Report on the First Consultation Meeting of IFAP National Committees

Moscow, 7-8 December 2009

A meeting of national committees of the UNESCO Information for All Programme was held in Moscow on December 7–8 (see Appendix 1 for the programme of the meeting). The meeting was organized by the Intergovernmental Council for IFAP, the UNESCO Secretariat, the Russian IFAP Committee and its working body – the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre of – with support of the Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation.

Taking part in the meeting were the chairs and representatives of 17 national IFAP committees – from Austria, Chile, China, Cuba, France, Germany, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Lithuania, Nigeria, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, Slovakia and Thailand, and of Moldova, whose IFAP Committee is being established (see Appendix 2 for the list of participants). English and Russian were the working languages.

Grigory Ordzhonikidze, Executive Secretary of the Russian Commission for UNESCO, greeted the meeting at its opening session on behalf of Sergei Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia. Ekaterina Chukovskaya, Secretary of State and Deputy Minister of Culture, greeted the meeting on behind of Alexander Avdeyev, Russia's Minister of Culture.

Karol Jakubowicz, Chair of the Intergovernmental Council for IFAP; Boyan Radoykov, Programme Specialist, Information Society Division, UNESCO Communication and Information Sector; and Evgeny Kuzmin, Chair of the Russian IFAP Committee and President of the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre were moderators of plenary meetings.

The Russian IFAP Committee and the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre had prepared a Russian- and English-language information and analytical press kit for the meeting. It covers the implementation of UNESCO Information for All Programme in Russia since 2000, and materials pertaining to the meeting agenda. The Kemerovo State University of Culture and Arts and its Research Institute of Information Technologies in the Social Sphere published the booklet *UNESCO Information for All Programme in Siberia* in Russian and English for the meeting.

The meeting was accompanied by an exhibition of publications by the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre, the Russian IFAP Committee and their partners.

The cultural programme of the meeting included a concert of Chopin, Mendelssohn, Brahms and Schumann by brilliant pupils of Professor Irina Shubina of the Moscow State Pedagogic University – Irina Levina, Inna Zakharova and Evgenia Sardaryan – all winners of national and international piano contests.

The meeting ended with a gala reception sponsored by Xerox Russia on behalf of the Russian IFAP Committee.

December 7, 2009

The **first plenary session** opened with presentations of the national IFAP committees.

Evgeny Kuzmin made a survey of Russian IFAP Committee work, and Committee members made detailed communications on its basic aspects. The speakers were:

- Vyacheslav Yudin, deputy head, Department of Legal Information, Spetzsvyaz of the Russian Federation – The Establishment of a Network of Legal Information Access Centres in Russia

- Irina Mironova, Vice-President, Codex legal information consortium – The Business World's Contribution to the Implementation of UNESCO Information for All Programme in Russia

- Nadezhda Zaikova, First Deputy Minister of Culture, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) – The Preservation of Linguistic Diversity and Its Development in Cyberspace: Yakut Experience

- Ekaterina Kudrina, Rector of the Kemerovo State University of Culture and Arts – The Kemerovo State University of Culture and Arts as the Siberian Heart of Implementing UNESCO Information for All Programme

- Natalya Gendina, Director, Research Institute of Information Technologies in the Social Sphere, Kemerovo State University of Culture and Arts – The Research Institute of Information Technologies in the Social Sphere as the Vehicle of IFAP Ideas

- Valery Ponomarev, Vice-Rector of the Kemerovo State University of Culture and Arts – UNESCO Information for All Programme in the Mirror of Arts.

Then followed presentations of the work and activities of National IFAP committees. Below follow (in alphabetical order) those country reports which were subsequently provided in written form.

Austria

Gabriele Sauberer, Chair of the Austrian IFAP National Committee, reported on the structure and key activities of the National Committee (NC) in Austria. The NC went through a restructuring phase in early 2009 in order to better address challenges concerning IFAP at a national level. Working groups focussing on the IFAP priorities have been established, new

experts from a variety of fields (e.g. media education, university scholars) joined the several groups.

In the beginning of 2009 a co-operation with „Reporters without Borders Austria" on the subject of press freedom was celebrated in the Austrian Parliament, for the first time under the umbrella of IFAP Austria. Future related projects are about to follow in order to add to the visibility of IFAP in Austria.

In summer 2009, the initial project of the Working Group on Information Literacy turned out to be a huge success. Several students of Austrian UNESCO schools, their teachers, and parents participated in a survey on information literacy. The goal was to understand how kids conceptualize and operationalize research activities for school work and everyday life use and especially how they resolve issues of credibility and relevance in the digital age. The high response rate as well as the great interest in the subject, articulated by students, teachers, and parents alike, proved the relevance of the subject of information literacy in schools. A publication of the project findings as well as other activites oriented on these insights are envisaged in 2010. Information Preservation as well as the Memory of the World Programme remain to be strong foci within the Austrian IFAP NC.

Chile

The Committee was established in March 2009. The main lessons of the initial period are two:

1) The key to success is the selection of participants. They need to be experts in the area, but also need to be committed to the work. With this combination the Chilean national committee can be a public expert consultative body that assistance in the consolidation of our national information policy. Also is very important to maintain and reinforce the diversity of its members. Mainly because there are no other working groups in Chile with these characteristics we have to preserve and increase the value of an instance that the government, civic society and private sector can work together.

2) The second lesson is that the basic definitions have to be well defined before the invitation is done to the members, and now we know how to do it.

Plans for 2010 are as follows:

- To write a statute for the Chilean Committee of the UNESCO Information for All Program. Its main role will be to serve as a meeting point for diverse stake-holders and thus creating a pool of expertise to help consolidate the existing knowledge as a basis for formulating advice on policy and its implementation.
- To create a web side to easily share information and communicate.
- In March to issue invitations to new members and present a plan to work the next two years. These activities will have at least one activity in each of the five areas of IFAP program (Information for development, Information literacy, Information preservation, Information ethics and Information accessibility) in order to have a broad view of the information for all challenges. The evaluation of how our national digital strategy is dealing with those areas is a pending question we should work.
- To have a more active role in IFAP working groups; we are especially interested in contributing in the Information for development group.
- To contribute to the creation of other national committees in other Latin American countries.
- To raise funds to support our activities that contribute to IFAP projects.

