



Minutes of eleventh EBLIDA annual Council meeting Uppsala, Sweden, 9 May 2003

1. Opening and announcements

The President and chairperson of the meeting, Britt Marie Häggström, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to Uppsala and the eleventh EBLIDA Council, especially members from Bulgaria, Hungary and Latvia. Britt Marie Häggström introduced the new EBLIDA Director, Maria Pia González Pereira, warmly welcomed by the Council and thanked the EBLIDA Secretariat and DIK personnel for their assistance in organising the meeting. The President also thanked the Uppsala local newspaper, Uppsala University and DIK for their sponsorship.

Maria Pia González Pereira, Director, also welcomed everyone to Uppsala and provided some practical information on the location and other organisational aspects of the meeting.

There were no further announcements.

2. Apologies for absence

The secretariat received apologies of absence from the following members:

Arja-Riitta Haarala	Finnish Research Library Association, Finland
Jesper Laursen	Danish Union of Librarians, Denmark
Anna Maria Mandillo	AIB, Italy
Christina Stenberg	Swedish Library Association, Sweden
Alicia Wise	Joint Information Systems Committee, UK

3. Approval of agenda

There were two changes in the agenda:

- The reception to be held at the University of Uppsala at 17h00 on Friday 9 May will be hosted by Lena Marcusson, Vice-Chancellor instead of Mr Bo Sundqvist, Chancellor.
- Marie Häggström will not be present at the meeting on Saturday 10 May, thus Mogens Damm, EBLIDA Vice-President will chair the meeting instead.

The agenda was approved with amendments.

4. Approval of minutes Council meeting The Hague, 3 May 2002

The President reminded the Council that minutes, photos and other documents of the EBLIDA tenth anniversary were available from the website at <http://www.eblida.org/eblida/meetings/Council/council02/index.html>.

The minutes were approved.

5. Items arising from the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings on

- [Executive Committee meeting on 2 May 2002, The Hague](#)

No items to be discussed.

- [Executive Committee meeting on 25 October 2002, Vienna](#)

Item 11 Recruiting new Director February 2003

Teresa Hackett, former Director, left EBLIDA on 21 February 2003. She had been invited to attend the Council but was unable to attend. The President invited the Council to sign a card to be sent to her in appreciation of her work.

No further comments made.

- [Executive Committee meeting on 14 February 2003, Angers](#)

The President invited the Director to announce the amendments made by the Executive Committee at their meeting on the previous day.

All Executive Committee minutes were approved.

They can be consulted on the EBLIDA website at http://www.eblida.org/eblida/meetings/events.htm#executive_meetings.

6. EBLIDA annual activity report May 2002 – March 2003

The Director presented the activity report for the period May 2002 to March 2003. The report covers issues and topics from the past year, EU policy initiatives and programmes which affect libraries and cultural institutions, EBLIDA projects and promotion, EBLIDA

funding and finances. A hardcopy of the activity report was sent out to EBLIDA members and posted in the Council forum for information.

Issues and topics

The following topics are covered as separate issues on the agenda:

- Progress on lifelong learning (Item [12](#))
- Qualifications for Librarians (Item [13](#))
- GATS for Libraries (Item [14](#))

Agenda, Saturday 10 May 2004

- Digital Rights Management Systems (Item [1](#))
- Cultural Heritage and Culture 2006 (Item [2](#))

EU Copyright Directive

María Pía González Pereira briefed members on the EU copyright Directive, which should have been implemented into national law by 22 December 2002. Delays have arisen on the implementation of the directive. EBLIDA is monitoring progress across Europe.

The EBLIDA Copyright Expert Group (*see Appendix 5 of the Annual Activity Report, p. 51-54*) is to meet in Dublin on 24 May to assess progress on implementation of the directive.

Collecting Societies

Collecting societies manage the collection of copyright fees and license copyright material rights on behalf of right holders. EBLIDA submitted a written response to the European Commission to highlight the need for collecting societies to be transparent as well as to guarantee a clear payment procedure and an independent dispute resolution mechanism. No response has yet been received by the European Commission.

EBLIDA will keep monitoring the progress and informing members on further developments. A copy of the EBLIDA response to the Commission can be requested at the EBLIDA Secretariat.

Digital Rights Management Systems

Technical systems managing rights in the digital environment are known as Digital Rights Management Systems (DRMS). EBLIDA participated at a Commission workshop held in Brussels in 2002 and continues to be involved in the process to make sure that the users' perspective is taken into account and that DRMS encourage rather than block access to information.

EBLIDA issued in February 2003 a [position paper on DRMS](#) which was circulated to members of the Copyright Expert Group and to EBLIDA members. The position paper can also be found as *Appendix 1 of the Annual Activity Report, p. 39-41*. A hardcopy can be requested at the EBLIDA Secretariat.

See also Saturday 10 May Item [1](#) of agenda.

Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights proposed Directive

The European Commission presented on 30 January 2003 a proposal for a directive on the enforcement of IPRs ([COM\(2003\)0046](#)), which aims at harmonising national laws by means of enforcing IPRs and at establishing a framework for the exchange of information between national authorities.

EBLIDA will follow up the co decision procedure between Parliament and Council to make sure that the anti-piracy measures do respect legitimate access and that it does not affect current fair use definitions.

Review of Public Lending Rights Directive

The European Commission undertook a [review of the implementation of Council Directive 92/100/EEC of 19 November 1992 on rental right and lending right and on certain rights related to copyright in the field of intellectual property](#) (OJ 2002/L 346, p. 61 of 27 November 1992). Directive 92/100 should have been implemented by **1 July 1994**.

The findings of the Report from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee on the public lending right in the European Union (*16 September 2002*) conclude that many infringements have occurred during implementation. The European Commission has initiated infringement procedures against some member states e.g. Spain, France, Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg and Portugal (*16 January 2004*).

Review of Legal Protection of Databases Directive

The European Commission undertook in 2002 a review of the database directive (1996), conducted by Nauta Dutilh, a Dutch Law Firm. EBLIDA completed a questionnaire and attended a hearing in Brussels in 2002.

The results of the report showed that the directive has not achieved the goal of harmonising Community law concerning the protection of databases.

