

Minutes of the sixth meeting of the SIGL Board, held on Sunday 9 December 2018 14:00 – 18:30, Frederick Hendrikplein 2, The Hague, Netherlands.

Members present: Gloria Perez-Salmeron (SIGL Chair), Deborah Jacobs, Inga Lunden, Christine Mackenzie, Gerald Leitner, IFLA Secretary General.

Member absent: Vesna Vuksan (excused)

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed the Board and Secretary General. The Chair informed the Board that Vesna Vuksan had submitted her resignation from SIGL because she was appointed to the IFLA staff. There was much congratulations for both IFLA and Vesna.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted.

3. Minutes of previous meeting on 22 March 2018

The minutes were approved as submitted. A question arose about the biographies discussed in the previous meeting and Inga Lunden stated she has now submitted her biography. These will now go up on the SIGL website.

4. Resolutions agreed since the last meeting

SIGL members reviewed the resolutions that were agreed upon via electronic communication since the last meeting. The three resolutions were:

- 18 May 2018: approval to change USD 1,000,000 from the OPP1177211 Grant (Data Grant) into EUR (after this conversion, an amount of USD 1,900,000 remains in the Dollar-account).
- 1 November 2018: approval to change USD 3,000,000 from the OPP1130098 Grant (Legacy Grant) into EUR (after this conversion, an amount of USD 16,000,000 remains in the Dollar-account).
- 1 October 2018: approval to add the positions for Accounting Assistant and Strategic Projects Manager into the Joint-Account Agreement between IFLA and SIGL.

5. BMGF – SIGL

5.1 Grant Agreements

SIGL members noted the closure of the Legacy Grant and the Data and Impact grant by BMGF following the successful completion of all grant requirements. The board noted the change. SIGL thanked Global Libraries for trusting IFLA and SIGL as well as thanked the Secretary General and his staff for their excellent work. Members recognize the importance of on-going oversight and remain committed to providing that.

5.2 Statutes SIGL

The Secretary General and BMGF representative Jacobs shared with SIGL the process they went through with the assistance of the Parliamentarian Martyn Wade and the BMGF attorney. The purpose of the review and revision was to simplify sections within the parameters of Dutch law, increase transparency as well as acknowledge the new status with the closure of the grant. Next steps will include review with IFLA and SIGL's notary.

6. Planning 2019

The Secretary General opened the conversation with a reminder that the work plan for 2017-2019 was detailed in the grant agreement with BMGF. This roadmap guided SIGL's work.

In 2019, having gained considerable experience from the work undertaken, IFLA and SIGL will take this experience and knowledge and move IFLA from vision to strategy and then to implementation. This is in keeping with the three phases of the original agreement: Discover and Launch 2017-2018, Implement and Amplify 2019-2024 to Grow and Thrive 2024 - 2026.

SIGL members then discussed the potential for the future, in keeping with what has been learned from the Global Vision and the more thorough engagement of the professional units, Governing Board and membership. The upcoming work to be undertaken by the GB to draft a Strategic Framework which will go to the Professional Units.

7. Finances

7.1 BMGF Audit

As discussed in March, the BMGF began a new process to monitor major grants. Due to the size of SIGL's grant, it was chosen. The firm hired by BMGF did a thorough audit of SIGL's activities and budget. SIGL's audit was unique among the organizations audited due to there being only one recommendation – that IFLA's Financial procedures be codified. The Secretary General reported this is underway. The board thanked BMGF and the Secretary General for the update and excellent results of the audit.

7.2 Bank Accounts

As discussed at the April SIGL meeting, in response to a recommendation following SIGL's last audit, staff investigated potential for using more than one bank. The SIGL Board agreed to support the recommendation to investigate opening an account at ING.

7.3 Forecast Q4 2018

The board reviewed the Q4 2018 forecast, noting variances and discussing them. Following discussion the board accepted the report.

7.4 Budget 2019

The board discussed the 2019 budget and budget approved.

7.4 Currency Change Policy

In response to the rapid variances in currency gain the board empowered the Secretary General to exchange up to USD 6,000,000 from the Legacy Grant into EUR if the conversion rate is at least 1.13 (budget rate) and up to USD 900,000 from the Data Grant into EUR if the conversion rate is at least 1.191. The board thanked the Secretary General and IFLA staff for the close monitoring of the currency changes.

8. Policy Plan 2019

The Board engaged in a lively conversation regarding the 2019 updated policy plan. As board members were aware, for 2017-2018 the Policy Plan and work plan were based on the detailed approved proposal and agreements with the Gates Foundation.

In 2019 the work and policy plan will be based on the experience gained during the past two years. Following the Global Vision efforts IFLA will be moving from vision to strategy to implementation. This effort is underway. In the upcoming years IFLA will continue to be present in the field with deeper emphasis on the regions.

The Policy Plan was approved.

There is much work ahead and the SIGL board expressed great excitement.

9. Any other business

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 18:38.