



EBLIDA Minutes Executive Committee Meeting, 25 October, Vienna

Minutes Executive Committee Meeting, 25 October 2002, Vienna

These minutes have been approved by the EBLIDA President.

Participants: Frode Bakken, Claudine Belayche, Klaus-Peter Böttger, Mogens Damm, Berndt Fredriksson, Arja Riitta Haarala, Teresa Hackett, Britt-Marie Häggström, Pedro Hípola, Antonio José Pina Falcão, Anna Maria Mandillo, Jan-Ewout van der Putten.

Observer: Gerald Leitner, Austrian Library Association (BVÖ)

1. Opening and announcements

Britt-Marie Häggström (President) opened the meeting, welcomed the Executive Committee to Vienna and thanked the Austrian Library Association for hosting the meeting.

There were no further announcements.

2. Apologies for absence

Everyone was present.

3. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved with the following additions:

Under *Any Other Business*:

IFLA President Elect and Governing Board nominations (*B M Häggström*)
New European organisation EULISSA (*T Hackett*)
NAPLE association (*M Damm*)

4. Approval minutes Executive Committee meeting, 2 May 2002

The minutes were approved.

Special topic – EBLIDA finances

5. Approval of draft budget 2003

The Director introduced the draft budget 2003. On the income side, there were five new associate members in 2002 and six cancellations for 2003, so the number of associate members remains stable. Five new associate members have been budgeted for 2003. Membership fees for two associate members (Norway and Serbia) will be written off for 2002. Workshop revenue at € 3.000 is a cautious estimate.

On the expenditure side, there is a proposed 4% increase in salaries & taxes, location & telephone costs in line with official cost of living increase in the Netherlands. This percentage amount was validated by Jan-Ewout van der Putten. The NBLC, who host EBLIDA, will move to the centre of the Hague in 2003, so the future office costs are currently uncertain although not expected to be greater. In any case, there will not be a staff canteen which will reduce costs by approximately €

1.000. The move has been taken into account in related costs e.g. office stationary. There are some modest increases for accountant services and legal advice arising from the hiring of a new Director during 2003. Bank charges in 2002 are more than for 2001, but are expected to decrease in 2003 due to the switchover to electronic banking.

The cost of amending the EBLIDA constitution was € 358 + VAT (reclaimable). The final CELIP project payment of € 28.000 was paid by the Commission in October 2002. The second PULMAN cost statement for € 22.000 was prepared in July 2002, payment is outstanding.

The Organisation of German Library Associations (BDB) is an umbrella organisation representing library associations in Germany, the only full member from Germany. Klaus-Peter Böttger announced that it was decided at the last meeting of the BDB to enable member associations to join EBLIDA individually. This means that EBLIDA could benefit from three new full members and two new associate members. The BDB membership band will be reduced accordingly. The new arrangement represents an extra income to EBLIDA of approximately € 5.595. EBLIDA will receive notification of the new arrangement.

Teresa Hackett expressed her thanks which will enable greater representation in EBLIDA, will bring in extra income and will increase the number of full members.

Frode Bakken raised the issue of a recruitment drive for members from Central and Eastern European accession countries, especially now that EU negotiations with accession countries are reaching a crucial stage. After discussion, it was agreed to await the forthcoming decision on the accession countries, expected at the ministerial summit in Copenhagen in December 2002. Then a campaign targeted at those countries could be undertaken.

Comments on the draft budget

Expenditure

Salaries and wage taxes (lines 3 & 4) : correction required

Membership campaign (line 30): it was agreed to combine this nominal amount with *Other promotion* (line 31)

Income

New full and associate members (lines 4 & 5): reflect the re-structuring of the BDB membership (described above)

The Director will adjust the budget accordingly, together with Jan-Ewout van der Putten, before circulating to Executive Committee for approval.

6. Mechanism for increasing membership fees

There is currently no set procedure for increases in membership fees. The last increase was in the year 2000. Secretariat costs are increasing by 4% each year e.g. salary and location costs, so this means a net loss in income each year. Over the last three years, this amounts to a loss of 12%.

Article 15(2) of the EBLIDA constitution stipulates that the Council shall determine the membership structure and the annual membership fee. The table below illustrates the rate of membership fees for full members since 1992. There have been three increases since 1992.