China

The national focal point of IFAP in China (recognized as such by MOST and China National Commission for UNESCO) is ISTIC: The Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China. It is the state S&T information center under the Ministry of Science and Technology. There are also 31 provincial level institutes, and more than 100 city/county level institutes, which are called local STIs.

   The two major functions of ISTIC and local STIs are to:

(1) Provide S&T information services to the public and
(2) Provide S&T policy decision support services to the governments.

ISTIC has a very long history of cooperation with UNESCO.

Major IFAP activities in China

ISTIC IFAP activities are focusing on two areas:

1.Research and investigation of National Information Literacy, especially the digital divide between the developed and developing regions.
   In 2005 ISTIC jointly with Indonesia counterparts applied for IFAP " Research on
   National Information Literacy Education of China and Indonesia"
   As a follow up, ISTIC hosted "Nationwide ILE staff courses". More than 80 people
   participated.
2. Information knowledge training in less developed regions.
   From 2003 to 2008, five IFAP training courses were conducted.
   Beijing (a poor county); Guangxi (Nanjing); Hubei (Yingshan); Shaanxi (Ansai and
   Yanan)
   These training courses are closely related to China government' poverty reduction
   program. Every year, some of ISTIC and MOST staffs were sent to less developed regions
   to promote the use of S&T knowledge and Information.
   In December 16-18, 2008, there were three days of IFAP training courses in Shaanxi
   Yanan on "The Utilization of Agricultural Scientific and technical Information". 80
   officials and technical people, including people from the local Department of agriculture
   participated.The feedback is very positive: "It is the first time we know how to get
   agriculture information from INTERNET". IFAP concept was also introduced to the
   participants

ISTIC activities related to IFAP mission

- Open access (MOST project, Chinese journals);
- Multi language Searching (MOST project, Chinese-English)
- Science and Technology information sharing (Science data etc.)
- Information professional training

The 2010 training program is in planning

The major challenges are:

How to effectively enlarge the influence of IFAP in China? We need to learn the experience from other Countries, especially Russia. And we need more guidance from IFAP

Germany

The German IFAP-Committee was established in spring 2009 as working group of the CI-Committee of the German Commission for UNESCO.

1. Budget: It has no own budget and shares the women-power of the secretariat for the CI-committee.
2. Members: The IFAP-working group includes high representatives of the German Commission for UNESCO, the German National Library, the Federal State Ministry for Culture and Media, the renowned scientific institution Hans-Bredow-Institute and the Public Broadcasting Network (ARD).
3. Activities:
   a. Already before the official establishment of the IFAP-working group, the German Commission for UNESCO started to work on the important questions of access. A conference on the implications of open access to publicly financed content was held and took place on invitation of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.
   b. The findings were published as "Handbook on Open Access", which was presented under the IFAP-flag in the WSIS follow-up UNESCO Conference 2008 in Geneva. The English version was co-published by the European Commission, and meanwhile there is a translation into Romanian and Chinese language. One of the most interesting outcomes of the debate about access and preservation in Germany is the decision of the German Government to develop the "German Digital Library", which will become part of the "Europeana".
   c. In the month to come, the focus will be laid on media literacy in form of a publication on Best Practices in Media Literacy in Europe. We plan to work together with the Broadcasting Regulation Institution and the international working group of IFAP on media literacy.
   d. The second focus will be laid on information ethics and presumably on the questions related to filtering the internet. In this field we work together with the Hans-Bredow-Institute.

Israel

The Israeli IFAP Committee consists of representatives from most of the sectors pertinent to IFAP: some government ministries, academia, business and industry sector, ICT associations and the like.
The main objectives of the Committee are to support the dissemination of ITC literacy among "less abled" population and to encourage the preservation of cultural heritage using digitization means. Some leading activities are:
1. Supporting the MINERVA Project of digitization of archives, arts and "old" newspapers.
2. Supporting conferences and activities aimed to reduce the digital divide.
3. Financial support to IPDC in UNESCO.

4. Participation in a number of research projects related to IFA objectives such as ELOST that was funded by the EU (see www.elost.org)
5. Convincing business organizations to contribution ICT products for digital divide reduction (e.g., Miniframe).

Ivory Coast

The Ivorian National IFAP Committee was created in April 2008. IT's made up with 26 members from ministries (Communication, Education, Culture,...) Universities, Libraries, Medias, human right Associations. Here is a review of some activities:

1. Working out an action plan 2010-2012 around three major objectives: Promote the program by pleading with Institutions, Organise the access to information for all, Organise the use of information for all
2. Creation of a collaboration platform www.cnipipt-unesco.org/extranet/ which should allow members to communicate easily. Website of the CNI.PIPT-UNESCO (www.cnipipt-unesco.org) is under construction.
3. Organizing a training workshop for Committee members to use the collaborative platform

In 2010 the Committee expects to organize a workshop of reflection and reinforcement of capacities of the Ivorian National Committee IFAP, continue advocacy with institutions that will lead to the creation of the National Day of Information for All in Côte d'Ivoire. Plans also call for the organization of a subregional workshop, with the technical and financial support of the UNESCO, to promote guidelines for development and promotion of governmental public domain.

Jordan

The 5 National Information Polices and Knowledge Strategies will be the guidelines for the IFAP committee in Jordan, to be addressed in the work plane for the years 2010 & 2011.

Information for Development

In this element we accomplished the following:
•   Establishment the IFAP website: http://www.IFAP.org.jo
•   Link the National Information System [1] with the IFAP website (http://www.nis.gov.jo).

---

[1] The National Information System (NIS - http://www.nis.gov.jo)), is a national Wide Area Network (WAN) that links homogenous information generating centers operating together. Sub-networks are connected together forming a sectorial information where information is retrieved and exchanged. The different sub-networks are connected to form the National Information System (NIS) as the main referral point. The national information system was established in 1993, and under the new law of the center in 2003, which is one of it's duties, article 7 – b; "building an integrated information system and management at the national level, so that links between governmental institutions within the national network through which, in coordination with each other to provide information and knowledge of economic, social and technological new and more inclusive, so as to ensure smooth flow This information to beneficiaries in the public and private sectors. and to this end the governmental institutions are committed in collaboration with the National Information Technology Centre for building such a system".