EBLIDA will continue to monitor developments.

The EBLIDA submission to the review can be found as *Appendix 2 of the Annual Activity Report p.42-44*.

Copyright Management for Scholarship - Zwolle Initiative

The Zwolle initiative aims at developing guidelines for university copyright policies and for agreements with publishers. EBLIDA chaired one of the workshop sessions at the second international conference which took place in Zwolle, Netherlands in December 2002.

Data Protection Directive

The European Commission held in September 2002 a [conference on the implementation of the Data Protection Directive](#) (1995). EBLIDA was represented at the meeting by Berndt Fredriksson, member of the Executive Committee. The conference was part of an open consultation in view of the forthcoming report on how the directive is being applied.

The directive has a direct impact on libraries as it is causing some problems in certain countries e.g. Sweden; however data privacy and protection have no major implications for EBLIDA.

The Frankfurt Group – discussions with right holder representatives

The Frankfurt Group is a platform for the different players in the academic information and publication field looking for consensus on key issues concerning electronic use of publications on libraries. Members include publishers, libraries, information centres, authors, rights organisations and subscription agents.

The Frankfurt Group met in June and August 2002 and January 2003.

VAT on electronic information

EBLIDA together with the Frankfurt Group has continued to focus on the issue of VAT on electronic information. A statement was issued in August 2002.

See *Appendix 3 of the Annual Activity Report, p. 45-47* for the Frankfurt Group on the application of VAT to electronic information services.

GATS and Libraries, Archives and Museums

EBLIDA and the WTO Working Group followed up during 2002 the issue of GATS and libraries with successful results. There are three main issues of importance to libraries: protecting the independent role of libraries, funding and cultural diversity.

Britt Marie Häggström informed the Council on her attendance together with former director T Hackett and F Bakken, Executive Committee and WTO Group member at a meeting in Brixen, Italy in October 2002. The outcomes of the conference resulted in the Brixen Declaration on cultural diversity and GATS. A paragraph on libraries was included in the declaration.

In addition, EBLIDA issued a written response to the European Commission public consultation in January 2003.

See *Appendix 4 of the Annual Activity Report, p. 48-50* for the [EBLIDA statement on GATS and libraries](#), November 2002.

See also Item [14](#) of agenda.

Cultural Policies and the European Convention

Article 151(4) of the EC Treaty stipulates that the EU must take cultural issues into account in all its policies.

In 1997, EBLIDA proposed a move from unanimity to Qualified Majority Voting (QMV). In 2001, the European Forum for Arts and Heritage ([EFAH](#)) launched a debate on the role of cultural NGOs and EU institutional reform (Intergovernmental Conference 2004). EBLIDA was represented at a forum held in December on the occasion of the debate on the future of the EU and the European Convention.

Moreover, the European Commission launched an [open consultation for the development of a future cultural European programme](#) from April 2003 to July 2003. The new programme will replace the existing Culture 2000 programme when it ends.

See also Saturday 10 May Item [2](#) of agenda .

Freedom of Expression - defending public libraries in France against the extreme right

In 2001, EBLIDA wrote to the European Parliament and the Commission, Council of Europe and other interested organisations on the situation of public libraries in southern France governed by the extreme right. The letter was also submitted to the Parliamentary Committee on Petitions who notified EBLIDA in February 2002 that it had begun an examination of the matter.

In July 2002, EBLIDA received the Commission response whereby it is recognised the important role of libraries, however the issue is to be dealt by national authorities following the principle of subsidiarity. Any complaints should be taken up at national level and followed up, if necessary, by the European Court of Justice.

No further information has so far been received.

Lifelong Learning, role of libraries and archives

EBLIDA wrote to national ministers of education and culture attending the Barcelona summit in March 2002 and the Council of Ministers meeting in November 2002 to remind them of the role of libraries in the debate on lifelong learning.

Furthermore, the importance of libraries as natural partners in the development of community policies on lifelong learning was

stressed at the NAPLE conference in Copenhagen in October 2002, during the Danish Presidency.

EBLIDA will continue to lobby to ensure that libraries are included as active partners in lifelong learning initiatives.

See also Item [12](#) of agenda.

Public Sector Information in Europe

NOTE: Directive 2003/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the re-use of public sector information was published in [OJ 2003/ L 345, p. 90 of 31 December 2003](#)

The definition of public sector information appears to be very wide and could include information produced by any publicly funded institution e.g. archives, libraries and museums. The main issues are continued access to information and keeping public sector information in the public domain.

In 1999, EBLIDA responded to the Commission Green Paper on Public Sector Information (PSI). In 2001, the Commission adopted a communication on the re-use and commercial exploitation of PSI. The proposed directive (2002) was debated by Telecommunications ministers in December 2002; the European Parliament approved its opinion at first reading on 12 February this year.

EBLIDA will carefully follow up progress of this proposed directive.

Qualifications for Librarians in a European context

The Commission issued a proposal for a directive on the recognition of professional qualifications in March 2002 to simplify the rules on the recognition of professional qualifications. The proposal has been forwarded to Council and Parliament for adoption under the co decision procedure. Librarians and archivists are not specifically mentioned but could be included in the proposal.

The European Association for Library and Information Education and Research (EUCLID) discussed the proposal at its conference in October 2002. Professor Audunson, EUCLID, was invited to attend this Council meeting to further explore the issue.

See Item [13](#) of agenda.

EBLIDA Working Groups

Copyright Expert Group (CEG)

The EBLIDA copyright expert group has eighteen members from thirteen European countries.

Issues on which the CEG have been active during 2002-2003 include: national implementation of the EU copyright directive; review of the database and the public lending right directives; EBLIDA position paper on DRMS; PSI directive; Frankfurt Group position paper on retro digitisation and the Zwolle draft principles on copyright and universities.

See *Appendix 5 of the Annual Activity Report, p. 51-54* for a list of the EBLIDA Copyright Expert Group.

World Trade Organisation Working Group

The EBLIDA WTO Group met in Glasgow in August 2002 during the [IFLA](#) conference.