Full membership fee

--	--	--	--	--	--

Band	Non-profit turnover	1992-1997	1998	1999	2000-2003
A	€ 0-25.000	€ 435	€ 450	€ 460	€ 465
B	€ 25.001-100.000	€ 1.100	€ 1.150	€ 1.175	€ 1.190
C	€ 100.001-250.000	€ 2.000	€ 2.100	€ 2.150	€ 2.180
D	€ 250.001-350.000	€ 3.700	€ 3.000	€ 3.075	€ 3.115
E	€ 350.001-500.000	€ 4.400	€ 3.850	€ 3.950	€ 4.000
F	€ 500.001 or more	---	€ 4.600	€ 4.700	€ 4.760

Associate membership fee

1993-1997	1998	1999	2000-2003
ECU 350	ECU 365 + 9 adm costs	ECU 375 + 9 adm costs	€ 380 + 9 adm costs

A number of options were discussed:

1. annual Euro amount increase e.g. € 5/15/30/40
2. annual percentage as (a) annual rate of inflation for Europe as a whole or (b) annual rate of inflation for the Netherlands
3. annual Euro percentage (as above) with a ceiling

Mogens Damm said that we need a mechanism which is just and reasonable. Option 1 (above) does not represent a procedure, option 2 would be easy to ascertain. Members in Denmark are the highest contributors to the EBLIDA income. The fee structure should be reviewed to ensure a fair contribution from all member countries. It was proposed to raise the issue with the Council 2003.

Klaus-Peter Böttger said that the European inflation rate was used in the past for increases.

Britt-Marie Häggström asked if this was fair given that there are non-European countries amongst the members.

Arja Riitta Haarala said that we should choose one option and use this as the basis for all future increases and to review the fee structure at the Council 2003.

Anna Maria Mandillo asked if it was appropriate to apply the IFLA membership fee criteria to EBLIDA.

Jan-Ewout van der Putten suggested to use the rate of inflation for the Netherlands, where the EBLIDA costs are incurred. Council should be asked each year to decide this rate of inflation increase. This means that Council must approve each fee increase and that Council oversee the increases.

This was agreed by the Executive Committee.

Current membership income

Full members

Band	Non-profit turnover	2003	No of members	Income
A	€ 0-25,000	€ 465	9	€ 4.185
B	€ 25,001-100,000	€ 1.190	13	€ 15.470
C	€ 100,001-250,000	€ 2.180	5	€ 10.900

D	€ 250,001-350,000	€ 3.115	3	€ 9.345
E	€ 350,001-500,000	€ 4.000	1	€ 4.000
F	€ 500,001 or more	€ 4.760	6	€ 28.560
Total			37	€72.460

Associate members

2003	No of members	Income
€ 380	121	€ 45.980

Total membership income

Full members	Associates	Total
€ 72.460	€ 45.980	€ 118.440

See [Appendix 1](#) for a list of contributions by country.

7. Secretariat travel subsistence rates

When the Director or other secretariat staff are travelling, the daily subsistence is € 25 per day. This is for all meals and small out-of-pocket expenses and excludes hotel and travel expenses. In practice, it often does not cover the costs. It seems as if this has not been increased since 1992 (55,- NLG). The Director suggested to review the current rate and to agree on a mechanism for a regular increase to cover costs. By way of comparison, a selection of rates paid by the Dutch ministry of foreign affairs for 2002 was presented (below) and are used by IFLA/NBLC.

Country/city	National currency amount	Euro
Belgium	---	€ 77
Denmark	530 DKK	€ 72
Finland-Helsinki	---	€ 55
Germany-Frankfurt	---	€ 89
Spain-Madrid	---	€ 83
Sweden-Stockholm	560 SEK	€ 62
Switzerland	132 CHF	€ 91

Mogens Damm thought that the Dutch rates were high and suggested a modest increase e.g. € 10 per day. EBLIDA should follow the legal system but with reductions.

Gerald Leitner said that it was important that subsistence rates were not considered as income, otherwise they are subject to income tax.

Klaus-Peter Böttger agreed and explained that rates in Germany are set with this in mind.

Arja Riitta Haarala suggested including the official Dutch rates and regulations with the minutes of the meeting.

Britt-Marie Häggström agreed and said to compare the rates with the regulations. A decision can then be taken at the next Executive Committee meeting.

8. Sponsoring new members

The EBLIDA *Strategy for the Future* report stated that the EBLIDA membership needed to grow in

order to generate more income. It recommended involving members in recruiting new members and for the larger/richer members to volunteer to sponsor new members on a voluntary basis by offering to pay their membership fees (Section 4.1.2).

Associate members [MDR Partners](#) (Rob Davis/David Fuegi) have offered to pay the associate membership for the Library Association of Turkey for 2003. The Library Association of Turkey is a partner in the PULMAN XT project and Turkey are an accession country to the EU.

Klaus-Peter Böttger said that the library associations who wish to join EBLIDA must write to their governments to say what membership in EBLIDA means and why it is important.

Antonio José Pina Falcão said that in many countries, there was little government support.

Mogens Damm said that the LA of Turkey should confirm that they are willing for their EBLIDA membership to be sponsored. When the list of candidates for enlargement is finalised under the Danish Presidency, expected during the European Council in Copenhagen 12-13 December 2002, a membership drive aimed at these countries should be undertaken.

9. FFCB & ULISO membership fees 2002

The French Federation of Library Co-operation (Fédération Française de Coopération entre Bibliothèques - FFCB) notified the secretariat in September 2002 that they have been unable to pay their 2002 full membership fee because of cutbacks in funds due to the change of government in France. Pascal Sanz confirmed that the FFCB wish to remain members of EBLIDA and made a proposal to pay the 2002 fee in the first weeks of 2003.