In the meantime, the IFAP committee is working on the following activities:

- The IFAP committee will work to create the necessary indicators for Socio-Economic indicators such as: Women, Childhood, and Industry in Jordan, Education, Biodiversity, Disabled, Telecommunication, Tourism, and Cultural Heritage.
- Cooperating with the National Library to link the digitized documents within the IFAP website.
- Implementation of the IFAP project "website for each Faculty member" within the IFAP website.

Information Literacy

In this element we need to propose a number of projects and programs to reach the above goal, for the years 2010 & 2011.

- Building Capacity for the society through the Knowledge Station (KS)[2]
- Building Capacity for the IFAP Committee
- Bridging the Digital Divide among Jordanian by using the KS for communities in Rural Areas to encourage the society benefiting from the internet and E-Government

Information preservation

- IFAP Committee is submitting a proposal to UNESCO for the year 2010 to conduct a National workshop in Cultural Heritage in Jordan
- Adopting all standards methods for information security and safety
- Capacity building for Librarians in information preserving (training program for Librarians)
- Reservation of all important document within the National Library

Information Ethics

- Awareness program for community regarding the importance of all type of information, IFAP committee member will organize a number of training sessions using the KS.
- Concentrating on intellectual properties especially about the information that will be published in the IFAP website and the Faculty Member Website Project.

Information Accessibility

- Each Jordanian information user can access all type of information using NIS website, which contain all type of information.

---

[2] * National Information Technology Centre (NITC) established 180 Knowledge Stations (KS) all over Jordan, These KS are connected to Internet and scattered all around Jordan Governorate, Especially in rural areas: The main objectives of the Knowledge Stations include:
1.   Bridging the digital divide between the governorates and different regions in the Kingdom.
2.   Introducing ICT to the different localities in Jordan and encouraging the use of ICT in the daily lives of citizens.
3.   Alleviating IT illiteracy by providing training in ICT.
4.   Encouraging the use of the National Information System for retrieving local information.
5.   Enhancing the use of the Internet for socio-economic development at the community level.
6.   Enhancing local community skills through ICT training.
7.   Enhancing competition among citizens by increasing their knowledge in ICT.
8.   Preparing the local communities to get involved in the e-government project
Number of inhabitants who trained for ICT services such; Internet, Typing, and other applications for the years 2001-2008, in the KS, is 102324, from this there were 56672 Females (55% are women) and 45652 males

- All Jordanian population can use internet by accessing it through KS which is scattered all over the country,
- All Governmental school are connected to internet so all students can access all type of information especially the e-learning materials

Lithuania

The Lithuanian National IFAP Committee was established in 2008. The activities are concentrated in several main areas:

- providing society with possibilities acquire knowledge, skills and qualification while using ICT, adapting to changing circumstances of life and work and attain abilities to be competitive at global markets;
- fostering the communication of natural and legal entities with the national and municipal authorities and institutions via electronic media, increasing the availability of public services by using electronic tools and the competencies of Lithuanian residents to use ICT;
- stimulating economic development based on knowledge, innovations and research; upholding and promulgating Lithuanian culture using information technologies; ensuring and coordinating structural support for information society development and implementation.

One of the largest projects "Computer Literacy Basics for a Lithuanian e-Citizen" has been implemented in recent years. The aim of the project is to solve the existing problems related to the insufficient computer literacy of the population. The organized courses provided computer literacy and Internet use basics to 50 400 Lithuanian residents older than 16, including 400 Lithuanian residents with disability. The project started in March 2006 and lasted for 30 months. Recently the Committee was responsible for drafting the strategy of information society development of Lithuania for 2009-2015. There was the interdepartmental working group composed of representatives of state administration institutions and social partners. The main goal of the strategy is improvement of society's life quality through information and communication technologies and reaching 70 percent of Internet users till 2015. The Strategy is planned to be an umbrella document implementing horizontal projects. There will be separate strategies (programs) prepared which will become an integral part of strategy.

The Committee also coordinates representation of Lithuania's positions regarding information society development in international arena. It should be noted that due to Committee's initiative and cooperation with IGF Secretariat, the IGF will be held in Lithuania in 2010.

Poland

The Polish National IFAP Committee was established in September 2008. It concentrates on two areas of activity. The first consists of adopting recommendations on issues of importance. The first such recommendation concerned the adoption of open standards in Digital Terrestrial Television and was sent to the Minister of Infrastructure. The second called for the introduction of media education into school curricula and was submitted to the Council for Information and Media Education, attached to the Ministry of National Education. Currently, the Committee is

debating the issue of open access to scientific education and open standards in education, with a view to adopting a document on these issues.

Another strand of activity is the holding of conferences, In June 2009, the Committee organized a high-level conference, under the auspices of the Speaker of the Lower Chamber of the Polish Parliament and the relevant government departments, devoted to the topic "Digital Heritage: Culture for the Future". It brought together 150 participants representing all the institutions involved in the digitization of the cultural heritage and reviewed all the major programmes and activities in this field.

Russian Federation

The Russian Committee of the UNESCO Information for All Programme (hereinafter, Committee) was established under the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO in 2000. According to its present Statute Committee is a public expert consultative body of the Commission and has the following most important goals, duties and rights:

Goals	Duties	Rights
promotion of the UNESCO Information for All Programme and the implementation of its priorities at the national and international levels	cooperation with the leading Russian and international government and nongovernmental organizations and experts on research, education, culture, communication and information	to determine the fields, forms and methods of its activity; draw and implement relevant programmes and projects; organize research, and international and Russian research and practical conferences, seminars and roundtables; and engage in publishing
promotion of the improvement of cultural, education, communication and information policy and regulatory environment for the establishment of information society and knowledge societies	organization of events promoting the Committee goals and the UNESCO Information for All Programme	to establish expert boards and ad hoc teams
promotion of research and development, innovation centres and other institutions engaged in the establishment of information society and knowledge societies	participation in the expertise of draft international legal acts, regulatory acts of the Russian Federation and other documents pertaining to the Committee sphere of activity; preparation of analytical reports, reviews, expert	cooperate with legal entities and individuals within its authority, and authorize them to obtain budgetary and extra-budgetary finance for the Committee work

	conclusions and recommendations	
	participation in the work of Russian interdepartmental offices on order of the President or Secretariat, Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO	

The Committee consists of representatives of ruling bodies and leading government and non-government organizations engaged in the formation of information society, and the development of culture, education, research, information and communication. As the Committee is not a legal entity it has a working body, and Interregional Library Cooperation Centre has been fulfilling its functions since 2006.

