



72nd IFLA General Conference and Council, Seoul, Korea
Government Information and Official Publications Section
<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s17/index.htm>

Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting I

19th August 2006

Present:

Jane Wu (Chair)
Jackie Druery (Secretary)
Eleanor Frierson
Irja Peltonen
Sandra Peterson
Junko Sato
Emma Voskanyan

Observers:

Marcy Allen, Sanjay K. Bihani, Frank Kirkwood, Alice Ramohloia, Carrie Smith, John Kgwala Tsebe

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies for absences

Ms. Jane Wu welcomed the committee members and observers to the 1st GIOPS committee meeting of 2006. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Peter Raggett (Treasurer), Ms. Claude LeCrubier and Ms. Irina Lynden.

2. Adoption of agenda and Procedure for minutes

The agenda for the meeting was adopted. Minutes of the 2005 meeting were previously approved by email.

3. Reports from Members and Observers

Ms. Jane Wu asked all those present to report on activities in their organizations. Many interesting activities are taking place. Ms. Jackie Druery suggested that these reports should be published in the GIOPS newsletter rather than in the minutes. This was agreed

upon and Ms. Sandra Peterson will contact all those who reported for information for the newsletter.

4. Treasurer's report

Mr. Peter Raggett distributed the financial report by email prior to the meeting. There is a balance of 864.13 EUR. The report is shown as Annex I below.

It was agreed that part of this balance should be used to produce and distribute a CD-ROM of the papers of the Africa Seminar and send to members.

5. Report from Coordinating Board

Ms. Jane Wu reported on the Coordinating Board Meeting. She reminded everyone about the Professional Committee Hearing to be held on August 20, at which the composition of the Standing Committees would be discussed. She also reminded everyone about the meeting for first time congress attendees to be held on August 20. There was discussion regarding print copies of standing committee newsletters and it was confirmed that if members request paper copies they must be provided and that 6-8 paper copies must be provided to IFLA Headquarters. Ms. Wu also stated that GIOPS must decide by August 25 which paper from the 2006 GIOPS program to put forward for publication in the IFLA Journal. Plans are underway to establish an IFLA regional office in an Arabic speaking country. It is anticipated that the IFLA revised Strategic Plan will be approved at the annual meeting on August 26. Sites being considered for the 2009 World Library and Information Congress are Lisbon, Florence and Milan.

6. IFLA Booth

GIOPS is scheduled to be at the booth on Tuesday, August 22, 2:00-3:00pm. Ms. Jane Wu and Ms. Jackie Druery stated they would be present but that any other members are welcome to join them.

7. Conference Subcommittee

This year's GIOPS Program is jointly sponsored with Library and Research Services for Parliaments and will be presented in three parts on Monday, August 21 – part 1: *The Model e-Parliament: dynamic engine for democratic engagement*; part 2: *Technology strategy and tools for dynamic information delivery*; and, part 3 – *Government information: dynamic success for business*. Ms. Jane Wu reported that collaborating with Library and Research Services for Parliaments has been a positive experience and that we should continue to look for partners to sponsor programs.

8. Section Issues and Projects

Ms. Jane Wu reported on the success of the “International Seminar on the Strategic Management and Democratic Use of Government Information in Africa” which was held

in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, March 29-30, 2006. The seminar was jointly sponsored by GIOPS, FAIFE, Africa Section and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. Ten countries were represented and excellent papers were presented on the challenges and issues surrounding access to government information in Africa. Mr. Frank Kirkwood has posted a conference report on the GIOPS web site. Mr. Kirkwood discussed ideas about how to move forward including using the political momentum of WSIS and providing a follow-up program in Durban in 2007 in collaboration with the same partners. He also presented a resolution on “The formation of Access to Information Network-Africa (AINA)”. AINA initial membership would consist of the participants of the Africa seminar and it would seek status as an IFLA discussion group. There was consensus to support the discussion group and the 2007 follow-up seminar.

Ms. Jane Wu and Ms. Irina Lynden have been working on editing the best papers from conference programs from past years with an emphasis on representing as many countries as possible. They have been contacting authors to see if they would like to update their papers for publication. This has proved to be more difficult and time consuming than originally thought and the work is ongoing.