A meeting between WTO and libraries took place in Geneva in 2002 and was attended by former director T Hackett, F Bakken, K Nilsson, BIBSAM and R Shimmon, IFLA.

A meeting had been organised to take place in April this year but then cancelled.

See *Appendix 6 of the Annual Activity Report, p. 55* for a list of the EBLIDA WTO Group.

EBLIDA Projects

[PULMAN – Developing innovative public library services](#)

The European Commission funded PULMAN project came to an end in May 2003. EBLIDA was responsible, amongst others, for organising a major policy conference in Oeiras, Portugal 13-14 March 2003. The conference, attended by 170 delegates from 41 countries, issued the Oeiras Manifesto to set out the goals for the development of public library services. The conference was very successful and the Commission final review of the project outstanding.

In addition, EBLIDA co-ordinated the output of twenty-six national workshops and produced two PULMAN guidelines: the public interest in copyright and legal issues in the technical environment.

See the [PULMAN Manifesto](#) also as *Appendix 7 of the Annual Activity Report, p. 56-59*.

[PULMAN XT](#)

PULMAN XT run from June 2002 to August 2003. EBLIDA is a sub-contractor to Helsinki City Library. EBLIDA is responsible for creating professional capacity for the digital era in the XT countries, which involves mediating twinning arrangements between professional public library associations and their European counterparts as well as defining knowledge exchange programmes.

EBLIDA Promotion

EBLIDA publications

The EBLIDA Secretariat produced 10 issues of [Hot News](#), the EBLIDA newsletter on EU library and information society issues and Update on EU development, which is now included as a centre page pull-out section. Hot News and Update were merged into one single publication in September 2002. The single publication is delivered in hardcopy and on the website one month after publication.

President asked Council to comment on the new publications.

No comments were made.

EBLIDA events and articles

A list of events at which EBLIDA was represented and of articles for publication during 2002 and 2003 can be found in the *Annual Activity Report 2002-2003*, p. 33-35.

EBLIDA Funding and Finances

Members and sponsors

Members

There are 38 full members and 116 associate members in 2003. Membership remains stable with one new full member, the Association Professionnelle de Bibliothécaires et Documentalistes ([APBD](#)) in Belgium and two new associates so far. Six cancellations took effect from January 2003. There are four basic sponsors as in 2002.

Membership invoices were sent out in December 2002. The payment response has been very good. By 1 April, 85% of membership invoices for 2003 had been paid. The director thanked members for their prompt payment.

EU Project Funding

CELIP final cost claim was paid to EBLIDA by the European Commission in October 2002. There are no outstanding payments.

One final payment from the PULMAN project is outstanding but expected in August. One first payment from the PULMAN XT project was made in December 2002 by Helsinki City Library. A second invoice is to be issued.

The director thanked the Netherlands Public Library Association ([Vereniging van Openbare Bibliotheken](#)) for their continued support in hosting the EBLIDA Secretariat. With this, the Director concluded the activity report. There were no further questions.

Toby Bainton, [SCONUL](#), UK and Mogens Damm, [Danish Library Association](#) thanked the EBLIDA Secretariat for their effort and wonderful job and the Director for an excellent overview of the report.

The EBLIDA activity report April 2002 – March 2003 was approved.

7. Financial report 2002 and draft budget 2003 - Funding and Finances

The Director introduced J E van der Putten, Executive Committee member, who reported on the financial situation for 2002 and the draft budget for 2003.

J E van der Putten thanked former director T Hackett for being a very good 'housekeeper' and the members for paying their membership fees and being loyal to EBLIDA. He apologised for any possible inaccuracies in the draft budget for 2003 due mainly to some changes within the personnel at the Secretariat. The budget for 2002 is rather accurate however as it had been prepared by the auditor Bower and Officier Accountants. There is little scope for changes within the budget.

EBLIDA costs for the 2002 Council meeting were higher than usual due to the tenth anniversary celebrations. There is also a small risk that income from the PULMAN project varies due to delay of final cost claim. A new member of staff will start as of May 2003.

There were no comments.

The President thanked J E van der Putten for his report.

The draft budget was approved.

8. Strategy Review 2003 – 2005

The President gave the floor to the director who gave a brief overview of the [strategy review](#). The new Executive Committee will review and update the strategy paper at their next meeting in autumn. Main changes of the review will focus on mission statement, p.4 and lobby issues. These changes will follow up recent EU developments.

Comments on the strategy paper can be sent to the Secretariat via [email](#).

There were no comments.

9. EBLIDA Work Programme 2003 - 2004

María Pía González Pereira introduced the draft programme 2003-2004 and invited members to comment. The draft programme is based on issues and topics with which EBLIDA is working and is related to the strategy review.

Issues and topics

EBLIDA will continue to monitor and analyse results of: national implementation of the EU copyright directive; the review of the database directive; the recently proposed directive on enforcement of intellectual property rights; management of copyright and DRMS, relevant to cultural industries. The director attended on 25 March 2003 a workshop organised by the Commission and will participate actively in the development of DRMS; continue dialogue with right holders and reach consensus on common issues (Frankfurt Group, VAT).

Other issues on which EBLIDA will focus are libraries and lifelong learning; qualifications for librarians; VAT on electronic information; cultural heritage, culture 2006 and cultural services in WTO and GATS negotiations, open until 2005.

The director mentioned [CALIMERA](#), a new project in which EBLIDA will participate, if approved by the European Commission and the open public consultation launched by the Commission on the Culture 2000 programme, which intends to extend the programme until 2006.

See also Saturday 10 May, Item [2](#) of agenda.

Marc Storms, [VVBAD](#), Belgium, asked whether EBLIDA would focus on VAT issues affecting only printed material but also other formats of cultural materials e.g. CDs.

Maria José Moura, IPLB, Portugal, asked whether archives would be participating in CALIMERA. The director responded that the project mainly involves local cultural institutions which also include archives.

Gerald Leitner, [BVÖ](#), Austria, mentioned a conference he attended in April in Athens. The conference addressed the main book policy issues presently pending in an enlarged Europe. The role of culture, a policy for books and reading and the production of reliable statistics in the publishing sector; lowest possible VAT rates for books were some of the principles agreed. Britt Marie Haggström asked for the Athens Declaration to be distributed to members. A copy is attached to these minutes as [Annex I](#).