During the period 2001-2009 the Committee initiated and arranged several tens of national and international conferences, seminars and round tables. Most important of international conferences are:

- *UNESCO Information for All Programme: Development of National and International Information Policies* (Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, 2003);
- *UNESCO Information for All Programme: General Access to Information* (St. Petersburg, 2004);
- *Environmental Information and Culture for Sustainable Development (*Bryansk, 2004);
- *UNESCO between Two Phases of the World Summit on the Information Society* (St. Petersburg, 2005);
- *Personal Information Culture: Information Society Challenges* (Moscow, 2006);
- *Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace* (Yakutsk, 2008);
- *Festival Days of UNESCO Information for All Program in Siberia* (Kemerovo, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009).

The Committee participated in the organization of nearly all most important national and international conferences for Russian and international librarians and other information professionals that took place in Russia and a number of CIS countries - to promote IFAP basic ideas and priorities including those of Strategic Plan for IFAP (2008-2013) by holding special seminars, round tables and other events in the framework of those conferences;

The Committee has also:
- translated all UNESCO WSIS and IFAP series books into Russian and prepared 10 original (compiled by the Committee) books in Russian and English to publish and distribute each of them (500 to 1000 copies) among largest libraries, government bodies, educational and research institutions in Russia and other CIS countries;
- prepared a number of reports and proposals on various Information Society Policy aspects to Russia's Government and on behalf of Russia's Government - to UNESCO;
- been actively participating in the establishment of public access centres for legal information (about 7000 centres in Russia and 120 abroad – by 2010);
- been maintaining its website www.ifapcom.ru to regularly update it twice a week at least, and to disseminate website's news for about 1,000 subscribers (institutions and individuals).

Main areas of Russian IFAP Committee permanent activities are as follows:

- IFAP promotion in general (since 2000)
- Information literacy (since 2000)
- Access to legal information and other types of public domain information, creation of public access centres for legal information in Russia and abroad (since 2002)
- Reading (as it is adoption of written information) Promotion and Development in Russia (since 2006)
- Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace (since 2007)
- Media Education (since 2007)
- Creation of On-line Observatory on Cultural Changes Originated by Global Information Society Emergence (since 2009)

New areas of activities planned for 2010:

- Preservation of digital information
- Open Access to Scientific Publications

2009 Main Results

- Participation in organization of the First-ever Consultation Meeting of UNESCO IFAP National Committees (Moscow, December 2009);

- Organization of five special seminars to promote IFAP Strategic Plan priorities and discuss other Information Society Policy related issues (such as internet security for children, intellectual property rights regulations in the digital age, media education, infostructure development, etc) within the following national and international conferences:

    - *Cooperative Library Systems: Technologies and Innovations* International conference (Saint-Petersburg – Petrozavodsk, June 2009);
    - *Youth and Media* International Festival (Tomsk, Siberia, September 2009);
    - *The 6th Festival Days of UNESCO Information for All Program* (Kemerovo, Siberia, September 2009);
    - *The Second Baikal International Information Forum* (Ulan-Ude, June 2009);
    - *LIBCOM-2009 International Conference (Moscow, November 2009);*

- Maintenance the Russian IFAP Committee's website www.ifapcom.ru and regular updating it on a twice a week base, and website's news circular dissemination for about 1,000 subscribers;

- Publication and dissemination of 10 UNESCO and Russian books on various aspects of information society building;

- Consultations and reports on how to improve national library policies and create national IFAP Committee in the Republic of Moldova;

- Creation of *On-line Observatory on Cultural Changes Originated by Global Information*

Society Emergence.

Total funding for all Russian IFAP Committee activities in 2009 estimated up to about USD 200, 000. All these funds were raised by the Committee's working body – Interregional Library Cooperation Centre and its other partners for implementing very *concrete* projects like in previous years, and were received from different sources such as Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, Federal Agency for Print and Mass Communications, Government of the Republic of Buryatia, Tomsk City Government, UNESCO, Zerox Corporation (Russia), Russian School Library Association, etc. Neither ILCC no anyone else received any funds at all for the Committee administrative purposes, its website maintenance, communications and even the Committee Chair's travel to represent Russia at UNESCO General Conference.

Activities planned for 2010

- Organization of 5 to 7 special seminars in the framework of most important national and international conferences for Russian and international librarians and other information professionals held in Russia and other CIS countries to promote IFAP basic goals and its Strategic Plan for 2008-2013 priorities as well as *National Information Society Policies: a Template* implementation;
- Creation of expert groups to work on five IFAP Strategic Plan priorities;
- Maintenance of On-line Observatory on Cultural Changes Originated by Global Information Society Emergence;
- Preparation of analytical publications based on materials of *this Observatory*;
- Maintenance of the Russian IFAP Committee's website www.ifapcom.ru and regular updating it on a twice a week base, and website's news circular dissemination for about 1,000 subscribers;
- Preparation, publication and dissemination of about 10 books on various aspects of global information society building;
- Organization of thehe Second International Conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace;
- Establishment of a National Competence Centre in Yakutsk for Multiligualism Preservation and Linguistic Diversity Promotion and Development in Cyberspace;
- Monitoring of public access centres for legal information resources and services, and preparation of a corresponding national analytical report;
- Participation in organization of *the 7th Festival Days of UNESCO Information for All Program in Siberia*;
- Coordination of implementation of National Program for Reading Promotion and Development in Russia;
- Preparation of a national analytical report, *Digital Information Preservation in Russia: Challenges and Prospects.*

The second plenary session was devoted to:

1. Presentation and discussion on Guidelines for the establishment and operation of a National IFAP Committee, their development and improvement

2. Defining a procedure by which the Bureau can recognize the National IFAP Committee that best contributes to implementing IFAP goals and promote Information for All;

1.

The original <u>Guidelines</u> were drafted by the UNESCO Secretariat some years ago. It was felt that in the light of experience accumulated since then, it was time to take another look at the document and potentially revise it.

It was concluded that despite major organizational, administrative, economic and political differences in their work, the national IFAP committees share major challenges – in particular, search of sources for project and expert remuneration funding, enhancing the publicity of the committees and the entire Programme, and extending the information of decision-makers in information, communications, education and culture about IFAP ideas and achievements. In this connection, all participants stressed the importance of stepping up information exchanges about practical achievements, work forms and methods, and available and blueprinted projects.