9. Standing Committee Appointments

Ms. Jane Wu reminded all present that GIOPS needs additional Standing Committee members. SC members can stand for a maximum of 8 years. Member institutions need to put forward names for nomination in October.

10. Membership Drive

There was considerable discussion around how to increase membership in GIOPS. Ms. Eleanor Frierson stated that GIOPS may need a membership coordinator. GIOPS needs more information from IFLA regarding which organizations are already members. Ms. Sandra Peterson will contact IFLA’s membership coordinator to ensure that we have the information we need. It was suggested that all national libraries and UN depository libraries should be GIOPS members and that we should contact those that are not to encourage them to join. Renewal notices for membership are sent out in October.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Standing Committee Meeting II

25 August 2006

Present:

Jane Wu (Chair)
Jackie Druery (Secretary)
Eleanor Frierson
Sandra Peterson
Junko Sato
Emma Vaskonian

Observers:

Sanjay K. Bihani, Daulat Jotwani, Alice Ramohloia

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies for absences

Ms. Jane Wu welcomed the committee members and observers to the 2nd GIOPS committee meeting of 2006. Ms. Irja Peltonen sent apologies.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda for the meeting was adopted.

3. IFLA Booth

It was agreed that although there were not many visitors to the booth that it was a good opportunity to meet colleagues from other sections – Government Libraries and Parliamentary Libraries – who shared the same time slot with us. The remaining GIOPS brochures will be used for the membership drive. It was agreed that GIOPS should adapt the information in the brochure to produce a bookmark to give out at future meetings and for the membership drive. Ms. Jackie Druery and Ms. Sandra Peterson agreed to work on the design of the bookmark. Ms. Junko Sato volunteered to have the bookmark translated into IFLA's official languages.

4. Conference Program Review

The 2006 program was excellent, well-received and well-attended. The collaboration with Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section was successful. The time slot was a better one than GIOPS had been assigned in previous years. There was general agreement that collaboration resulted in increased attendance and that we should seek to collaborate with other sections for the 2007 conference. It was agreed that Emma Vaskonian's excellent paper "*Government Information and Business and Legal Centers in Russia*" should be recommended for publication in the *IFLA Journal*. Ms. Vaskonian will send an edited version to Ms. Sandra Peterson to be submitted for publication.

5. Conference Review

It was agreed that the conference generally was a success. Comments were made regarding the facilities which were not that accommodating to older people. Ms. Alice Ramohloia commented that in many sessions the papers did not build on each other. Ms. Eleanor Frierson commented that the English translation from Russian was very poor.

6. Remaining business from first session/Other business

Comments on IFLA's strategic plan are due by November 1, 2006. Ms. Jane Wu will send reminder to GIOPS members and ask for comments. One of IFLA's goals is to defend the existence of libraries worldwide against budget cuts and to use the momentum of WSIS to develop an increased advocacy role.

Ms. Sandra Peterson reported on the information coordinator's meeting. IFLA is proposing to outsource the development and maintenance of the web site to increase its capabilities and functions. It is not possible to do this with the existing staff.

The International Council for Scientific and Technical Information (ICSTI) will be holding a public conference in London in January 2007. Ms. Jane Wu will investigate the possibility of GIOPS being involved in the organization of the conference.

Ms. Eleanor Frierson and Ms. Jane Wu reported on the national science portals meeting. The meeting was well attended with representation from the FAO, CISTI (Canada), KISTI (Korea), JISTI (Japan), France, Germany, United Kingdom and the National Library (United States) and ICSTI. The group will be working on a collaborative project that will include the creation of a web based directory of science portals. Ms. Frierson thanked Ms. Wu for sponsoring the meeting within the GIOPS agenda. Ms. Wu will write an article about the meeting and the forthcoming initiatives for the next GIOPS newsletter. It was suggested that the national science libraries should be approached about becoming GIOPS members and that closer collaboration should be envisaged as science information from government portals is an increasingly important source of authoritative information.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.