EBLIDA Working Groups

EBLIDA Copyright and WTO working groups will continue to meet throughout the year. The WTO is to issue a position paper on the GATS agreement.

The director proposed that a new working group on cultural issues was set up to focus on cultural policies and cultural heritage. Those members interested in participating should contact the Secretariat.

Tommaso Giordano, [AIB](#), Italy, said that establishing a working group on cultural issues was a very good idea so that copyright did not necessarily remain as the only important lobby issue. Mogens Damm, EBLIDA Vice President, agreed with Tommaso Giordano and added that it was vital for EBLIDA to focus not only on copyright but also other issues e.g. lifelong learning, culture, GATS to maintain the organisation alive.

The director concluded that EBLIDA would not only give vital importance to copyright but to all library-related issues.

EBLIDA Projects

EBLIDA will continue to disseminate the PULMAN Oeiras Manifesto and networking; a website for PULMAN XT should be set up to promote twinning actions between library associations; a new project, CALIMERA is under review. Results of evaluation are expected in June. EBLIDA will monitor its development and the Executive Committee will assess EBLIDA participation at their next meeting in autumn.

EBLIDA Promotion

The strategy review to be implemented according to priorities set up by the Council and Executive Committee. The later will review and adapt the paper to new changes and development at their next meeting in autumn. A draft updated strategy review will be distributed at the next Council meeting for approval.

EBLIDA will continue to write, edit and produce at least ten issues of Hot News, including Update on EU developments, produce an annual report and further develop website content.

EBLIDA will keep writing articles, giving presentations as means of promotion tools as well as maintaining networking with other organisations. In addition, EBLIDA is to consider the organisation of a workshop on DRMS.

EBLIDA Funding and Finances

EBLIDA will continue to try recruitment of new members; the Executive Committee is to draw up a systematic plan to recruit archive organisations. Due to enlargement, a plan to encourage national governments of accession countries will be drawn up to facilitate funding for their national associations to become EBLIDA members.

Maria José Moura, IPLB, Portugal, asked how many archive associations are full members of EBLIDA. EBLIDA President said that there are currently three archive associations as full members, but other full members also represented archives e.g.. [DIK](#), [FESABID](#), [BAD](#).

Berndt Fredriksson, [Swedish Association of Archivists](#), said that he would make sure that dialogue with archive associations would be further encouraged and a strategy to recruit such organisation further developed.

Tommaso Giordano, [AIB](#), Italy, said that recruitment could focus not only on archive associations but also on other information-

related players e.g. information centres, documentation centres. Britt Marie Haggström mentioned that qualifications for librarians are quickly developing and broadening, thus documentalists in Sweden did not appear to be called as such but information professionals or others.

Marian Koren, Netherlands Public Library Association ([Vereniging van Openbare Bibliotheken](#)), requested that library associations of accession countries were contacted as well as those of the forthcoming Presidencies e.g. Italy, Ireland, Netherlands to launch library initiatives and library-related events. Examples of such initiatives had already been taken in some countries e.g. Denmark, Sweden. This would be a great opportunity for countries involved to promote their libraries.

The President asked how reliable the list of forthcoming Presidencies was and if there were any changes forecasted. Marian Koren gave her data based on information provided by the Secretariat. The Council is presided for a period of six months by each Member State, in accordance with a pre-established rota, unless a new Council decision is taken. A list of forthcoming Presidencies is available at <http://ue.eu.int/en/summ.htm>.

The President concluded that further work to recruit new archive associations would be taken up. The director thanked the Council for their comments.

The draft work programme 2003-2004 was approved.

10. Membership fees

The President gave the floor to J E van der Putten, Executive Committee member, who reported on membership fees.

J van der Putten said that EBLIDA may generate further income from workshops and sponsorship however, this type of income is not regular and so cannot be relied upon on a regular basis. The only reliable income is that of membership fees, which amounts to a small deal of money. The possibility of building up this regular source of income was further considered by the Executive Committee (see *Item 6 Executive Committee minutes of Vienna, 25 October 2002*) and seeks the Council approval this year.

Income is falling in relation to expenditure. Secretariat costs are increasing by 4% each year which means a net loss in income each year. This amounts to a loss of 12% over the last three years. There is no set procedure for increases in membership fees at present. Membership fees have increased three times since 1992.

J E van der Putten said that it had been decided by the Executive Committee to use the rate of inflation for the Netherlands (around 4%), where the EBLIDA costs are incurred. Council should be asked each year to decide this rate of inflation increase. The Council must approve each fee increase and oversee the increases.

This would be applicable to membership fees as of 2004.

Marc Storms, VVBAD, Belgium, asked if the increase was going to be applied to all different membership rates and on what basis this would be applied. J E van der Putten responded that this was the easiest solution as the annual non-profit turnover and inflation rates vary in each country.

Mogens Damm, EBLIDA Vice President, Denmark, clarified that the membership fees were to be raised; fixed prices that regulate the annual non-profit turnover depend on the country and it is not for the Executive Committee to discuss although it should be regulated.

Disa Svenskberg, Finnish-Swedish Library Association, Finland, highlighted that all countries have different inflation rates, also all organisations have different income, especially those of accession countries who would have rather low income. She asked how it would be possible to regulate the fee structure to ensure a fair contribution from all member countries.

J E van der Putten said that this had to be further discussed but the membership increase was a different issue which aimed at allowing a manageable budget to keep EBLIDA alive.

Claudine Belayche, [ABE](#), France, said that this should not be a problem as EBLIDA was doing a lot of good and valuable work with very little money.

Britt Marie Haggström thanked Council for their comments and sought approval.

The proposal to increase membership fees was adopted.

11. Elections of the Executive Committee 2003-2005

According to the constitution, the Executive Committee, excluding the President, shall consist of at least four and no more than ten full members of the association, subject to the decision of the Council and the President. The maximum number of candidates was nominated for election. Britt Marie Haggström asked if the Council was willing to accept the maximum number of candidates for 2003-2005. The Council accepted the maximum number of candidates and approved the nominations without a ballot.