Because of changes at the Soros Foundation, ULISO (Union of Librarian and Information Services Officers), Bulgaria notified the secretariat that they have been unable to pay their 2002 associate membership fee. Vanya Grashkina confirmed that ULISO wish to remain members of EBLIDA and made a proposal to pay half the 2002 membership fee and the full 2003 membership by the end of 2002.

The Executive Committee sympathised with the position of both associations and agreed to their payment proposals. The Director will notify both associations.

Note: FFCB 2002 membership fee and the ULISO 2002-2003 payments were received in December 2002.

10. EBLIDA Council meetings

The Hague, 3-4 May 2002: review

The Council 2002 webpage contains a summary of the meeting, a participant list, a press release as well as photos. The meeting was attended by over 70 friends and colleagues from 20 European countries. The EBLIDA birthday cake was a big success, dinner at the Peace Palace was a special event and the visit to the Waalsdorper Vlakte was appreciated by those who attended.

Eleven feedback forms were received by the secretariat. Ten out of eleven respondents found the meeting "very useful" and nine out of eleven found the programme and agenda "very good". All the presentations (except one) were rated either very good or good. Everyone (except one) thought that the organisation/venue/facilities/website/documentation to be very good. The following was a typical comment:

"This was my first visit in the "EBLIDA family" and I found it an inspiring way to get to know what is on in European libraries. Thanks for the good arrangements. Hoping to see you again next year."

Costs & sponsorship

The actual city hall and the Peace Palace costs were under budget. The dinner costs were more than expected partly due to no-shows. When balanced with the sponsorship contributions, there was a profit of € 1,295 for the Council meeting.

Everyone will receive commemorative photos and a commemorative album has been made at the secretariat. Information at: <http://www.eblida.org/eblida/meetings/Council/council02/index.html>

Uppsala, 9-10 May 2003: planning

Planning for the eleventh annual Council meeting and conference on 9-10 May 2003 is underway. This co-incides with [Europe Day](#) on 9 May. Some organisational ideas include a library tour, a visit to Gustav Vasa castle and an Ingmar Bergman walking tour.

Britt-Marie Häggström has made a request to the city hall in Uppsala to host a reception; we are awaiting a response.

Jan-Ewout van der Putten suggested that because of Europe Day, we should focus on the theme of public sector information in Europe.

Frode Bakken agreed and pointed out that Sweden has a rich tradition of access to public information with a government information act as early as 1766.

Britt-Marie Häggström suggested making contact with Uppsala university, where there are specialists in open access to information and e-books.

The Director will follow up with Britt-Marie Häggström.

See the [Council 2003 announcement](#).

Invitation to Cork, Ireland, 2005

Liam Ronayne, Library Association of Ireland, informed the secretariat that the LAI would shortly be sending an invitation to EBLIDA to hold the Council meeting in Cork in 2005.

Cork has been selected as European City of Culture in 2005 and the draft programme includes many events on libraries such as *Enduring words* which describes European libraries destroyed in conflicts, *Cork bound* which examines the printed book in Cork over the centuries and *A wider community of European poets*, as well as a book fair for publishers from the Celtic fringe.

The Executive Committee look forward to receiving the invitation.

11. Recruiting new Director February 2003

Teresa Hackett, Director, notified the President in August 2002 that she will not seek a renewal of her contract on 21 February 2003. The recruitment process for a new Director is underway. The post has been advertised and interviews are scheduled for the Hague on 15-16 November 2002. It is proposed that the new Director will start date on Monday 3 February 2003, which gives a three week handover period.

The Director gave an overview of current EBLIDA topics and issues being dealt with by EBLIDA. It is important to prioritise and for the members to decide on which issues to focus.

Mogens Damm said that we must present a realistic picture considering the resources, but that EBLIDA should not just be about copyright.

Klaus-Peter Böttger agreed that the volume of work should be prioritised with the new Director.

Frode Bakken suggested to follow the IFLA model and to have more specialist working groups and

involvement from members.

Jan-Ewout van der Putten was not in favour of such a proposal for our core areas. EBLIDA is a lobby organisation for specialist topics. Members pay their fees to obtain a professional service. We should not be dependent on the work of volunteers to provide this important service. The members must decide what they want from the association and from the secretariat.

Antonio José Pina Falcão said that BAD could be a focal point for some topics.

A discussion took place on the procedure for shortlisting candidates.

The Executive Committee agreed on the interview panel of Britt-Marie Häggström, President, Mogens Damm, Vice-President, Pedro Hipola and Jan-Ewout van der Putten.

The Executive Committee agreed unanimously to delegate responsibility to the interview panel in making the selection for the new Director.

Item 12. EBLIDA Executive Committee elections 2003-2005

There will be elections for President and Executive Committee at the Council 2003.