Points made during the discussion on this subject were subsequently introduced into a draft new version of the <u>Guidelines</u> (see Appendix 3). Following an online consultation with meeting participants, it will be submitted to the IFAP Bureau meeting in January 2010 for its consideration, and then to the Council meeting in March 2010 for approval.

2.

As for developing a possible a procedure by which the Bureau could recognize the National IFAP Committee that best contributes to implementing IFAP goals and promote Information for All, meeting participants were of the opinion that the procedure should concentrate on single projects or activities of National IFAP Committees, rather than on assessing the work of Committees as a whole. It was additionally agreed that the procedure should concentrate on assessing projects and activities that best contribute to the promotion of Information for All in the five priority areas of IFAP: information for development, information literacy, information preservation, information ethics and information accessibility.

Points made during the discussion on this subject were subsequently introduced into a draft Council decision (see Appendix 4). Following an online consultation with meeting participants, it will be submitted to the IFAP Bureau meeting in January 2010 for its consideration, and then to the Council meeting in March 2010 for approval.

December 8, 2009

On the morning of the second day, the participants divided in two ad hoc groups to discuss the following issues:

- Implementing the IFAP <u>Template for National Information Society Policy</u>;
- Prospects for new synergies and enhanced multilateral collaborations in the framework of IFAP;
- Publicity and visibility;
- Funding.

Group 1 was chaired by Divina Frau-Meigs (France), with Verena Metze-Mangold (Germany) serving as its Rapporteur. Group 2 was chaired by Srisakdi Charmonmen (Thailand), with Niv Ahituv (Israel) and Ludovit Molnar (Slovakia) serving as Rapporteurs.

During **the third plenary session** on the afternoon of the second day, Rapporteurs of the two groups presented the conclusions of their groups on the subjects under discussion. They are summed up below:

Implementing the IFAP Template for National Information Society Policy

Group 1

The Template gives a consolidated vision on how to build information societies and makes clear, that policies must be explicit. The Recommendations:

1. The Template should be accomplished by adding the figures of the respective pages in the Index;

1. The Template should be understood not as an action plan, but as a generic document to be used as a pattern for better understanding the context of the development stage of Information Society in the respective country; therefore it is recommend – perhaps as appendix – to create a Checklist of Indicators for the monitoring of what has been achieved and what is still in a deficit stage. This checklist could be used for creating questionnaires to involve national expertise and it would allow international comparison.

2. Who is mandating the IFAP-committees? The answer might be different. In any case, it is a question of assembled competence. It is relevant to get the chance to involve the best professionals and thereby to become a real independent body. This should be done by incorporating all stakeholder groups – politicians, economists, legal experts, scientists. Notwithstanding the level of development in the respective country three areas should be represented: infrastructure, info-structure and information services;

3. To get the chance to implement policies means to work with all stakeholders: Government, public entities, the commercial sector and civil society. Make sure that the four sectors are represented. Each country lives under specific conditions. IFAP-committees should have the reputation of being highly competent and therefore have to make sure that they analyse how and with whom to work in order to implement the Template best.

4. The national strategy for collaboration and co-operation should be defined from the very beginning of a project, the design phase on. In some cases it might mean not only to develop indicators for development. It might mean to have access to a data base of experts on a national or even regional basis. This could or should include, as the Philippines and Japanese cases illustrate – the regional co-operation with various business associations.

Group 2

Group 2 reviewed the table on pp. 97-104 of the NISP document and discussed each item in details. The following is a summary of the discussion:

Introductory Notes:

- Although the Template is general, there are some characteristics that are specific to each country.
- What is the scope of the template? Is it only the scope of IFAP or beyond? If it is confined to IFAP, then issues like e-Helath, e-Commerce, Legislation and the like should not be included.
- Is the Template structure the preferred one? There are other suggestions such as WSIS for example.
- Timeframe should be added to the plan presented in the Template.

A.   Regional Infrastructure:

The group agreed that the most prominent "components" of an infrastructure are:
o   Broadband
o   Education system
o   Libraries and other cultural institutions
o   Wi-max
o   Mobile learning

B.   Capacity Building and Knowledge Creation:
Promoting openness is imperative for capacity building. This should be done by promoting open source software and open access publications.

C.   Public Transparency and Efficiency:

- The group is not sure whether e-Health, e-Justice and Environmental Protection are part of IFAP's mandate.
- With regards to e-Education, a major problem is the accreditation of an e-learning program and maintaining an acceptable level of quality.
- Indicators and measurements of progress and success are very important for the success of any IFA initiative.

Prospects for new synergies and enhanced multilateral collaborations in the framework of IFAP

Group 1

There is a reasonable prospect for both aspects – new synergies and enhanced multilateral collaboration - if IFAP-bodies act in the sense of the saying: The worm has to taste the fish, not the fisherman.
1. To create *new synergies* on the national level starts with identifying key actors working in the fields of IFAP-competence, actors who have got some project experience, are dedicated to work on standards and norms for the digital agenda of the 21st Century or are committed to the questions of sustainable development in the respective IFAP fields. It is worthwhile to identify such actors as possible partners especially in the sector of public foundations or in the one of business associations.

2. Nevertheless, the question "Who should be addressed" in order to create *new synergies* can be answered as well by looking at national bodies or branches of international or multilateral programmes. "Memory of the World", the multilateral Archives programme of UNESCO, for

example, has committees in many countries which work successfully and with growing public awareness on the questions of preservation of cultural goods and services in the digital area. In the idea of cluster theories these committees are ideal partners to find out common aims in the five fields of action if the IFAP-strategy. Many more can be found.

3. Thematic co-operation is a tool as well for the enhancement of *multilateral collaboration*. The intelligence of IFAP's strategic plan is its modular structure. The five thematic pillars of the programme allow an utmost of flexibility in the creation of national, trans-border and international ways of collaborating. This refers to IFAP national committees but not alone. It is important to define the contribution these projects of collaboration and their outcomes should have in the context of the respective national development.