J E van der Putten, Netherlands Public Library Association ([Vereniging van Openbare Bibliotheken](#)) was elected unopposed as President for the term 2003-2005 and thanked all members for their support. He received support from thirteen full members. There were no other nominations.

The [Executive Committee for the term 2003-2005](#) is:

Frode Bakken		Norsk Bibliotekforening (Norwegian Library Association)	Norway
Bente Bing Kleiva	<i>Substitute</i>	Norsk Bibliotekforening	Norway
Klaus-Peter Böttger		BDB	Germany
Barbara Lison	<i>Substitute</i>	BDB	Germany
Berndt Fredriksson		Svenska Arkivsamfundet (Swedish Association of Archivists)	Sweden
Tommaso Giordano		AIB	Italy
Anna Maria Mandillo	<i>Substitute</i>	AIB	Italy

Britt Marie Häggström		DIK	Sweden
Pedro Hipola		FESABID	Spain
Olga Saíz	<i>Substitute</i>	FESABID	Spain
Michèle Lemu		ADBS	France
Gérard Briand	<i>Substitute</i>	ABF	France
A J de Pina Falcão		BAD	Portugal
Teresa Fonseca	<i>Substitute</i>	BAD	Portugal
Disa Svenskberg		Finlands Svenska Biblioteksforening (Finnish-Swedish Library Association)	Finland
Saara Ihämäki	<i>Substitute</i>	Suomen Kirjastoseura (Finnish Library Association)	Finland
Finn Vester		Danmarks Biblioteksforening (Danish Library Association)	Denmark
Jakob Winding	<i>Substitute</i>	Bibliotekarforbundet (Danish Union of Librarians)	Denmark

The new elected President took the floor. He said he was honoured to have been a member of the Executive Committee for four years and thanked members for their support. He also thanked former director, T Hackett for her wonderful job and congratulated current President for her very useful input in the functioning of EBLIDA.

He handed in some gifts to Britt Marie Häggström, President and Mogens Damm, Vice President on his behalf and also on behalf of former director.

Mogens Damm suggested that EBLIDA try to bring members of accession countries into the Executive Committee in the forthcoming years to have an even representation.

Britt Marie Häggström thanked EBLIDA for providing her with four years of excitement. She believed EBLIDA was the best organisation in the world who had focused on copyright for many years but widened the areas of interest during the last two years. It is a small and very efficient organisation presenting good results. She was happy that many countries were represented at executive level and wished EBLIDA and its Executive Committee great success in the future.

Britt Marie Häggström also thanked Mogens Damm for his extremely good work with EBLIDA during ten years and warmly welcomed the new elected President.

12. Progress on Lifelong Learning

Britt Marie Häggström gave a short presentation on the role of libraries in lifelong learning.

In the European Commission Memorandum on lifelong learning, published in October 2001, libraries and archives were mentioned only once along with bus stations, without playing any role in the educational process.

Britt Marie Häggström referred back to a meeting she attended on behalf of IFLA in Hamburg in 1997, Germany (Hamburg Declaration, 1997) where there were no library or librarians represented. She mentioned the EBLIDA statement on lifelong learning which was sent out to relevant EU institutions for the Seville summit in June 2002 as well as national ministries and ministers of education and culture in November 2002 to encourage them to take libraries and archives on board as partners in the educational process and to emphasise that libraries are more than service stations. The EBLIDA statement had an impact on the Commission Communication.

She also mentioned the importance given to libraries as part of the educational process during the PULMAN Conference in Oeiras in March 2003 and encouraged EBLIDA to continue sending letters out until further action is taken by the EU institutions with regard to lifelong learning.

CONFITEA V Mid-term Review Conference on Adult Education, organised by UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE) and UNESCO Bangkok will be held in Bangkok, Thailand from 6 to 11 September this year. The conference is an opportunity to assess the development of the visions, processes and strategies articulated within the broader framework of lifelong learning.

There were no comments.

13. Qualifications for Librarians

Professor Audunson, elected member of the European Association for Library and Information Education and Research ([EUCLID](#)) board since 1999, gave a presentation on qualifications for librarians. He thanked EBLIDA for the opportunity to attend the meeting and talk about the recognition of qualifications.

His presentation was divided in three parts: a short introduction to the association, an independent European non-governmental and non-profit organisation which aims at promoting European cooperation within library and information education and research; an overview on the situation of Library and Information Science (LIS) qualifications and lastly possible ways of co-operation with EBLIDA on the related issues.

He mentioned EUCLID Conference 2002 on restructuring and adapting LIS education to European standards, held in Thessalonica, Greece in October 2002, which aimed at adapting LIS education to the Bologna Declaration; Bobcatss, an annual symposium organised by students and the forthcoming joint meeting of EUCLID and ALISE on 30 July and 1 August which will focus on challenges due to rapid and continuous changes to be faced by LIS-education that require research-based discussions to be handled adequately.

He referred to different experiences of accreditation and quality assurance systems as well as collaborative course development and said that the library educational sector in Europe was not harmonised or followed no standardisation, it is too fragmented. He believed that an accreditation system should be implemented in EU member states and suggested EBLIDA to follow up the issue and seek cooperation at European level e.g. a common European masters degree to facilitate not only recognition of qualifications but also mobility and transparency.

Berndt Fredriksson, Swedish Association of Archivists, believed that LIS and Archive education should be merged into one single curricula.

This is an important issue for Portugal. Antonio José de Pina Falcão, BAD, Portugal, asked whether it would be possible to find a solution at national level; what could be done to help bring different LIS degrees to a more similar curricula.

Pedro Hipola, FESABID, Spain, mentioned the CERTIDOC project, whose working group is currently focusing on curriculum development and asked whether EUCLID would accredit the individual or the curriculum. Professor Audunson said that this had not yet been decided at EUCLID.

Disa Svenskberg, Finnish-Swedish Library Association, asked if there are any special rules for LIS studies to be specialised.

Professor Audunson said that EUCLID had a vision to create a European Masters Degree and concluded by asking EBLIDA to develop a network-building and cooperation together with EUCLID in the field of European curriculum development. A EUCLID workshop to promote this goal will take place in 2004 or 2005.