The President is elected by the full members on the Council. Candidates must be nominated by three full members and does not have to be a member of EBLIDA. The President can be re-elected consecutively once only.

The Executive Committee. Full members (associations) are eligible to sit on the Executive Committee. A full member puts forward a named representative, which can be changed at any time (to validate this change the member must notify the Secretariat in writing). A representative can be re-appointed consecutively once only.

The Executive Committee must consist of a minimum of four up to a maximum of ten members and should represent a geographic and professional balance. The Vice-President is elected by the new Executive Committee.

Nominations must be received by the Secretariat at least two weeks before the Council meeting i.e. by 25 April 2003.

Note: The EBLIDA constitution was amended in June 2002 to clarify the definition of a member of the Executive Committee. (Articles 31-33a).

See [Appendix 2](#) for a list of the current Executive Committee.

13. Country reports: recent key developments

Austria

Gerald Leitner gave a presentation on public libraries in Austria and the new public libraries being built in Vienna and Linz.

Denmark

Mogens Damm reported that the Danish library law (2000) has caused mixed reactions. Library budgets have not received the increase that was expected to fulfil the law because of a tight economy in the local communities.

There is an ongoing dispute between the ministry of culture and author organisations, where the ministry has abolished author remuneration rates of less than €650 and wants to change the remuneration rates for 2002.

On the implementation of the copyright Directive, the main outstanding issue is electronic document delivery.

It was very disappointing that there was no library representation on the Danish government consultation on lifelong learning – the Danish library association has made a complaint.

The Danish Library Association was represented at the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development Johannesburg in August 2002, focussing on the role of libraries and sustainable development.

Take a look at the [Danish Library Association](#) website, recently restructured and updated.

Finland

Arja Riitta Haarala reported that a government proposal has been issued on the implementation of the copyright Directive.

There is a National Library Working Group looking at the role of the national library in relation to other libraries.

France

Claudine Belayche reported that there was unanimous agreement in a senate vote on 8 October 2002 on the implementation of the public lending right in France. The method of payment is rather complicated with payments being shared by the government and the libraries. The library payment is calculated by the number of registered patrons and by adding ten per cent of the book budget. In return, booksellers have negotiated an increase in the book buying discount and will give money back to the author and publisher societies, in order to ensure a complementary income for them.

Discussions on the implementation of the copyright Directive are ongoing, although these are mainly between the government and the national library with little involvement from other libraries.

Germany

Klaus-Peter Böttger reported on a major new initiative between the BDB and the Bertelsmann Foundation. The project is called *Library 2007* and it will examine how the performance and achievements of German libraries can be further improved in the future. The aim is to develop a model for the future structure of the library profession in Germany.

More information on the [BDB](#) website.

The organisation for [IFLA Berlin 2003](#) is going well.

There is a proposal for a new law for publishers and booksellers on fixed book prices. A minimum budget of €50.000 is required in order to qualify for a discount.

Italy

Anna Maria Mandillo reported on the EU funded [Minerva](#) project, supported by the Italian ministry of culture. Minerva aims to co-ordinate national digitisation policies in Europe and to establish co-operation between national programmes in the digitisation of cultural and scientific content. The project will run from three years from March 2002.

The 49th annual congress of the AIB took place in Rome 15-17 October 2002 with over 2000 professional visitors.

A report on the situation of libraries in Italy has recently been published (Rapporto sulle

biblioteche italiane 2001 a cura di Vittorio Ponzani).

The Netherlands

Jan-Ewout van der Putten reported on the implications of the recent fall of the Dutch government after just 68 days. New elections are planned for the beginning of 2003. The NBLC had been working well with the new secretary of state for culture and will have to re-build relations with the new government after the election.

The planned re-structuring of public libraries is now in danger.

Cuts in funding are expected at local level but no major cuts are expected at national level.

Norway

Frode Bakken reported that a new authority for libraries, archives and museums will come into force in Norway in January 2003. There is also a proposal for a new library law.

Portugal

Antonio José Pina Falcão reported big government budget cuts in Portugal which affect libraries. The national library, where a new Director starts in October, has taken a 40% cut. The network of public libraries is 50% national government funded.

A new law on legal deposit is planned and maybe a new law for libraries.

Library associations receive a training budget, which has enabled over 4000 library staff to be trained over the years.

Spain

Pedro Hípola reported that although most library activities in Spain are on the regional level, all administrative levels are working very hard for libraries including the national government. For the first time in November 2002, there will be a national public library conference in Valencia.

Publishers are organising a campaign promoting reading.

This is an initiative launched by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport as **Reading Promotion Plan in Spain 2001-2004**. The Plan combines a series of actions in different areas within the Ministry, which has allocated the necessary budgetary provisions.

The plan initiatives are being undertaken by the Ministry and under his responsibility, but in conjunction with other administrative bodies and institutions as the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces and the Spanish Associations of Bookshops and Publishers.

