



# Draft Minutes

## Executive Committee meeting

### The Hague, Netherlands, 8 May 2008

These Minutes have been approved by the EBLIDA President.

**Chair:** Gerald Leitner

**Participants:** Karin Åstrøm Iko, Toby Bainton, Andrew Cranfield, Pernille Drost, Saara Ihämäki, Gerald Leitner, Barbara Lison, Jill Martin, Gloria Pérez-Salmerón, António José Pina Falcão, Bas Savenije and Carla Sotgiu

#### **1. Opening and announcements**

Gerald Leitner (GL) opened the Executive Committee meeting and welcomed everyone, especially Gloria Pérez-Salmerón (GP-S) as the new representative of FESABID on the EBLIDA Executive Committee, hoping that she would enjoy the work of EBLIDA. GL also thanked Pedro Hípola for all his work for EBLIDA and his commitment to the organisation over the years.

There were no apologies for absence.

#### **2. Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was approved. Barbara Lison (BL) raised the question of membership and voting rights, which had been raised at the last meeting of the EC in Bordeaux. GL suggested that this item be discussed under AOB.

#### **3. Approval Draft Minutes Executive Committee meeting Bordeaux, February - March 2008**

BL pointed out that on p. 2 – item 5.3 paragraph 5 it should say BL (Barbara Lison) and not BS (Bas Savenije). On p.5, item 6 the comments in italics were deleted.

#### **4. Annual Council Meeting 2008, Status**

Andrew Cranfield gave a short status about the arrangements for the Council meeting at the Peace Palace Library and the joint conference on Friday at the Amsterdam Public Library.

BL referred to the Council minutes from Reykjavík and said that she wanted to raise a point about the establishment and formation of an expert group on culture.

GL suggested that item 4 of the Council agenda (EBLIDA Annual report 2007) be discussed after item 6A (discussion of the EBLIDA KIC).

The EC went through the Council agenda, discussing the various agenda items.



## **5. Financial statement 2007 (final)**

EBLIDA's treasurer, Bas Savenije (BS), gave a report on the financial statement 2007 from the accountants, Bouwer and Officier and that the net result for 2007 amounted to EURO 12.775 which has been added to the capital.

The two workshops and the fact that no funds had been used for temporary employees and legal advice had contributed to the positive result for EBLIDA. Staff salaries were slightly higher than anticipated due to the agreement of a bonus for the director and the annual wage increase for the staff at the secretariat. The figures for accountancy are also higher than the original budget and this is down to the fact that Bouwer and Officier have taken over the bookkeeping for EBLIDA.

Uncollectible debts from 2005, 2006 and 2007 amounting to 12.148 EURO have been deducted from the balance sheet as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007.

## **6. Revised budget 2008**

BS proposed that the amount for temporary employees be increased to 10.000 EURO for 2008 as the contract of the director ends as of April 30<sup>th</sup> 2009 and EBLIDA should allow for an overlap between the employment of a new director and the end of the contract of the present director. BS added that funds not used in 2008 for temporary employees in 2008 could be transferred to 2009 and also that the draft budget for 2009 reflects the process of appointing a new director, as extra funding has also be allocated under temporary employees.

The EC agreed to this proposal.

## **7. Draft budget 2009**

BS presented the draft budget for 2009 which was approved with no further comments.

## **8. Reports from the expert groups**

### **1. Culture and Information Society**

BL reported from the first meeting of this expert group in Berlin on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April, and that the members of the group as this time were Hella Klauser, Marian Koren (who was not able to join the meeting), Karin Åstrøm Iko (KÅI), Aldo Pirola and Barbara Lison (Chair). Andrew Cranfield also attended the meeting and will act as the secretary of the group for the present. Hella Klauser was appointed as information coordinator for the group.

The group discussed that it was essential to focus on the European agenda and how are libraries defined in the broader context of cultural policy. Policy areas such as multi-ethnic society, free and equitable access to information and libraries as cultural platforms should all be addressed by the group and be aligned with the perspectives of the KIC.

Subsequently AC had contacted Rubina Afzal from the Copenhagen Public Libraries and Tuula Haavisto from Tampere and both have agreed to join the group. AC is also investigating the possibility of a Lithuanian member.



BL also informed the EC that EBLIDA had sent a letter of intent to join a European sector platform on access to culture, where the Swedish Library Union (DIK) will provide intellectual input with and on behalf of EBLIDA.

The next meeting of the group is scheduled for Monday the 29<sup>th</sup> of September in Milan.

## 2. Joint Expert Group on Digitisation and online access.

BS reported from the most recent meeting of this group on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April in Copenhagen, where it had been possible for all the members of the group to attend. BS had presented an example or template on the issue of open access, which could be used within the framework of the proposed KIC. Paul Ayriss from University College, London will continue to work on a checklist for digitisation activities and the other tasks and issues were divided among the members of the group.

Alistair Dunning (JISC) was appointed as information coordinator, while the position of secretary is vacant. Representatives from LIBER and EBLIDA will meet with the European Commission on June 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the list of recommendations that came out of the LIBER/EBLIDA workshop in Copenhagen 2007 and the two organisations are investigating the possibility of a follow up conference in 2009.

