

FIPLV WORLD COUNCIL MEETING
Reykjavik - Iceland
19-20 June 2010

Minutes

Present

Sigurborg Jónsdóttir	Nordic Baltic Region (NBR)
Terry Lamb	FIPLV President
Paolo Balboni	FIPLV Vice President
Denis Cunningham	FIPLV Secretary General
Kirsti Santaholma	FIPLV Treasurer General

Language Used: **English**

1 Formalities

1.1 Welcome and Introductions

The President welcomed everybody and thanked all for attending the World Council meeting.

1.2 Languages to Be Used During the Meeting

The President iterated that it was the philosophy and policy of FIPLV that everyone should feel free to use the languages of choice. Interpreting was available, when necessary.

1.3 Apologies

Cecilia Odé (MAPRYAL)

1.4 Approval of the Agenda

The agenda as circulated was approved.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

2.1 World Council Meeting - Graz (Austria) - 1 September 2009

The minutes had been approved as an accurate record by email.

3 Business Arising from the Minutes

No items were detected which were not on the agenda.

4 Reports

4.1 Executive

The Vice President and Secretary General had prepared written reports, which had been distributed previously. These would be distributed to member associations with the minutes. The other officers tabled reports, which would also be distributed to members.

4.1.1 Overview of Activities of the Executive

The President spoke to the tabled report, stating that it covered the LACS Project, work with the ECML and other projects. The Vice President and Secretary General invited questions on their circulated reports.

4.1.2 Financial Report

K Santaholma spoke to her tabled report, stating that some members were experiencing financial hardship. As always, there was a need to increase revenue and reduce expenditure.

4.1.3 Approval of Accounts

The World Council approved the reports of the Treasurer General and external auditor.

4.2 Regions

4.2.1 Europe

T Lamb reported that activity was largely subsumed within European-based activities in which he was involved through the ECML and the European Commission, covered by the President's report.

4.2.2 Nordic-Baltic Region (NBR)

Sigurborg Jónsdóttir reported that there was a new Board, which would use the NBR Seminar to plan. Finances were sound although some members had not paid. The association in Denmark was experiencing a decline in numbers, especially in the lower primary level, and was anticipating a change of officers. LMS (Sweden) would nominate someone for the post of NBR Secretary. The NBR was considering a project proposal, perhaps in the context of Comenius. There was the need to be more visible, perhaps through Facebook. The details of the next conference were to be decided.

4.2.3 Other

None.

4.3 International Unilingual Associations

There were no written reports, so the following items were not discussed specifically: 4.3.1 AEDA (Arabic), 4.3.2 FIPF (French), 4.3.3 IDV, 4.3.4 ILEI (Esperanto), 4.3.5 LATEUM (EFL) and 4.3.6 MAPRYAL (Russian). The President reported that relations with FIPF and IDV were becoming stronger through the LACS Project.

4.4 Multilingual Associations

Reports had been received and distributed electronically prior to the meeting from: AFMLTA (Australia), ANILS (Italy), MLA (USA), PTN (Poland), SUKOL (Finland) and VLLT (The Netherlands). All reports would be distributed to all member associations.

5 Development of the Federation

5.1 List of Member Associations

D Cunningham requested an update on member details, where necessary. K Santaholma had sent reminders to those members who had not paid. The President had spoken with Nicole Thibault of CASLT (Canada), who was in contact with ACTFL (USA) on behalf of FIPLV. Discussions of the financial status of member associations led to a discussion of plans for action.

5.2 Promotion

All members of the Executive and FIPLV Regions were promoting membership with recent activity focussing on Austria, Estonia and Romania. T Lamb would draft two letters to be sent to K Santaholma for use in requests for payment by former members. T Lamb would also approach national associations of teachers of English, now that neither IATEFL nor TESOL were members. He would also ask member associations, such as SAALT (South Africa), to promote FIPLV membership in the

area to form an FIPLV Region. A seeker's fee could lead to a reduction in membership dues if another member were obtained. As it was learned that a national multilingual association had formed in Estonia, D Cunningham would write to Ene Peterson with copy to S Jónsdóttir.

5.3 Associate Members,

The President would approach members of the ECML Network to become associate members. This could be a reciprocal arrangement at no cost.

5.4 Regionalisation

D Cunningham had followed up with AFMLTA (Australia) and NZALT (New Zealand). Further discussion postponed.

5.5 Applications for Membership

5.5.1 Georgia (MAG)

The request for membership from MAG (Georgia) was approved. The President would write to them. He would use the LACS survey to obtain information on MAG's membership details and others.

5.5.2 Rete AIM (Italian)

The request for membership from Rete AIM (Italian) was approved. P Balboni would relay this decision and provide contact details to D Cunningham.

5.6 External Relations

5.6.1 UNESCO

D Cunningham had finalised and sent the FIPLV report for 2009. He expected to meet with UNESCO officials and attend a briefing on the budget for 2012-2013 the following week. The fee had been paid.

5.6.2 Council of Europe (COE)

FIPLV could not cover attendance at all scheduled meetings.

5.6.2.1 European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML)

Relations were excellent with the ECML, now hosting the FIPLV head office. T Lamb would moderate a meeting of national contact points on behalf of the ECML.

5.6.3 European Commission (EC)

Direct involvement was achieved through the LE-TPP Project, in which T Lamb was involved with Lid King. Covered under #4.1.1 above. T Lamb would speak to Lid King about further approaches and contact persons at the European Commission.