Publishers are also lobbying strongly in the implementation of the copyright Directive and a new collecting society for press cuttings has recently been formed.

Library associations in Spain are becoming weaker because the number of members is falling. This is worrying for the future development of the profession in Spain.

Sweden

Britt-Marie Häggström reported that although there is a new government in Sweden, the minister of culture remains the same. The cultural area has done quite well in the recent budget.

A report on archives and digital preservation was published in October 2002.

Lobby activities

14. Qualifications for librarians in a European context

The Commission has issued a proposal for a Directive on the recognition of professional qualifications (reference: COM (2002) 119 final 07.03.02)

Extract from Commission press release:

The European Commission has made a proposal for a Directive to simplify the rules on the recognition of professional qualifications to facilitate the free movement of qualified people between the Member States, particularly in view of an enlarged European Union. The proposed Directive would replace fifteen existing Directives in the field of the recognition of professional qualifications and constitutes the first comprehensive modernisation of the Community system since it was conceived forty years ago. A number of changes are proposed compared with the existing rules, including greater liberalisation of the provision of services, more automatic recognition of qualifications and increased flexibility in the procedures for updating the Directive.

The proposal is in the context of the Bologna process aiming at a European area for higher education by 2010 and the Bruges process, creating a European area for vocational education.

According to the proposal, all the regulated professions will be covered by the Directive. For example, doctor, dentist, pharmacist, veterinary surgeon, architect, nurse, midwife, engineer, accountant, tax consultant, physiotherapist, radiologist, psychologist, sports instructor, tourist guide, surveyor, estate agent, electrician and hairdresser.

Libraries are not specifically mentioned but other professionals can be included in the proposal. This must be done at European level through a European organisation. There is no time limit, but preferably Spring 2003.

[EUCLID](#) (European Association for Library & Information Education and Research) discussed the proposal at their conference *Restructuring and adapting to European standards: overcoming regional variations in needs and interests in education for LIS*, Thessaloniki, Greece, 16-18 October 2002.

EUCLID believe that while the knowledge base and practical competences are universally recognised, there are significant variations in the emphasis given to the different aspects. This arises from differences in social and economic activities e.g. in the different approaches to staffing school libraries. EUCLID therefore would find the "one size fits all" approach inappropriate and unacceptable.

EUCLID would also argue that diversity in the professions militates against a single national approval centre for all professions. Smaller professions, such as the library and information profession, could be disadvantaged as there could be a lack of understanding of the significance of the national provision in every field in each EU member state. EUCLID also fear that it could be slow to respond to changes in any discipline, especially in a discipline as dynamic as LIS.

Mogens Damm said that this initiative could be important for the quality of education in the future and should be prioritised in EBLIDA.

Berndt Fredriksson said that there is a discussion within the archive community on the definition of an archivist.

Antonio José Pina Falcão raised the issue of education at the Council meeting in Lisbon in 1997. It is important that there is not a two speed Europe in terms of training. Good education is fundamental to the quality of service, as well as for technical and ethical issues. One model is not desirable for the whole of Europe. EBLIDA should follow the Bologna process and should take up this important issue.

Anna Maria Mandillo said it was important that librarians were recognised as professionals and that the universities have good curricula.

Frode Bakken offered to contact Professor Ragnar Audunson, Hogskolen i Oslo, the new Chairperson of EUCLID, to start a dialogue.

Teresa Hackett agreed that EBLIDA should work together with EUCLID on this issue.

References:

Commission press release, FAQs, full text of the proposal, results of the European Commission consultation exercise on the future regime of professional recognition
http://europa.eu.int/comm/internal_market/en/qualifications/index.htm.

15. Libraries and the extreme right in France: progress report

In July 2002 EBLIDA received the Commission response to the Committee of Petition request for an opinion on the situation. The Commission recognises the important role of libraries. But because of the principle of subsidiarity, this is not an issue for the Commission, but for the national authorities. Therefore any complaints should be taken up at national level and followed up in the European court of justice, if necessary. The Committee will consider this response from the Commission, along with the other responses, and form their opinion accordingly.

No further information has been received.

As agreed at the Council meeting, a press release was issued by the Council supporting the EP investigation.

Claudine Belayche reported that Mr Bruno Megret lost the recent local elections.

See the [press release](#).

16. Libraries and European Commission Communication on lifelong learning Progress report

The European Parliament adopted the Commission's initiative on 5 September 2002 (rapporteur Van Brempt). The Parliament considered that the socially disadvantaged and other excluded groups should be the target for lifelong learning policies. Public authorities are called upon to develop local learning centres based in schools and other locations and also to develop common guidelines for the mutual recognition of qualifications and to take steps to recognise informal learning.

Since the Council meeting, official responses to the EBLIDA letter were received from Denmark, Ireland, Norway and the UK.

The Council agreed to send a follow-up letter to the EBLIDA statement on lifelong learning to relevant EU institutions for the Seville summit in June 2002 to encourage ministers to take libraries and archives on board as partners in the educational process and more significantly, to highlight that libraries are not just places like service stations.

