

Bulletin

Grand Opening

Iranian library and Information Science Association's Broadcast Incorporate with National Library and Archive of I.R.Iran

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UNESCO Memory of the World Register

Saleh Zamani | The 8th General Meeting of the UNESCO Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific [MOWCAP] was held from 29 May to 1 June 2018 in Gwangju City, Republic of Korea. The Asia-Pacific Regional Committee was set up by the UNESCO Director-General in 1998 in order to assist with preservation of and universal access to documentary heritage of the Asia/Pacific region, as well as to support the efforts of the groups and organizations active in the field in the region. This international meeting brought together many participants from 28 countries including: Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, South Korea, New Zealand, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, South Korea, Uzbekistan and Bangladesh. The meeting addressed and discussed a host of issues such as review of country reports, future plans, challenges ahead, regional nominations to the World Register, and the international perspective of Memory of the World. The meeting's ses-

sions were moderated by Mr. Li Minghua, MOWCAP Chairperson, Secretary-General Andrew Henderson and Mrs. Misako Ito, Advisor for Communication and Information of the UNESCO Office in Bangkok.



The Islamic Republic of Iran was represented by Dr. Saleh Zamani, International Affairs Advisor of the Head of the Iranian National Committee. In the course of the meeting, he presented a report on

the National Committee's procedure during the past two years for the inscription of significant documentary cases on regional and international registers. The MOWCAP National Committee of Iran

is a subsidiary (subcommittee) of the Iranian National Commission for UNESCO, and is composed of the representatives of all Iranian national heritage centers. It is located at the National Library Building.

iBulletin at a glance

Fariborz Khosravi | *iBulliten* (i: Embedded three acronyms: Information, Iran, International) a bimonthly publication, has been set up to present an updated report on activities and events in Iran related to books, libraries, and librarianship. While mostly focused on recent past activities and events, it also reflects important advancements in the field. Each issue of the Bulletin also includes a special section on addressing specific librarianship and information activities in the country. This is Issue No. 1 of the Bulletin, published both in printed and online/multimedia formats. An experimental Issue No. 0 was previously published in online format only. *iBulliten* welcomes your feedback, ideas, and practical suggestions to help us improve our work. Connect with us!

What I Talk About When I Talk About iBulletin!

Fatemeh Pazooki | In Iran, many activities have been carried out in various areas related to the work of The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), even if not adequately known at the international level. Well, this is what I figured out at the 81st IFLA World Library and Information Conference 2015 in Cape Town, South Africa. Prior to my presentation of our national report, Mr. Patrice Landry, the head of the Standards Committee, presented a colorful infographic report on the state of the then current activities in the field of library standards in various countries. Color 'gray' in the report denoted countries without available information in the area under review – which to my deep surprise, also included Iran. At the end of my report to the Standard Committee – which we consider as one of the most important and useful subsidiary bodies under IFLA - under the title of "Assessment of the Current Status of Iranian Public Libraries with IFLA Standards" - I presented a number of books, brochures, and manuals which had been published in the field of standardization in Iran. I also added that those publications represented only a small part of the quite wide-ranging activities carried out in Iran in the field; and just too bad that there was no trace of such activities in the infographic report. Can you guess why? Why was the Standard Committee totally unaware of our extensive activities at the national level? The answer is quite simple: because all our outreach activities, in-

clusive of governmental reports and bulletins as well as reports published in the mass media, are mostly – I could even say, practically exclusively - published in Persian, which is not an international language, not even an official UN language! In response to this sad fact – and I presume perhaps partly due to my report from the IFLA Conference and other similar critical reports by other colleagues – the National Library has recently decided to establish the International Relations Committee of the Iranian Library and Information Association. And interestingly enough, I happen to be in charge of the newly-established Committee! Given this background and with the Committee in place – though not yet up and running - we hope to pull our existing capabilities together and to improve the state of international liaison and cooperation between Iran's Library and Information Society (LIS) and its counterparts in other countries, and of course, with IFLA and its bodies. We have been trying in the meantime to gather information on various librarianship activities at the national level, to be translated into English subsequently and finally to be made publicly accessible on the Association Website. This, we believe and hope, will help provide our intended interlocutors at the international level with a relatively good picture of our work and activities – and achievements – in this field. And not to mention the hope that the 'gray' area in future anymore. And this is exactly what I mean by the *iBulliten* we are trying to produce.

ILISA Assessment result: Grade A

The Iranian Library and Information Science Association (ILISA) has received Grade A in the relevant annual assessment by the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT). As reported by Secretary of ILISA Planning and Continuous Improvement Committee (IPCIC), ILISA, with a score of 1080 out of a maximum score of 1500, has received Grade A for the 4th consecutive year among around

380 scientific associations in the country. A technical committee in the Ministry evaluates the performance of all scientific associations in the country based on a set of criteria. ILISA's score this year represents the highest level of achievement so far, and its further improvement in the years ahead could accord it a better status, at both national and international levels.

Let's Go to the 4th National Library and Information Science Congress

Iranian Library and Information Congress, held annually by the Iranian Library Society in Tehran since 2015, is an event intended to bring together professors, experts and professionals in the field of library and information science from across the country. The Congress has addressed the following themes and areas thus far:

- 1st Congress (2015): Information and Society: Libraries, Archives, and Museums' Services for National Development, November 7-8, 2015;
- 2nd Congress (2016): Open Access to Information in the Charter on Citizens' Rights, November 5-6, 2016; and
- 3rd Congress (2017): Preservation and Dissemination of Written and Digital Heritage, November 5-6, 2017.

The 4th Congress [November 2018: Tehran], with the theme of "Academic Education: Empowering Staff, and Career Dynamics", is



Iran Public Libraries Standards

Faramarz Masoudi | Developing standards for Iran's public libraries is among the important programs launched for the first time by the Library and Information Science Association of Iran (ILISA). The Program calls on LISAI to develop appropriate standards for public libraries across the country. Iran Public Libraries Foundation (IPLF) – a public institution financed by the regular governmental budget - is responsible for establishing, renovating, financing, governing, and promoting public libraries at the national level. The Foundation is tasked to finance the entire program, which started in October 2017, and is expected to be completed in 14 months. The program comprises 7 phases, 5 of which have already been completed. In the second phase, all relevant national, regional, and international

major instruments and documents (including UN documents, e.g., SDGs) have been studied in order to extract and formulate the necessary provisions with regard to the mission, functions, and goals of Iran's public libraries. In so far as SDGs are concerned, the main objective is to standardize the processes and services of the country's public libraries – already a work in progress. As part of the Program, relevant stakeholders have been identified and the data for around 11000 public libraries at the national level have been gathered. Moreover, 12 expert meetings at various levels, inclusive of a nation-wide roundtable, have been held to assist the process. The Program, as per the agreement between ILISA and IFLA, enjoys the support and endorsement of the IFLA International Advocacy Program (IAP).