

BUSINESS MEETING

Business Meeting
Thursday 12 September at 10:30
Turkish Grand National Assembly, Ankara, Turkey

Draft Minutes

The President, Mr. R. C. Ahuja (India) welcomed members to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes of Business Meeting held at 6th Biennial Conference.

The Minutes of the Business Meeting held on 5 October, 2000 Tokyo were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Mrs. Sait Poh (Ruby) Cheah-Khoo tabled her report (Appendix A). In summary total revenue was US\$7,100.00 and total expenses US\$1,971.50 which, when taking into account the previous balance of US\$8,489.61, leaves APLAP with a balance of US\$13,618.11.

The Treasurer pointed out that bank charges were reduced considerably as many members are now using electronic funds transfer to pay their subscriptions. She encouraged all members to use this method.

President's Report

The President tabled his report (Appendix B). The President summarised activities which had occurred since the 6th Biennial Conference including:

- Distribution of the Communiqué from the 6th Biennial conference;
- Production of the report of the 6th Biennial conference by Mr. Horimoto and his colleagues in the National Diet Library;
- Requests for help from the Fiji Parliamentary Library and some responses from members of APLAP;
- Presentation of a plaque to Mrs. Boonruksa Chomchuen of the National Assembly of Thailand in recognition of her service to both the National Assembly and APLAP;
- APLAP Newsletter;

- The draft new constitution for APLAP;
- Offer from the Honorable Speaker of the Lok Sabha to host the next APLAP conference in India, and
- Thanks to all members and office bearers for their contribution to the work of APLAP.

Presentation to Mrs. Boonruksa Chomchuen

In her absence the President presented the plaque for Mrs. Boonruksa Chomchuen to Mr. Boonrueng Burapakdi, Director of the Academic and Information Services Bureau of the House of Representatives of Thailand.

Draft Constitution

The new draft constitution submitted by the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, headed by Mr. Rob Brian and the views /comments thereon received from members were circulated for discussion.

As the draft constitution was such an historical and significant matter the President announced that he would poll each member at the meeting. Members were asked to indicate their support or otherwise for the new constitution. The poll revealed that 10 representatives did not support the new constitution, one did support it, one left the matter to the decision of the Executive Committee and one abstained.

Dr. Karl Min Ku then moved the following motion:

"I move that this meeting is pleased to have had the opportunity to discuss the proposed new constitution but wishes to confirm that APLAP will continue to use the constitution currently in place. The draft constitution and the views received thereon will remain in our records for future considerations if required. Mr. Rob Brian and Mrs. Jean Chapman Mason are to be commended for their excellent work on the draft constitution."

The motion was approved with one abstention.

The General Body also decided not to re-constitute any Committee on this subject.

Election of Office Bearers

The President noted nominations received for new office bearers. However some nominations were invalid as those nominated had not indicated their acceptance of nomination, other nominations were for office bearers who had completed two terms and, according to the constitution, they could not stand for the same office again. Therefore, with the approval of the General Body, after calling for the nominations from the floor, the following office bearers were elected.

President : Mr. R.C. Ahuja (India)

Vice President (Asia) : Dr. Karl Min KU (Taiwan)

Vice President (Pasific) : Mrs. Jean Chapman Mason (Cook Islands)

Secretary and Treasurer : Miss Roslynn Membrey (Australia)

Communiqué

The draft Communiqué (attached) was approved. Members agreed that it should be sent to all member parliaments as soon as possible.

Committee on the Training and Promotions of Parliamentary Librarianship

The Committee on the Training and Promotion of Parliamentary Librarianship was reconstituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Karl Min Ku of Taiwan, Mr. Takenori Horimoto of Japan, was also elected a member. Other members will be appointed by members of the Committee.

Next conference

The President announced that the 8th Biennial Conference would be in India in 2004. The theme and dates would be decided closer to the time.

Closing

The President closed the meeting after thanking all delegates and particularly noting the kindness, generosity and good organisational skills of the staff of the Library of the Turkish Grand National Assembly.

APPENDIX A

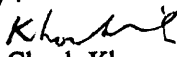
Association of Parliamentary Librarians of Asia and the Pacific (APLAP)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for FY 2001 and 2002 (as at 5.9.2002)

FY 2001-2002

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| A. BALANCE FORWARDED | US\$ | 8,489.61 |
| B. REVENUE | | |
| Institutional Membership Fee Collection | | |
| a) Developed countries @ US\$1,000 each | 6,000.00 | |
| b) Developing countries @ US\$100 each | 1,100.00 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| | 7,100.00 | |
| C. EXPENSES | | |
| 1. Gifts | 200.00 | |
| 2. APLAP reception in Ankara | 1,500.00 | |
| 3. Bank charge and commission | 171.50 | |
| 4. Miscellaneous | 100.00 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| | 1,971.50 ✓ | |
| Total | | <hr/> |
| | | 5,128.50 ✓ |
| Balance | | <hr/> |
| | | 13,618.11 |
| | | vvvvvvvvvv |

Prepared by :


Ruby S P Cheah-Khoo
Treasurer

Noted by:


President, APLAP

APPENDIX B

President's Report

The President, Mr. Ramesh Chander Ahuja reported on the matters and issues raised after the sixth Biennial Conference as follows:

"Distinguished Delegates,

I welcome you to this business meeting and thank you for all the cooperation you have extended to the Executive Committee in conducting the proceedings of the Conference so far. During the years under review, your Executive Committee attended to its various functions. I would briefly mention some of the items in this report. Soon after the conclusion of the 6th APLAP Conference in Tokyo in October 2000, copies of the communique along with letters from the President and the Secretary of APLAP were sent to all the member countries for their information. Our able Secretary-General Mr. Takenori Horimoto and his colleagues in the APLAP Secretariat in Tokyo brought out the report of the 6th APLAP Conference held in Japan which was circulated to all the members. I hope all of you have received the copies.