Following the Council meeting, the focus of the Seville summit became the issue of security and enlargement and was not attended by ministers of culture or education. It was therefore more appropriate to address the statement to the meetings of European ministers of education, culture and youth meeting in Brussels 11-12 November.

A conference under the EU Danish Presidency on "Lifelong learning - Learning for adults in the 21st Century", Snekkersten, Denmark, 7-9 October 2002 was scheduled, although little advance information was made available.

Mr Bertel Haarder, the Danish Minister for Refugees, Immigration and Integration Affairs and Minister for European Affairs, gave a speech on lifelong learning, integration and democracy at a public library conference in Copenhagen (European Public Libraries - in Development Copenhagen 3.-4. October, a NAPLE conference) where he stressed the role of libraries as being a natural partner in the lifelong learning process.

The Commission website on [lifelong learning](#).

17. Issues

Commission review of the database Directive, August 2002

The European Commission is undertaking a review of the database Directive and appointed a Brussels-based Dutch law firm Nauta Dutilh to conduct a review. EBLIDA was invited to complete a questionnaire and to attend a hearing on 1 July 2002. A delegation from the EBLIDA copyright expert group made a follow-up visit on 8 August 2002.

Reponses to the Nauta Dutilh questionnaire were received from Austria/Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands, UK CILIP, UK SCONUL.

The following general points were made:

- the Directive has not resulted in a satisfactory balance between the interests of rightholders and users, compulsory licences are necessary;
- no evidence to support justification for the Directive that the sui generis protection would lead to greater investment in the EU;
- Directive has not achieved the goal of harmonising Community law concerning the protection of databases;
- copyright protection for databases has effectively become irrelevant;
- lack of harmonisation in sui generis right;
- introduction of the concept of a lawful user is a backwards step because under copyright law because it is the purpose of the *activity* that counts;
- unclear definitions - substantial/insubstantial part;
- unclear definitions - definition of a database is too broad;
- term of protection for databases is unclear.

GATS-EBLIDA statement & meeting with WTO, December 2002

Following the Council 2002 meeting, the GATS working group was re-constituted as described by Frode Bakken at the Council and met at IFLA Glasgow in August 2002.

A meeting has been organised with the WTO in Geneva on 18 December 2002. It is hoped that IFLA can participate.

Frode Bakken will speak at a conference on GATS and education & culture, also attended by Teresa Hackett and Britt-Marie Häggström. *GATS and libraries. Assembly of European regions, 2nd European Conference of Regional Ministers of Culture and Education, 18th October 2002. Brixen, Italy.*

The draft EBLIDA statement on GATS and libraries was presented. The Executive Committee approved the statement.

Click [here](#) for full information.

DRMS-EBLIDA briefing, January 2003

The European Commission workshop in February 2002 looked at the promotion of open, flexible and interoperable Digital Rights Management Systems (DRMS). Representatives from the content,

information technology, and consumer electronics industries, as well as user and consumer associations including EBLIDA, set out their views on how to make DRMS acceptable to all market players and how to bring about co-operation between them.

Since the Council meeting, the European Commission announced the workshops which would look at different aspects of DRMS: user perspective, technology focus, rightowners, collecting societies. The first workshop on user issues took place in Brussels in July 2002.

Harald von Hielmcrone attended the second workshop on technology issues in Brussels on 2 October 2002. The workshops will culminate in a high level meeting in 2003 attended by Erkki Liikanen, the Information Society Commissioner and Frits Bolkestein, the Internal Market Commissioner.

DRMS are extremely important in the digital environment. It is essential that libraries have a clear position and can play an active role in the development of first generation DRMS, currently being discussed in a CEN committee.

There will be an EBLIDA briefing in Amsterdam on 16-17 January 2003 for invited EBLIDA and external specialists. There will be presentations from experts on the legal, technical and political aspects (the latter from the European Commission) followed by a discussion on library/archive issues. The aim is to increase our knowledge of the issues and to formulate an EBLIDA policy.

18. PULMAN project: progress report & follow-on proposal

The draft PULMAN guidelines, including the EBLIDA guidelines, are on the PULMAN website and are now being translated. Dates for the national workshops have been set and Margo de Groot will attend the Swedish workshop on 8 November and Teresa Hackett the Bremen workshop in December 2002. EBLIDA will write an evaluation report on the outcome of the workshops.

The organising committee for the PULMAN conference in March 2003 met in Portugal in October 2002 to finalise the conference programme and speaker invitations. The new Portuguese Minister of Culture has agreed to open the conference and EU Information Society Commissioner, Erkki Liikanen, will give a video presentation. A sub-contract has been signed with a local conference organiser selected by the Portuguese PULMAN partner.