The President asked where this European Masters Degree would be held and what criteria would be followed up to develop such course.

María Pía González Pereira referred to the proposed directive on the recognition of professional qualifications, currently awaiting Parliament opinion, and noted that co-operation with EUCLID would be of advantage to the library community and its professionals by means of including the library profession as part of the proposed directive. Currently, information and library professionals are not included in any of the existing fifteen directives regarding professional qualifications. She also asked Professor Audunson if this had been taken into account when developing a European Masters Degree.

There were no further comments.

14. GATS for Libraries

Kjell Nilsson, BIBSAM and Frode Bakken, Executive Committee member (Norway) gave a presentation on the [WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services, GATS](#). A service supplied in the exercise of governmental authorities means any service which is supplied neither on a commercial basis nor under competition with one or more service suppliers. Kjell Nilsson said that there was a lot of uncertainty when interpreting this clause. No answer has been clarified on whether online services would or not be open to negotiations, how to define classification when referring to online services. There are two different classification systems: the UN-based classification system and the WTO system based on UN-based system. Online services could be affected according to different systems.

All publicly funded services are excluded from the GATS negotiations, according to the Swedish interpretation which greatly differs from that of the UK for which only those services supplied by public monopolies are excluded. Kjell Nilsson was in favour with the latter.

Public services are open to negotiations under the Millennium Round with a few exemptions. Services cover twelve sectors in GATS; sector number 10 (recreation, culture and sport – sector 10c is libraries, archives and museums and other cultural services); sector number 2 (c-g) refers to communication services e.g. online information retrieval. When negotiations apply to libraries providing these services, action needs to be taken up.

GATS have an impetus in privatisation. Privatisation is affecting the higher education sector. Public libraries in general, online services, higher education would be open to negotiations if what is meant is liberalisation. Many countries however have exemptions and are open to competition due to national legislation.

The European Commission in its part, represents EU member states, receives the offers and makes the offers directed by member states rather than national governments. The European Union has not made any offers affecting libraries. There is no intention by the Commission to change this commitment

Frode Bakken gave an overview of the current status of work carried out by the WTO Group during the year. Members of the WTO group are: F Bakken, Co-ordinator (Norway), T Bainton (UK), K Nilsson (Sweden), R Rikowski (UK observer), L Ronayne (Ireland) and M P González Pereira (EBLIDA).

The EBLIDA WTO Group met with IFLA in Glasgow in August 2002 to raise concerns and organise top-level consultation with EU key contacts via EBLIDA. The meeting was the basis for a statement issued by EBLIDA in November 2002 (see Appendix 4 of the Annual Activity Report, p. 48-50). In addition, K Nilsson together with F Bakken, former director T Hackett and R Shimmon, IFLA met with WTO members in Geneva in December 2002. There was no confirmation that libraries are excluded from negotiations, it would depend on commitments made by member states. Austria and Iceland made commitments when WTO was first established. The European Union has so far made no commitments on Sector 10c.

Moreover, EBLIDA issued in January 2003, a [response to the Commission consultation on WTO members' requests to the EC and its member states for improved market access to services](#).

F Bakken said that there is no time limit in the negotiations process, it is a long-term perspective which aims at increasing world trade activities into the liberalisation process and at reducing national limitations to 0. He referred to the main points of the EBLIDA response to the EC consultation (*January 2003*) and suggested the following actions for EBLIDA to pursue as part of its work programme within the coming years:

- EBLIDA to send a letter to all its members together with the EBLIDA response to the EC consultation on WTO members' requests to the EC and its member states for improved market access to services (January 2003) and the EBLIDA statement on WTO GATS negotiations (November 2002);
- EBLIDA to urge national library and archive associations to raise these questions with their national governments. Some action has already been taken up by e.g. Austria;
- EBLIDA to request its members to participate in the process by preparing summaries, reports, facts, studies, etc reflecting how libraries can be affected, where does relevant money for libraries come from, which of the library activities would be exposed during negotiations and what actions are relevant to follow up. Then, a research paper reflecting these could be prepared;
- EBLIDA to organise a conference to discuss and analyse the results;

- EBLIDA to further cooperate with other interested players and organisations e.g. IFLA CLM, American and Canadian library associations to analyse facts, consequences and latest developments.

F Bakken concluded by saying that it is not very likely that changes occur but as it is an ongoing process, the development of the negotiations should be followed up and further analysed.

The President thanked K Nilsson and F Bakken for their presentation

There were no questions.

15. Close

President informed the Council of her absence on 10 May and introduced our Swedish member of the Executive Committee, Berndt Fredriksson who will lead the Ingmar Bergman tour on Saturday 10 May.

Mogens Damm, Vice President, thanked Britt Marie Haggström for chairing the meeting and the DIK for hosting the meeting and organised the social events. He will chair the meeting the following day. President thanked delegates for their participation.

The meeting was closed at 17h00.



Special presentation by Mrs Lena Hjelm Wallen, representative of Swedish Government to the [European Convention - Debate on the Future of Europe](#)

Britt Marie Haggström gave the floor to special guest, Mrs Lena Hjelm Wallen, representative of Swedish Government to the European Convention - debate on the Future of Europe who gave a short introduction to the work of the Convention and in particular, to Swedish latest developments in Europe.

She noted that the work of the Convention is focused in particular on filling out the gap between ordinary citizens and decision makers. The issues most discussed are the role of the Council and Commission, foreign and security policies, transparency and Qualified Majority Voting (QMV) although she was not aware whether changes from QMV to unanimity would or not affect to cultural and education policies. Another important issue was the role of national, regional and local municipalities at European level and European Governance.

New competencies have been suggested however, it was more important to further clarify existing European competencies rather than adding up new ones. The European Convention will continue its work until June 2003; the Intergovernmental Conference should be held in 2004.

Berndt Fredriksson asked about the future of lobby organisations and civil society within the new Treaty and whether any results of citizens' satisfaction regarding the draft Constitution were available.

Grethe Rostbøll, Danish Library Association, Denmark asked whether Sweden would hold a referendum to join the Euro. A referendum will be held in Sweden in September this year.