## 3. Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL)

Toby Bainton (TB) reported from the EGIL meeting in Paris on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of April. The 15<sup>th</sup> started with a seminar for a number of French colleagues and several members of the group gave presentations about various copyright issues. The EGIL have defined a number of key issues that the group will address and will attempt to formulate a number of briefing papers by the next meeting and outline the main European issues on copyright and information law, which can be used as an integrated part of the KIC.

The next meeting of the EGIL will be held in Italy on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2008.

TB also reported from the work of the High Level Group – Subgroup on copyright which was coming to the end of its work and has produced a memorandum of understanding to be signed by various organisations representing right holders, collecting societies, libraries etc. TB commented that EBLIDA had made several suggestions for changes to this document and while the final result is, of course, a compromise it is the recommendation of the EGIL that we can now sign this MoU.

## 4. Expert Group on Professional LIS education

The group held a short meeting in London on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April, but unfortunately the turnout was quite low. For the time being the members present at the meeting will look at the issue of the Bologna process and accreditation of qualifications across Europe.

JM will circulate a series of proposed dates for the next meeting of the group.

## 5. Expert Group on LLL and Education

Pernille Drost (PD) commented on her efforts to establish contact with proposed candidates for the group on LLL and education and had received some names from AC and JM that she would follow up on. PD was mapping out the issues that were on the European agenda.

There was a general consensus from the EC that it was important to define the framework for the groups and that perhaps for incoming candidates for the groups it could be hard to understand the exact nature of the work. At the same time it was important that each group have some autonomy to define the scope of their work. TB underlined the importance that those asked to join the groups truly represented a broad level of expertise in one or more areas of the group.

## 9. **EBLIDA Knowledge and Information Centre (KIC)**

GL, BL and AC reported from the meeting in Berlin with Birgit Stumm who has offered to help with the work of trying to secure funding for the establishment of the EBLIDA knowledge and information centre. Birgit Stumm outlined the various possibilities under the different EU funding programmes and she recommended that a project proposal should be submitted under the Grundtvig programme where there will be a call later this year. The EC and secretariat will coordinate with Birgit Stumm in the autumn on the formulation of a project proposal.

GL and AC would investigate inviting other legally recognised bodies, such as national associations, to join the project. KÅI thought it important to include the archives sector in the KIC.

The EC officially approved the establishment of the EBLIDA Knowledge and Information centre and the formulation of a European project to support the Knowledge and Information Centre.

## 10. **Report COMMUNIA workshop, Vilnius April 2008**

AC reported from this workshop which had dealt with different aspects of the public domain and the director had moderated a debate on the term extension for performance rights, which has been announced by the European Commission.

## 11. **IFLA Workshops**

As reported at the last EC meeting IFLA and EBLIDA have discussed the possibility of two joint workshops in 2008. The venue for the first of these on European copyright issues has been refocused to look at transition countries within the EU and is scheduled for Moldova on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of November (the conference will be financed with funds from the SIDA, the Swedish development agency) and will also include input from eIFL (Electronic Information for Libraries) who have experience in working with Eastern European countries. The Director will send out a more detailed proposal as soon as this is in place.

The second EBLIDA/IFLA/FAIFE workshop on data privacy and surveillance is under discussion, but will not be financed by SIDA funding, but will hopefully involve the support of the Swedish National Library.

## **12. EBLIDA/LIBER meeting with the European Commission**

BS and AC, along with two representatives of LIBER, will meet with the European Commission on June 2<sup>nd</sup> in Brussels.

## **13. Venue for next meeting**

The next meeting of the EC will be in Athens, Greece on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2008.

## **14. AOB**

GL and the EC expressed their pleasure with the new EBLIDA brochure which had been produced to coincide with the EBLIDA Annual Council meeting. All delegates (for the Council meeting and the Friday conference) will receive a copy in their conference material.

The issue of membership was discussed, not least the topics of voting rights and membership fees. António José Pina Falcão expressed some concern about the legitimacy of giving voting rights to associate members and posed the question of whether publicly government funded institutions could take a different standpoint than those bodies that funded them (ministries, local government etc) and that this could jeopardise the independence of an organisation such as EBLIDA.

PD said that she understood this point of view, but that she felt it was good to offer the associate members influence in the working of the association, but that there should be some correlation between voting rights and the level of membership fees.

AC had talked to IFLA about some of these issues and that voting rights for different types of associations and institutions with different stakeholders had not, until now, proven controversial.

GL suggested that this issue be discussed at the next meeting of the EC in November and that the director will prepare a paper outlining the main issues and different proposals by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008.

GL also underlined the importance of starting the procedure for finding a new director for EBLIDA in good time and that GL, BL and BS should work together to prepare a call for the appointment of a new director in the autumn of 2008. AC will send the last job advertisement to the members of the EC.

Carla Sotgiu announced that this will be her last EBLIDA EC meeting and that her replacement will be Aldo Pirola from Milan.

GL thanked Carla Sotgiu for her contribution to EBLIDA and wished her all the best for the future.

## **15. Closure of meeting**

GL closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their contributions.

