020 that brought immense difficulties has finally come to an end! On behalf of the IFLA Asia and Oceania Section, I wish you and your family a happy, healthy and prosperous 2021.

Among a multitude of issues that we faced; Covid-19 pandemic stood out as the paramount challenge which had affected every walk of life. Last year saw the cancellation of in-person meetings and conferences within IFLA and beyond. Nevertheless, with technology, we managed to engage the library communities and connect with each other through various online channels. [\[Link\]](#)

Sincerely,
Tina Yang

Message from IFLA Regional Office

Dear Friends,

After more than a year, the coronavirus is still very much with us. Countries have channelled most of their financial resources to fight the virus and purchase vaccines to contain the spread. Such actions have impacted many library operations as we compete for funding. Amid these times, it is refreshing to learn that IFLA has secured approval for its new statutes that would give us the structures and tools to deliver a more inclusive, effectively and transparency organisation. You can read this in the IFLA announcement on their website. [\[Link\]](#)

Sincerely,
Soh Lin Li



IFLA News

The IFLA Annual Report 2019 and a recorded session of the IFLA General Assembly 2020 are now available. [\[Link\]](#)

The IFLA Extraordinary General Assembly 2021 was held in Melbourne on 12 February 2021. [\[Link\]](#)

The IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2021 will be held online. [\[Link\]](#)

Winston Roberts was awarded the [IFLA Scroll of Appreciation](#) by IFLA. He is one of the most active figures in New Zealand and also in the global library field for many years. [\[Link\]](#)



The Asia Pacific regional Internet Governance Forum held a regional conference on "Internet Governance for Good: Norm, Standards and Mechanisms" in September 2020. The final report ("Synthesis Document") is now available. [\[Link\]](#)



'Memories of Two Cities' is a pictorial exhibition jointly presented by the Capital Library of China and the National Library Board Singapore. The exhibition presents Beijing and Singapore in earlier time periods, showcasing the many places, scenes and customs that have long vanished. [\[Link\]](#)



Fiji Library Association hosted a virtual lunchtime hourly presentations on the theme "Reflections and Moving Forward". This coincides with Fiji's 50th Independence Anniversary celebrations and is in support of the IFLA 2019 – 2024 Strategy in October 2020. [\[Link\]](#)



What is trending in the region?

The National Library of Indonesia published a book titled "Impact Stories of Library Transformation based on Social Inclusion". The book documents the stories of people whose lives changed because of the library. [\[Link\]](#)



The opening of "The Window to Korea", a Book corner was set up in the Hall of world literature on 8 October 2020. The activity was prepared by the National Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan together with the General Consulate of Korea in Almaty city. [\[Link\]](#)



A platform to access theses and dissertations from across the Arab world is now available through a unified electronic repository, making research easier for hundreds of thousands of academic staff, students and researchers in the Arab speaking world. [\[Link\]](#)



The 4th National Ancient Book Exhibition was held in National Library of China North Area. This was complemented by an activity on "Ancient Books Protection Awareness Day" on 13 December 2020. [\[Link\]](#)