4. The question of who should be addressed can be supplemented by the one: What does exist in the field of *multilateral collaboration* and can be used? For example in the field of inter-regional or international exchange programmes for experts, those for the promotion of cultural diversity, for sustainable development or education in the digital age, scientific research programmes for open access or media co-operation. All these programmes are dedicated to creating best practices by multilateral collaboration. As the Internet and the information society embrace more and more all aspects of live, a range of existing programmes tie in to the five IFAP-pillars.
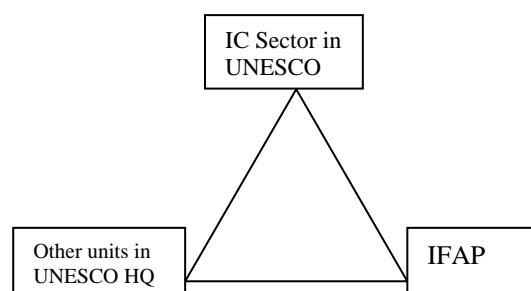
5. The fifth consideration suggests the examination and, where possible, the adaptation of existing political mechanism of international treaties, to which the parties - Governments (or regional bodies like the European Union) – committed themselves, in order to create *new synergies* in *multilateral collaboration*. There is for example the European Treaty with the so-called ACP-States; or the UNESCO-Convention on Cultural Diversity, since 2007 international law, which rule new exchange mechanisms by binding the right of defining national policies to the duty of special exchange mechanisms in order to allow the partner-countries the sustainable development of markets and public spheres.

Group 2

Here are the major actions that can be instrumental to the enhancement of multilateral collaboration:
   o   Create a network among the local IFA committees
   o   Exchange knowledge and know-how; e.g., best practices, documents
   o   Define focal points and common denominators among various countries
   o   Exchange information on local events such as workshops, seminars and the like organized by local IFA committees

A major challenge should be to clearly determine the relationships among the three nodes of the "triangle":

The CI Sector and IFAP share similar areas, but not exactly the same. IFAP deals also with education and science and technology in addition to ICT, communications, media and libraries. In UNESCO, education, for example is dealt by another sector. The question is how to co-operate and how to share knowledge under this framework.
Another question is whether to approach ISOC and ICANN and start a dialogue with them.

<u>Publicity and visibility</u>

Group 1

There is an existing vicious circle – no publicity, no visibility, no visibility, no publicity – which we recommend to transform into a virtuous circle by differentiating between intra- and inter-media communication.

1. Like the Intranet in big Corporations, IFAP and Headquarters should communicate in their own media network. There is already the tool for that, the IFAP-observatory: Exchange what is going on, what has been reached, in any case finishing it with an English abstract. We have to learn by others. That implies that the network should not be hermetically closed. The German IFAP committee f.e. learned by the observatory about the publicly financed project of an open access infrastructure in their own country, published by the scientific institution Max Planck Society – a proof that the observatory has made its way. The policy, anyhow, needs some considerations.

2. Within UNESCO and as public information instrument the IFAP-website should refer to the most important national and regional achievements, new strategies, co-operations and policy results. It should be more the peak of the iceberg or the cream on the top.

3. This peak is the material for the mass media, the chance for news and, more important, the stories behind the news. As the economic problems of the mass media grow, it is important to create a communication between the IFAP-website and a handful media journalists, preferably from special interest services, who have an interest in the subject and are able to translate them for the journalists of the broader mass media and their public.

4. Lastly, we recommend the creation of a journalist prize for the best story, editorial or background-information. This competition can grow from local, regional to international level and might be of interest for an (international) partner or, f.e., a public foundation in the field of information society, interested to work under the umbrella of UNESCO.

Group 2

The way to promote publicity and visibility is by encouraging conferences, creating an IFAP Network (see above), and to collaborate with the CI Sector and other bodies in UNESCO HQ. E-newsletter is also recommended.
As an action plan, it is recommended to form a working team of 2-3 participants from local IFA committees, Karol, Boyan and one or two employees of UNESCO HQ and come up with a well determined plan, actions and timetable.

<u>Funding</u>

Group 1

1. Private funding should be possible by using the liability if UNESCO: It is recommended to refer to sponsoring - at least in the beginning - rather than to seek permanent funding; and to define projects in the first stage preferably in co-operation with foundations. Experience has to grow.

2. As the information society is per se a trans-border society, interregional co-operation might be an interesting field for internationally operating project partners, especially when it turns out to be possible to identify the same interests in a well defined framework. This can f.e. happen in the field of digitisation of content. Interregional IFAP projects need a good design. But they need as well fantasy about who would be the ideal partner. There are partners, like the International Chambers of Commerce, who have their organisations everywhere.

3. The working group defined three objectives for funding: The IFAP-committees and their continuous work itself, the funding of projects on national and inter-regional levels and – as we speak of the "IFAP-family" – the funding for international meetings and rehearsals. Thanks to the funding the Moscow experience shows: Virtual networks are best when people meet from time to time.

Group 2

There are three types of funding needs:
1. IFA committees (most of them do not have any budget): should be supported by the government since the private sector rarely contributes to a committee.
2. Projects: Should be supported by business companies
3. Implementation and maintenance of a project results: Should be supported by the private sector and the government.

There are some examples of locating funding sources:

Brazil: from ICT and high-tech companies

Thailand: from telecom companies.

The most salient conclusions from these group discussions were subsequently introduced into a draft new version of the Guidelines (see Appendix 3).

During **the closing session** the IFAP Council Chair and all participants expressed high appreciation to the Russian National IFAP Committee for its hospitality, generosity in covering all the accommodation and other local costs, and excellent organization and care. The meeting participants also unanimously recognized the Russian IFAP Committee as the most active and effective of all.

These feelings were also expressed in the letter later sent by the IFAP Council Chair to Mr. Evgeny Kuzmin, Chair, Russian IFAP Committee, President, Interregional Library Cooperation Centre (ILCC) (see appendix 5).

Appendix 1

First Consultation Meeting of National Committees for the Information for All Programme

Moscow, 7-8 December 2009

Draft Programme

6 December (Sunday)   **Arrival of participants**

7 December (Monday)

9:30   Opening and welcome addresses
- Russian Commission for UNESCO
- IFAP Chair
- UNESCO
- Presentation of the objectives of the Meeting

10.15   **Plenary session**: Current situation of IFAP:

Coffee break: 11.30
- brief presentation of activities by the participants;
- identification of major problems and challenges;
- presentation and discussion on Guidelines for the establishment and operation of a National IFAP Committee, their development and improvement

13:00 - 14:30   *Lunch*
14:30 - 18:00   • Defining a procedure by which the Bureau can recognize the National IFAP Committee that best contributes to implementing IFAP goals and promote Information for All;
- Continuation of the discussion

19:30   *Dinner* (cultural event?)