Request for help to the Fiji Parliamentary Library :

In May 2001 Ms. Veronica Qurau, Librarian of the Parliament of Fiji informed the APLAP that their Library had been severely damaged and all computers etc. had been destroyed during the coup there. She appealed to the APLAP for help in producing work manuals etc. and in setting up the collections. Prior to the coup, the Library had computers and was in the process of computerising its collections. The letter was addressed to Ms. Aurora, former President of APLAP, who forwarded the letter to all the Executive Committee members and to Dr. Karl Min Ku and Mr. Bruce Davidson. The Secretary-General circulated the letter to all the members requesting for extending assistance to the Fiji Parliamentary Library. We understand that some parliamentary libraries are in the process of extending help to the Fiji Parliamentary Library. Those members who have not yet responded to the request may consider doing so. No delegate from Fiji has come to participate in this conference. It would have been better if the librarian of the Fiji Parliament could have attended the conference and personally apprised the delegates about the present state of work in the Fiji Parliamentary Library.

Plaque

A few days back Mrs. Boonruksa Chomchuen sent a mail to the Executive Committee members informing that the name of the National Assembly Library of Thailand had been changed to be the Academic and Information Services Bureau and that she had been appointed an Advisor on Legislative System and that the new Director of the Bureau is Mr. Boonrueng Burapakdi. Following this, one of our distinguished colleagues, Dr. Karl Min Ku, requested the Executive Committee of APLAP to present a plaque of appreciation to Mrs. Chomchuen during this Conference as a mark of honour to her for her long-term contribution to the National Assembly Library of Thailand and for her loyal support to APLAP. The Executive Committee has considered the request and decided to present a plaque of appreciation to Mrs. Chomchuen on behalf of APLAP. The plaque would be handed over to Mr. Boonrueng Burapakdi for being given to Mrs. Chomchuen with our good wishes.

APLAP Newsletter

Four years ago the Australian Parliament Library agreed to publish the newsletter for APLAP. I have been advised by Roslynn that staffing changes made it difficult to produce the newsletter. However, Roslynn tells me that some changes have now been made and the newsletter will be published before the end of the year. Roslynn has also agreed to investigate the possibility of maintaining the APLAP web site

Constitution Committee

You may recall that during the business meeting of APLAP on 5 October 2000, the Chairman of the Committee on Constitution and by laws, Mr. Rob Brian had distributed a Paper proposing amendments to some provisions of the Constitution. The then President Miss. Simandjuntak proposed that the member countries write to Mr. Brian if they had any views in the matter and she had also proposed that the proposals about the amendment to the Constitution could be decided in Ankara in 2002. The Committee on Constitution was to be chaired by Mr. Rob Brian and had two other members, Mrs. Jean Chapman Mason from the Cook Islands and a member from the Korean Parliament. As conveyed by Mr. Rob Brian, the member on the Committee from the Korean Parliament retired before the Committee could consult. Mr. Rob Brian and Mrs. Jean Chapman Mason, with the help of her husband who is a lawyer, have drafted a new constitution for APLAP. Copies of the draft Constitution were circulated to all the Executive Committee members for their consideration. The text of the new Constitution was e-mailed and sent by post by Mr. Horimoto to all APLAP members on 3 September 2002

requesting those who are not attending the Ankara Conference to respond with their comments and opinions by September 5, 2002 and those who are attending the Conference to express their opinions and comments during this Conference. Mr. Rob Brian and Mrs. Jean Chapman Mason have really put in a lot of hardwork to come up with the draft in time for consideration by the members. The draft would be considered by the business meeting later in this session. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I thank Mr. Rob Brian and Mrs. Jean Chapman Mason for all the endeavours made by them.

Venue of the next APLAP Conference

Friends, so far APLAP has held 7 Conferences. These Conferences were hosted by Korea in 1990, Pakistan in 1992, Thailand in 1994, Australia in 1996, Philippines in 1998 and Japan in 2000. Turkey is hosting the present 7th Conference. When the matter relating to finding the next host was being considered, it came to the notice of Mr. G.C. Malhotra, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha. I may mention that we in the Indian Parliament Library are fortunate to have had him as our Director for several years. As many of you would recall that as the Director of our Parliament Library he participated in the IFLA and APLAP Conferences. I am very happy to inform you that on Mr. Malhotra's suggestion, the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Mr. Manohar Joshi has very kindly consented to host the 8th APLAP Conference in India in 2004. We would be very happy to welcome all the APLAP members - those who are present here and also those who could not come to the Conference - to India for the 8th APLAP Conference in 2004. The theme of the Conference and the month in which the Conference would be held would be decided later in consultation with the Executive Committee and the members would be informed well in time about this.

As you know the number of countries attending this conference is very less. It would be our effort to encourage as many more members as possible to attend our future conferences.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank all of you for the trust you reposed in me and the Executive Committee and also for the kind cooperation we received from each one of you during the last two years.

Thanks."