5.6.4 Other

None.

6 Operations and Publications

6.1 Strategic Plan

There was the need to be strategic, while launching something new. The number of member associations was reducing for a number of reasons, such as fewer teachers joining associations, economic rationalism and the competition of REAL. The LACS Project provided publicity for the ECML and collaboration with teacher associations in person and through the website. Further suggestions included FIPLV operating as a virtual clearing centre for articles, expertise and pedagogical advice to create a sense of belonging. Other technologies could be considered, such as teleconferences, Skype, and links to YouTube clips. The website could include a section for members only and a list of useful website addresses. The President reported that it had been difficult to produce the monthly LACS mailouts. P Balboni suggested that a regional presence could be harnessed, such as in Argentina, to mobilise interest in uniting teachers across languages and associations within an FIPLV Region. T Lamb noted

additional tasks for the intern to be made available at the ECML. The possibility of restructuring FIPLV was raised. This brought into question the logo, official documents and the possibility of the World Council meeting as a blog or wiki. P Balboni raised the exciting possibility of FIPLV hosting a synchronised, international conference over four locations (e.g., Helsinki, London, Melbourne and San Paolo) with ICT interlinks and use of videomail. T Lamb would meet with P Balboni in Venice to discuss and plan.

6.2 Website

The President approved the earlier advice on the website by P Balboni and D Cunningham. It was intended that the Executive meet with M Blomkvist during the NBR Seminar in Reykjavik. Over time, it was expected that the LACS website supersede the FIPLV website.

6.3 Brochure/Flyer

No action required.

6.4 Mission Statement

D Cunningham had updated information in the absence of the agreed considerable change. To be addressed under review of the Federation. There was no request for changes, but the meeting agreed that the Secretary General check the content for currency, make any necessary changes and distribute the (revised) version.

6.5 Rationale

D Cunningham had updated information in the absence of the agreed considerable change. To be addressed under review of the Federation. There was no request for changes, but the meeting agreed that the Secretary General check the content for currency, make any necessary changes and distribute the (revised) version.

6.6 Profile

D Cunningham had updated information in the absence of the agreed considerable change. To be addressed under review of the Federation. There was no request for changes, but the meeting agreed that the Secretary General check the content for currency, make any necessary changes and distribute the (revised) version.

6.7 Files

D Cunningham continued to collect documents to recreate the FIPLV files. Important documents should be scanned over time and placed on the website. Items from member reports could be shared.

7 Priorities and Activities

7.1 Collaboration of Teachers of Languages

Covered under the LACS Project (in #4.1.1) and #6.1 above. D Cunningham would send the report pro forma to P Balboni. D Cunningham would continue to ask members for annual reports. A synthesis of issues could be undertaken and placed on the website.

7.2 Linguapax/ Language Rights/Solidarity

A meeting of the Linguapax Advisory Board had taken place in September 2009. D Cunningham was a member of this Board and had prepared a report. He was also working with Félix Marti and Joseph Poth on the history of Linguapax.

7.3 Discussion papers

None.

7.4 Proposals from the World Council or Member Associations

None.

8 Projects

8.1 Language Associations and Collaborative Support (LACS)

Covered under #4.1.1 and elsewhere.

8.2 UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)

D Cunningham reminded all that FIPLV had agreed to build this into the strategic plan.

8.3 Proposals from the World Council

None.

9 Approval of the Report of the Activities of the Executive

The World Council approved the above report of activities of the Executive.

10 FIPLV World Congress

10.1 2012

D Cunningham had followed up the earlier expressions of interest from ALL (UK) and PTN (Poland), but had received no further information. The ECML Board had not supported the proposal that it take place at the ECML in Graz. The possibility was raised that it could be combined with the next NBR event/conference in Finland (tbc). S Jónsdóttir would follow up with the NBR and SUKOL (Finland), while T Lamb would discuss FIPLV 2012 with Linda Parker of ALL (UK).

11 Recognition and Tasks

11.1 Honorary FIPLV Counsellor

There were no nominations.

11.2 FIPLV International Award

The Secretary General provided background on the award and the nominations received. The World Council ratified the following nominated candidates, provided both had paid the current membership fee:

- **SUKOL (Finland): Sinikka Marila**
- **VLLT (The Netherlands): Christien van Gool**

Upon consultation, confirmation of payment was required of VLLT (The Netherlands). K Santaholma was in contact with VLLT re their payment, so would stress that payment was a pre-condition of the Award being ratified and presented. As the 2008 FIPLV International Award could not be presented to Natalia Gvishiani at FIPLV 2009, as intended, this still needed to be done.

12 FIPLV Finances

12.1 Notional Budget – 2011

K Santaholma spoke to the 2011 notional budget, based on that of 2010. The 2011 notional budget was approved by the World Council.

12.2 Sponsorship

Action postponed until after review of the Federation.

13 Future Meeting Dates and Venues

13.1 Executive and World Council 2011

The World Council agreed that its next meeting would take place in September at a date and location to be confirmed. It was proposed that the meetings follow a tripartite approach with the meeting of the World Council being sandwiched

between two sessions of the Executive meeting: ExCo/World Council/ExCo. This would allow preparation of the World Council meeting and immediate follow-up.

14 Any Other Business

14.1 FIPLV Timeline

D Cunningham requested that all send him details of conferences for publicity among members.