8 December (Tuesday)

Working groups:

09:30 -13.00

- Implementing the Template for National Information Society Policy;
- Prospects for new synergies and enhanced multilateral collaborations in the framework of IFAP;

Coffee break: 11.30

- Publicity and visibility;
- Funding.

13:00 - 14:30   *Lunch*

15:00 – 18:00   **Plenary session:** Reporting back from the working groups and Proposals for improvement of the existing collaboration and IFAP implementation
Chair: Boyan Radoykov

18:00   Closure of the Meeting
19:00   *Dinner*

9 December (Wednesday)   **Departure of participants**

Appendix 2

**First Consultation Meeting
of National Committees for UNESCO's Information for All Programme**

December 7-8, 2009, Moscow

List of Participants

UNESCO	**Marius Lukosiunas**	m.lukosiunas@unesco.ru
	Advisor for Communication and Information UNESCO Office in Moscow	
	Boyan Radoykov	
	Programme Specialist IFAP Secretariat Information Society Division, UNESCO	b.radoykov@unesco.org
Austria	**Gabriele Sauberer**	gsauberer@termnet.org
	Executive Secretary (Director) International Network for Terminology (TermNet) Chair of the IFAP National Committee	
Chile	**Victoria Uranga Harboe**	victoria.uranga@udp.cl
	Chairholder UNESCO Chair on Mass Media and Citizen Participation Diego Portales University	
China	**Xianli Xing**	hongxia@istic.ac.cn
	Director General Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China	
	Xu Zhang	zhangx@ictic.ac.cn
	Director Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China	
	Yanning Zheng	hongxia@istic.ac.cn
	Director Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China	
Cote d'Ivoire	**Anne Marie Payne Nee Konan**	amk.payne@cicg.gouv.ci

	Executive Manager Governmental Information and Communication Centre (CICG)	
Cuba	**Lourdes Maria Machado Paredes** Director for International Relations Institute of Science and Technical Information	lmachado@idict.cu
France	**Divina Frau-Meigs** Expert French National Commission for UNESCO Professor University Sorbonne Chair of the IFAP National Committee	divina.meigs@orange.fr
Germany	**Verena Metze-Mangold** Director Film Fonds Hessischer Rundfunk German National Commission for UNESCO Vice-President	vmetze@hr-online.de
Israel	**Niv Ahituv** Director Netvision Institute for Internet Studies Chair of the IFAP National Committee	ahituv@post.tau.ac.il
Jordan	**Laila Mahmoud Abu-El-Haija** Head of Research & Development Section National Information Technology Center	laila.h@nitc.gov.jo
Lithuania	**Edmundas Zvirblis** Deputy Director Information Society Development Committee under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania	e.zvirblis@ivpk.lt
Moldova	**Luminita Drumea** Deputy Secretary General National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO	l.drumea@unesco.md
Nigeria	**Linus Nguhwar Ikpaahindi** Director/ Chief Executive Officer National Library of Nigeria Chair of the IFAP National Committee	anakaa2002@yahoo.co.uk
Philippines	**Angel Timoteo Diaz De Rivera** Commissioner Commission on ICT	tim.ddr@gmail.com

Poland	**Karol Jakubowicz**	jkarol7@tlen.pl

Chairman
Intergovernmental Council
IFAP,UNESCO
Member of the Board
Polish National IFAP Committee

Russian Federation	**Sergey Bakeykin**	bsd@mcbs.ru

Executive Director
Interregional Library Cooperation Centre

Nadezhda Brakker   nbrakker@gmail.com

Chief Specialist
The Centre on the Problems of
Informatization in the Sphere of Culture
(Centre PIC)

Ekaterina Chukovskaya   tchoukovskaya@pochta.ru

Deputy Minister−Secretary of State
Ministry of Culture of the Russian
Federation

Josef Dzialoshinskiy   i7d@yandex.ru

Professor
Chair of Public Politics
State University/Higher School of
Economics

President
Commission for Free Access to Information
human rights foundation

                                        nbros@rsl.ru
Victor Fedorov

Russian Federation	President	

Russian State Library

Natalia Gendina   nii@kemguki.ru

Director
Research Institute of Information
Technologies in Social Sphere Kemerovo
State University of Culture and Arts

Marina Kharkova   harkova@biblio-globus.ru

University Cooperation Manager
Biblioglobus Ltd

Nikolay Khaustov
3^d Secretary

Ministry of Foreign Affaires of the Russian
Federation

rusnatkom@mail.ru

Sergey Khrustalev

Deputy General Director for IT
State Tretyakov Gallery

khrustalev@tretyakov.ru

Leonid Konovalov

Industrial Marketing Manager
Xerox Company

leonid.konovalov@xerox.com

Victoria Krasilchshikova

Executive Secretary (2002–2007)
Russian IFAP Committee

vkr42@mail.ru

Ekaterina Kudrina

Rector
Kemerovo State University of Culture and
Arts

rector@kemguki.ru

Leonid Kuibyshev

**Russian
Federation**

Director
The Centre on the Problems of
Informatization in the Sphere of Culture
(Centre PIC)

leonid@cpic.ru

Alexander Kuznetsov

Executive Director
National Electronic Information Consortium

kouz@neicon.ru

Evgeny Kuzmin

President
Interregional Library Cooperation Centre

Chair
Russian IFAP Committee

kuzmin@ifapcom.ru

Boris Loginov

Director
State Central Scientific Medical Library

Director General

loginov@ditm.ru

LIBNET National Information Library Center

Tatiana Manilova   manilova@mkrf.ru

Deputy Director
Dept of Cultural Heritage

Head
Division of Libraries and Archives
Ministry of Culture of the Russian
Federation