There were no further questions.

ANNEX I

Greek Presidency 2003

“What future for European Books? Books and the Book Market in the enlarged European Union”

Athens Declaration, Athens, Greece, 10-11 April 2003

The participants of the Conference, namely more than 150 key actors in the European book industry (authors, translators, publishers, booksellers, librarians) and representatives of ministries and institutions involved in the book sector, addressed the main book policy issues presently pending in the enlarged European Union.

The following principles were agreed upon and are hereby communicated to the Council of Ministers, the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Cultural Affairs Committee:

- The role of culture in the European Union as defined in Article 151 paragraph 4 of the Treaty, namely *“the obligation of the Community to take cultural aspects into account in its actions under the provisions of the Treaty, in particular in order to respect and to promote the diversity of cultures”* should be actively applied within the policies adopted by the European Union and strengthened within the discussions on the institutional and political future of the Union carried out by the European Convention.

In this context, the cultural and creative industries and, in particular, the book industry, must find adequate treatment and a place within other European policies, such as education, employment and creation of new employment opportunities, the information society and new technologies programmes, competition rules, etc.

-The European Union must have a more ambitious policy for books and reading and should not restrict itself to the modestly funded Culture 2000 programme. It is essential to recognize both the cultural and economic significance of the book sector, which represents on the publishing side an estimated 20 billion Euro turnover in 2001 (i.e. higher than that of the audiovisual and the music sector), more than 25.000 booksellers in the EU, as well as more than 54.000 writers and translators represented in the

European Writers Congress organisations.

-The European institutions should welcome and enhance the production of reliable and comparable statistics in the fields of book publishing-including translation-, bookselling, jobs & employment, public spending on books, literacy, reading skills, reading practices and library lending statistics. Production of statistics is vital in order to show the importance of books in the European Society and to be able to support specific measures to be taken by the European institutions. Harmonization of the research activities can be ensured through the enhancement of the important work carried out by Eurostat.

-Specific action lines for "books and reading" have been drafted in the Culture 2000 programme budget in 2003 and should be retained. The programme should finance useful and valuable initiatives in favour of the promotion of reading and books, involving actors from the whole book community, including creators i.e. writers, literary translators and illustrators, publishers, booksellers and librarians. Actions concerning the cultural industries should be included in pilot projects. The above projects should also support the promotion of European books in the International Rights markets, through the participation in Book Fairs outside the EU.

-Translation plays a key role in the promotion and free circulation of ideas and literature within the enlarged European Union and should be continuously supported through both European and national appropriate programmes.

-Amongst the highest priorities for the European book sector is the promotion of reading. It is vital to finance relevant initiatives, mainly reading campaigns and programmes on reading skills. A specific European action plan of substantial investment in literacy would give the best long term return to the European Economy.

-Authors, publishers, booksellers, librarians and other stakeholders should be consulted in the drafting of the e- content and other information society programmes, as these programmes offer opportunities to produce and disseminate cultural content and they affect indeed the future of the book sector.

- It is essential, especially for the new EU member states, to find financing for education and training skills in writing, translating, editing, design, production and marketing of books and published texts in printed and digital form through the European educational and training programmes.

- An accurate and up to date definition of the "book", which will take into consideration that the crucial element to be protected is the content and not the form, needs to be worked out as such a definition would be vital for political decisions, like VAT rates, fixed book prices, intellectual property protection.

-The dual nature of books as both cultural and economic goods, must be taken into account, when commercial and economic regulations are at stake. It is important to recognize and leave untouched national and European measures in favour of the promotion of books.

In this context, books, in whatever form, should be taxed at the lowest possible VAT rate. National provisions on systems of fixed book prices, where they exist on the basis of the principle of subsidiarity, should be respected and not circumvented by other European regulations.

1. Digital Rights Management Systems (DRMS) - EBLIDA [Position Paper](#)

The Director gave a short presentation on digital rights management systems (DRMS).

The European Copyright Directive had to be implemented by December 2002. Since its adoption, the European Commission has been playing an important role in maintaining discussions with different stakeholders to discuss DRMS issues. A high level workshop was held in Brussels in February 2002. Four working groups were established on user perspective, technology companies, producers and publishers and collective management societies. EBLIDA has been involved in the process.

EBLIDA organised a one day briefing on DRMS in Amsterdam in January 2003 and issued a [Position Paper](#) in February 2003, which was approved by the Executive Committee at their meeting in Angers (*14 February 2003*). As stated in the position paper, a restrictive definition of a DRMS, which focuses on protection rather than management, may hinder libraries in managing access to their services.

EBLIDA Director attended a workshop organised by the European Commission which took place in Brussels in March 2003. At the meeting, special attention was given to issues such as levies, standardisation, security, interoperability, management, development and application of DRMS as well as the role of public authorities. She said that EBLIDA should take the opportunity and the commitment to make sure that the European Commission takes libraries into consideration when developing DRMS issues.

EBLIDA and its Copyright Expert Group will follow up and maintain dialogue with right owners through the Frankfurt Group and IFLA/IPA platform.

Toby Bainton, SCONUL, UK, stated that some important confusion arises when defining DRMS and technical protection systems which are two different things but really only one in practice. According to him, DRMS did and still do not exist as such. He invited EBLIDA to follow up further developments on this issue bearing in mind the two issues as separate as possible.

There were no further comments.

2. Cultural heritage and Culture 2006

The Director gave a presentation on cultural heritage, cultural industries and Culture 2006.

Article 151 of the Treaty of Amsterdam (1999) authorises the EU to support cultural initiatives and fosters the development of culture in the member states. Article 151 requires agreement between Parliament and Council (unanimity) under the co decision procedure and is being revised under the work of the European Convention.

Cultural heritage and cultural diversity are becoming more and more relevant to Europeans. In view of enlargement, the European Commission has recently proposed to expand the current Culture 2000 programme, which ends in 2004, until 2006. Culture 2000 programme is the only framework programme whose legal basis is Article 151 of the Amsterdam Treaty. It covers very general areas which reduces library and archives interest in participation. EBLIDA presented its views at previous IGCs and during preparation of

the Culture 2000 programme (See [Position Papers and Statements](#)).