EBLIDA organised a cross-sectoral meeting in the Hague on 7 June 2002, *Developing scenarios for co-operation between public libraries, archives and museums*. There were 23 people present representing a wide range of European and international organisations from museums, archives digital cultural heritage. There were three topics: Developing the cultural heritage landscape, how can we co-operate and operational issues and scenarios for co-operation.

The PULMAN review took place on the same day as the cross-sectoral meeting. The result was good with no major changes are required.

The kick-off meeting for PULMAN XT took place in Istanbul in June 2002. A sub-contract with Helsinki City Library is being prepared and the first invoice for EBLIDA work will be produced in December 2002.

Follow-on proposal: sustainable PULMAN resources

In May and August 2003, the PULMAN and PULMAN XT projects will end. The project management, the Commission and the project reviewers are concerned that the great amount of work which has gone into producing the PULMAN resources will be sustained.

These include updating the guidelines, the country reports, maintaining the network, etc. It could be a suitable task for EBLIDA in future.

Item 18a. Co-operation with the Bertelsmann Foundation

In August, EBLIDA made an informal visit to the [Bertelsmann Foundation](#) in Gütersloh to find out more about their work and to discuss co-operation between the Foundation and EBLIDA. Andreas Mittrowann is on the PULMAN organising committee. The Foundation are solution-oriented and focus on best practices. Various scenarios for co-operation were discussed.

In view of the change of Director at EBLIDA, the Executive Committee felt unable to commit to new projects at this time. This will be reviewed when a new Director is in place.

19. Proposal for co-operation with KPMG Knowledge Advisory Services

KPMG Knowledge Advisory Services in the Netherlands (KPMG KAS) have recently published a report "From Caterpillar to Butterfly" which takes a strategic look at the future of libraries. One of the topics they deal with is the issue of copyright and licensing in future library service development. Although the PULMAN project was mentioned and the EBLIDA licensing brochure was referenced, EBLIDA was not mentioned.

Margo de Groot invited the authors, Prof. R. Tissen, Phd and Mr. F. Lekanne Deprez, M.A. in August 2002 to discuss the work of EBLIDA. There is a new library division within KPMG who are following new information trends. The meeting resulted in a good exchange of information and some scenarios for future co-operation were discussed.

As above, in view of the change of Director at EBLIDA, the Executive Committee felt unable to commit to new projects at this time. This will be reviewed when a new Director is in place.

20. Any other business

IFLA President Elect and Governing Board nominations (*B M Häggström*)

EBLIDA is entitled to propose and/or support nominations for IFLA standing committees, the IFLA governing board and the President Elect.

The Executive Committee discussed whether EBLIDA should involve itself in the process. After discussion, it was agreed that it is not in the best interests of EBLIDA to propose a nomination or to give support to any nominations. EBLIDA therefore will not be part of the nomination process.

This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

New European association EULISSA (*T Hackett*)

EBLIDA recently received notification of a new association, the European Law Libraries & Information Specialists Association, founded in the Hague in October 2002. According to the press release, the organisation aims to lobbying at the European institutional level, e.g. the European Union and the Council of Europe on the topics of licensing for European law libraries and the European copyright directives.

The Director reported that it is very important that the library community speaks with one voice in lobbying matters in order not to confuse policy makers and politicians with different views and to share our limited resources.

Teresa Hackett will meet in November with Jeroen Vervliet, the temporary President of EULLISA, based at the Peace Palace in the Hague to discuss exactly the aims and objectives and the relationship between EULISSA and EBLIDA.

New European association NAPLE (*M Damm*)

Mogens Damm raised the issue of a new association, the Association of National Library Authorities in Europe, founded in Copenhagen in October 2002. This raises three concerns: there is overlap between the statutes of EBLIDA and NAPLE; NAPLE plans to initially offer free membership and thereafter a nominal membership fee and aims to attract members from CEE countries; there is a

perceived conflict of interest for the NBLC as a founding member of NAPLE.

Jan-Ewout van der Putten replied that he was presented with a plan to create a European network to undertake research and to collate facts & figures relating to public libraries in Europe. This is what the NBLC agreed to support. In the meantime, it has become apparent that the purpose and aims of NAPLE are very unclear. The NBLC cannot be part of an organisation which is unclear about its membership and focus and will therefore withdraw from the association.

Klaus-Peter Böttger said that in his view, EBLIDA is a non-governmental lobby organisation whereas NAPLE is a government advisory organisation. If the members of NAPLE are government funded national library authorities, then this cannot be an „international non-governmental association“ as stated in the statutes. In this case, NAPLE is an international governmental association.

In addition, NAPLE cannot be an association for the whole of Europe because there is no national authority in some countries e.g. in Germany, Austria and Spain.

The national library authority in Spain is the Sub directorate General for Library Coordination, which is an administrative unit that reports to the Directorate General of Books, Archives and Libraries, a division of the Secretariat of State of Culture at the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport.

Through the Sub directorate General for Library Coordination, the Directorate General of Books, Archives and Libraries implements the Ministry of Education and Culture's library policy, including nation-wide policy programmes aimed at the development and coordination of different types of libraries in Spain.

