Introducing IFLA
Outline

• Origins
• Membership
• Governance & structure
• Activities
• Communication
• Advocacy
• The Congress
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Prague, Chicago, Edinburg (1927), Rome-Florence-Venice

Stockholm 1930
IFLA 2011
Closing ceremony, San Juan, Puerto Rico
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IFLA Congress, Durban, 2007
Photo: Sophie Felföldi
# IFLA Membership 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National associations</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International &amp; other associations</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutions</td>
<td>1037</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other institutions</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal affiliates</td>
<td>190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student affiliates</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1479</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IFLA Membership 2010

1: Europe 716
2: North America 265
3: Asia & Oceania 270
4: Africa 134
5: Latin America & Caribbean 94

Total: 1479
in 150 countries

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IFLA Governing Board meeting March 2006
Photo: Sophie Felföldi
Membership:

- Members in good standing constitute the General Assembly.

General Assembly:

- Members vote for 10 Governing Board members & President-elect.

Governing Board:

- Various committees & working groups
- Professional Committee

5 Divisions:

- 44 Sections (Standing Committees) & 11 Special Interest Groups
Governance & structure

• Section membership
• Standing Committees
• Divisions
• Governing Board
  – Two-year terms
  – Skills & continuity
• Executive Committee
• Advisory boards of core activities
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BSLA Workshop 2, Yaoundé Cameroon, November 2011
Photo courtesy IFLA
Activities

• HQ: support, coordinate, facilitate
• Sections: professional projects
  – Guidelines, standards & other publications
  – Training sessions & workshops
  – Programmes at annual congress
• Special Interest Groups
  – Programs at annual congress
Activities (2)

• Core activities: similar to sections but
  – More continuity & concentration
  – Areas of strategic importance
  – Advisory boards
  – Permanent office & staff (some)
  – “One size does not fit all”
Activities (3)

• Examples of core activities
  – Preservation and Conservation (PAC)
  – Action for development through Libraries Program (ALP)
  – Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM)
  – Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE)

See IFLA’s Annual Report
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Communication

• Publications
  – *IFLA journal*
  – *International cataloguing and bibliographic control*
  – Section newsletters
  – IFLA publications ("greenbacks")
  – Professional reports
  – Etc.
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IFLA delegation at WIPO
Standing Committee on
Copyright and Related rights,
Geneva, 2011
Head of Delegation, Winston Tabb, IFLA
President Ingrid Parent, CLM Chair Victoria Owen
Advocacy

• About
  • Freedom (of expression)
  • Fairness (equitable access)
  • Inclusion (Libraries in the Information Society; Libraries as agencies of inclusion)

• Presidential themes
  • Libraries on the Agenda! (Claudia Lux)
  • Libraries driving access to knowledge (Ellen Tise)
  • Libraries a force for change (Ingrid Parent)
Partners, interlocutors, opponents (sometimes)
Advocacy

• Advocacy for free and fair access to information through excellent libraries:
  • International forums: IFLA
  • National forums: National library associations
  • Local forums: Communities, LA branches
• Effective advocacy must be conducted at local and national levels
  • Build strong library associations!
• IFLA has set up small, professionally staffed advocacy unit at HQ
Brainstorming session, IFLA Congress, Seoul, 2006  (Photo Sophie Felföldi)