The European Commission launched in April a public consultation which closed on 10 July 2003. EBLIDA has been invited to actively participate.

As a result of [PULMAN](#) and PULMAN XT, a proposal for a new project under the IST programme was presented to the European Commission by MDR Partners in April this year. [CALIMERA](#) stands for Cultural Applications: Local Institutions Mediating Electronic Resource Access. If approved, EBLIDA will be responsible for dissemination actions e.g. setting-up a website portal, networking. CALIMERA would facilitate and generate new forms of cultural and learning experience and ensure that local cultural institutions benefit from and contribute to facilitate access for all.

Because CALIMERA would give special attention to the needs of libraries, archives and museums, EBLIDA participation in the project would be an excellent promoting tool.

MEP Myrsini Zorba was authorised in 2002 to write an own-initiative report on cultural industries. The European Parliament Committee on culture held a public hearing on cultural industries on 22 April this year. EBLIDA director attended the public hearing however, EBLIDA did not reply to the questionnaire prepared prior to the meeting, despite being of major importance to cultural players. The Zorba report is to be adopted by the Culture Committee in June this year and by Parliament at their September plenary session.

EBLIDA will follow up the issue. The Director suggested that a new working group on culture was set up and invited members to make any suggestions and/or comments.

Mogens Damm, Chair, said that there were a lot of new ideas erasing to enhance European values and EBLIDA had a key role to play in the overall process of cultural development.

Claudine Belayche, ABF, France, asked whether the work of the European Convention was considering any changes to Article 151 and cultural matters. The Director said that there was no certainty that the legal basis for cultural matters would be changed under the work of the Convention.

Liam Ronayne, Library Association of Ireland, said that his association was very concerned with the development of European policies with regard to cultural industries. What comes from Europe is rather commercial. He mentioned the work of other organisations in the development of cultural democracies e.g. Council of Europe.

Tommaso Giordano, AIB, Italy said that it was very important to start up action at European level to approach the issue of culture with a more modern view and highlighted that the real problem to face was related to multimedia issues, concentration produced by the multimedia sector, plans of homologation by some countries e.g. America and the UK. He also mentioned the importance of libraries, archives and museums in promoting cultural diversity. He said culture should be funded not only at regional but also local level.

Jan E van der Putten pointed out that he was sensitive to economic culture, cultural market and cultural goods, so commercialisation of culture was should be by all means avoided.

Gerald Leitner, BVÖ, Austria informed the Council of the opening of a new library in Vienna which was located in a very interesting building (7,000 sq m). The opening was attended by 14,000 people. He thanked members who provided information on library buildings and asked for those interested in the subject to provide him with new ideas and/or further information on e.g. new libraries, new library infrastructures, library buildings, etc.

There were no further comments.

3. Any other business

There was no other business.

4. Next Council meetings

A J de Pina Falcão, BAD, Portugal, on behalf of his organisation and EBLIDA Executive Committee, invited members to attend the twelfth [EBLIDA Council meeting in Estoril](#), Portugal on 14-15 May 2004.

The Portuguese Association will hold its national annual conference in parallel and at the same venue. This would be a great opportunity for EBLIDA to promote itself among Portuguese associations. The Executive Committee will start working on the programme at their next meeting in autumn.

Liam Ronayne, Library Association of Ireland, invited EBLIDA to hold the thirteenth Council meeting in Cork in 2005 with the University of Cork as a possible location.

5. Close

Mogens Damm, Vice President, thanked EBLIDA for his ten years of cooperation, the EBLIDA secretariat and the DIK for organising the Council meeting and delegates for their participation.

EBLIDA President, J E van der Putten thanked Mogens Damm for his ten years of contributions to the work of EBLIDA.



ANNEX II

List of [Participants](#)

Gerald Leitner	Austrian Library Association (BVÖ)	Austria
Marc Storms	Flemish Association for Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (VVBAD)	Belgium
Vania Grashkina	Union of Librarians and Information Services Officers (ULISO)	Bulgaria
Mogens Damm	Danish Library Association	Denmark
Eva Hallund	HK/STAT Denmark	Denmark
Charlotte Rasmussen	HK Kommunal	Denmark
Grethe Rostbøll	Danish Library Association	Denmark
Merete Skovgaard	HK Kommunal	Denmark
Finn Vester	Danish Library Association	Denmark
Winnie Vitzansky	Danish Library Association	Denmark
Jakob Winding	Danish Union of Librarians	Denmark
Saara Ihamäki	Finnish Library Association	Finland
Tuula Ruhanen	Finnish Research Library Association	Finland
Disa Svenskberg	Finnish-Swedish Library Association	Finland
Claudine Belayche	French Association of Librarians (ABF)	France
Gérard Briand	French Association of Librarians (ABF)	France
Françoise Danset	Association of Directors of Regional Libraries (ADBBDP)	France
Klaus-Peter Böttger	Organisation of German Library Associations (BDB)	Germany
Livia Vasas	Association of Hungarian Librarians	Hungary
T T Þórarinsdóttir	Information-the Icelandic Library and Information Science Association	Iceland
Liam Ronayne	Library Association of Ireland	Ireland
Tommaso Giordano	Italian Library Association (AIB)	Italy
Andris Vilks	National Library of Latvia	Latvia
MP González Pereira	EBLIDA	Netherlands
Marian Koren	NBLC/FOBID	Netherlands
Carmen Morlon	EBLIDA	Netherlands
Jan E van der Putten	Netherlands Public Library Association (NBLC)	Netherlands
Frode Bakken	Norwegian Library Association	Norway
Maria José Moura	Instituto Português do Livro e das Bibliotecas (IPLB)	Portugal
A J de Pina Falcão	Association of Portuguese Librarians, Archivists and Documentalists (BAD)	Portugal
Pedro Hipola	FESABID	Spain
M L Martínez Conde	Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport	Spain
Berndt Fredriksson	Swedish Association of Archivists	Sweden
Britt M Haggström	DIK	Sweden
Kjell Nilsson	Royal Library - BIBSAM	Sweden
Toby Bainton	SCONUL	UK