The Directorate General of Books, Archives and Libraries is therefore the main Spanish administrative body concerned with library issues and the point of reference within the State administration for all the administrations, institutions, groups and agents involved in the Spanish library sector, ranging from the governing bodies of regional library systems, through the different networks of specialised libraries or professional associations, to the colleges and schools of higher education that teach librarianship and documentation courses.

The main policies of the Sub directorate General for Library Coordination are directed at the development and coordination of the Spanish library sector, the promotion of international relations concerning libraries, the establishment, equipment and promotion of State Public Libraries and the preparation of the National Union Catalogue of the Bibliographic Heritage.

21. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place in Angers, France on 14 February 2003.

22. Closure

Britt-Marie Häggström thanked the Executive Committee for their contributions.

Appendix 1**Appendix 1.1****EBLIDA membership contributions (Euro) by country 2002**

Country	No Full	Full member income	No Associate	Associate member income	Sponsors	Total
Austria	2	2.380	--	--	--	2.380
Belgium	3	3.570	10	3.800	--	7.370
Bulgaria	--	--	1	380	--	380
Croatia	--	--	2	760	--	760
Denmark	6	12.830	13	4.940	480	18.250
Finland	4	5.025	6	2.280	--	7.305
France	5	10.225	3	1.140	--	11.365
Germany	1	4.760	11	4.180	--	8.940
Greece	--	--	1	380	--	380
Hungary	--	--	4	1.520	--	1.520
Iceland	1	465	--	--	--	465
Ireland	1	465	5	1.900	--	2.365
Italy	1	2.180	4	1.520	--	3.700
Luxembourg	--	--	1	380	--	380
Macedonia	--	--	1	380	--	380
Netherlands	4	8.595	7	2.660	480	11.735
Norway	1	3.115	9	3.420	--	6.535
Portugal	1	1.190	2	760	--	1.950
Romania	--	--	1	380	--	380
Slovak Rep	--	--	1	380	--	380
Spain	2	1.655	4	1.520	--	3.175
Sweden	3	8.130	12	4.560	480	13.170
Switzerland	--	--	2	760	--	760
UK	2	7.875	19	7.220	--	15.095
USA	--	--	1	380	480	860
Yugoslavia	--	--	1	380	--	380
Total	37	72.460	121	45.980	1.920	120.360

Appendix 1.2**EBLIDA membership contributions (Euro) by country 2002**

	Country	No Full	Full member income	No Associate	Associate member income	Sponsors	Total
1	Denmark	6	12.830	13	4.940	480	18.250
2	UK	2	7.875	19	7.220	--	15.095
3	Sweden	3	8.130	12	4.560	480	13.170
4	Netherlands	4	8.595	7	2.660	480	11.735
5	France	5	10.225	3	1.140	--	11.365
6	Germany	1	4.760	11	4.180	--	8.940
7	Belgium	3	3.570	10	3.800	--	7.370
8	Finland	4	5.025	6	2.280	--	7.305
9	Norway	1	3.115	9	3.420	--	6.535
10	Italy	1	2180	4	1.520	--	3.700

11	Spain	2	1.655	4	1.520	--	3.175
12	Austria	2	2.380		--	--	2.380
13	Ireland	1	465	5	1.900	--	2.365
14	Portugal	1	1.190	2	760	--	1.950
15	Hungary	--	--	4	1.520	--	1.520
16	USA	--	--	1	380	480	860
17	Croatia	--	--	2	760	--	760
17	Switzerland	--	--	2	760	--	760
18	Iceland	1	465	--	--	--	465
19	Bulgaria	--	--	1	380	--	380
19	Greece	--	--	1	380	--	380
19	Luxembourg	--	--	1	380	--	380
19	Macedonia	--	--	1	380	--	380
19	Romania	--	--	1	380	--	380
19	Slovak Rep	--	--	1	380	--	380
19	Yugoslavia		--	1	380	--	380
	Total	37	72.460	121	45.980	1.920	120.360

Appendix 2

EBLIDA Executive Committee, Term 2001 - 2003

President		First term	Second term	Eligible for re-election 2003
BM Häggström		---	Yes	No
Representative	Member	First term	Second term	Eligible for re-election 2003
Frode Bakken	Norwegian LA	Yes	---	Yes
Claudine Belayche	ABF	Yes	---	Yes
Klaus-Peter Böttger	BDB	Yes	---	Yes
Mogens Damm	DBF	---	Yes	No
Berndt Fredriksson	Svenska Arkivsamfundet	Yes	---	Yes
Arja Riitta Haarala	Fin Res LA	---	Yes	No
Pedro Hípola	FESABID	Y	---	Yes
Anna Maria Mandillo	AIB	Yes	---	Yes
António José De Pina Falcão	BAD	Yes	---	Yes
Jan-Ewout van der Putten	NBLC	---	Yes	No