Irina Mironova   irina@kodeks.ru

Vice-President
Codex Legal Information Consortium

Tatiana Murovana   murovana@ifapcom.ru

Executive Secretary
Russian IFAP Committee

Russian Federation **Grigory Ordzhonikidze**   rusnatcom@mid.ru

Executive Secretary
Commission of the Russian Federation for
UNESCO

Anastasia Parshakova   aparshakova@gmail.com

Assistant Director
Interregional Library Cooperation Centre

Valery Ponomarev   ponomarev63@mail.ru

Vice-Rector
Kemerovo State University of Culture and
Arts

Alexey Tsaregorodtsev   tsaregorodsev@insor-russia.ru

Head
Information Society Development Dept
Institute of Contemporary Development

Vyacheslav Yudin   yudin@systema.ru

Deputy Director
Dept of Legal Information
Spetssvyaz of Russia

Irina Zhilavskaya zhiv3@yandex.ru

Director
Tomsk Institute of Information Technologies

President
Siberian Association of Media Education

Nadezhda Zaikova zaikova_nm@mail.ru

First Deputy Minister
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Sakha
(Yakutia)

Vladimir Zaitsev v.zaitsev@nlr.ru

Director General
Russian National Library

President
Russian Library Association

Slovakia **Ľudovít Molnár** molnar@fiit.stuba.sk

Professor, Dean of Faculty
Slovak University of Technology
Chair of the IFAP National Committee

Thailand **Srisakdi Charmonman** charm@ksc.au.edu

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive
Officer
College of Internet Distance Education
Assumption University

Appendix 3

Guidelines for the Creation and Operation of National Committees of the Information for All Programme

IFAP Goals and Mandate

The Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme was established in 2000 as – in the words of the Executive Board – 'a key participant in the fulfillment of UNESCO's mandate to contribute to "education for all", to the "free exchange of ideas and knowledge" and to "increase the means of communication between peoples"'. The Programme is to contribute to narrowing the gap between the information rich and the information poor and to provide a platform for international policy discussions and guidelines for action on the preservation of information and universal access to it, on the participation of all in the emerging global information society and on the ethical, legal and societal consequences of ICT developments.

As a transverse UNESCO programme, the Information for All Programme is to provide a framework for international cooperation and international and regional partnerships and support the development of common strategies, methods and tools for building a just and free information society.

In order to achieve its objectives, the Information for All Programme requires effective collaboration and liaison with a diverse and increasing number of interested parties. Therefore, the Programme should to emphasize and enhance the role of external collaboration and partnering in its work within UNESCO and in its support of external programmes. Collaboration with stakeholder NGOs and the private sector should be established in order to create a multiplier effect from improved communication and collaboration to contribute to achieving the objectives of the programme.

At its origin, the Programme was composed of five areas: development of international, regional and national information policies; development of human resources and capabilities for the information age; strengthening institutions as gateways for information access; development of information processing and management tools and systems; information technology for education, science, culture and communication.

The IFAP Strategic Plan for 2008-2013, endorsed by the UNESCO Executive Board, defines the main focus of the Programme's activities as execution of UNESCO General Conference resolution 34 C/Res.48 for Major Programme V, contained in the Approved Programme and Budget 2008–2009 (34 C/5) that authorizes the Director General to "assist in the formulation of national information policy frameworks, in particular within the framework of the Information for All Programme (IFAP)". Resulting from IFAP's work so far, and that envisaged for the entire planning period, these frameworks will be complemented by more detailed policy orientations in five priority areas – information for development, information literacy, information preservation, information ethics and information accessibility. This

standard-setting policy-oriented approach and these foci of interest are the distinguishing features of IFAP.

National IFAP Committees should be established in all UNESCO Member States, and especially in those that are elected to the Intergovernmental Council of IFAP.

The following Guidelines were developed, based on the results of discussions during the First Consultation Meeting of National Committees for the Information for All Programme (Moscow, 7-8 December 2009).

Role and Tasks of National IFAP Committees

The role of National IFAP Committees is to pursue the goals of IFAP as a whole at the national level. Given the fact that many government, private sector, academic and civil society bodies are already involved in developing, implementing and analysing information society policies, or their particular elements, a National IFAP Committee can provide added value by:

- Serving as a meeting point for these diverse stake-holders and thus creating a pool of expertise for the purpose of consolidating existing knowledge as a basis for formulating advice on policy and its implementation;

- Serving as an avenue for the transfer of knowledge and expertise from the international to the national level, and across borders, by drawing on the work of National IFAP Committees in other countries (e.g. in the form of expert missions);

- Consolidating existing sectoral plans and programmes of action in the Information/Knowledge Society field into a comprehensive, future-oriented vision, promoting public understanding of the unfolding process of change and its ramifications for society and individuals;

- Developing an action plan, including short- and long-term goals, as well as benchmarks of success, focussing on the needs of the country in the area of core IFAP priorities, as well as on forms of regional and international cooperation within the Programme;

- Developing the capacity of undertaking projects in areas of interest for the administration and other stake-holders;

- Spreading information and knowledge about Information Society issues, and publicising its own activities, as well as those of IFAP in general, to ensure visibility for the Programme and for the National Committee in order to generate interest in, and support for, the Committee's work.

Forms of activity undertaken by National IFAP Committees should include:

1. Contributing to the implementation of IFAP's National Information Society Policy template, adjusted to the needs and circumstances of their countries;

2. Engaging in a constant dialogue with government agencies and other stakeholders on the development and implementation of information and knowledge policies and strategies; facilitating (or engaging in) high level collaboration amongst government agencies to help develop national information policies;

3. Creating multistakeholder forums (with the involvement of government officials, private sector, NGOs and academia) for an ongoing debate on national information and knowledge policies and strategies, their development and implementation; establishing partnerships with civil society and private sector organizations;

4. Convening multistakeholder conferences or thematic discussions on IFAP priority areas, information for development, information literacy, information ethics, information accessibility and information preservation;

5. Involvement in the international debate on Information and Knowledge Society issues, contributing ideas developed at national or IFAP Programme level; promotion of a public dialogue on these issues, *inter alia* by recognizing or awarding the work of media or journalists specializing in them;

6. Identifying and undertaking national or regional projects that respond to the needs of other stakeholders in their countries or regions;

7. Maintaining contacts and cooperation with other IFAP National Committees on questions of mutual interest, for the purposes of exchanging best practices and creating, and participating in, regular or task-oriented networks of National IFAP Committees;

8. Participating in, and contributing to, the IFAP Working Groups;

9. Raising funds for their own activities and for supporting IFAP projects;

10. Providing information and data for inclusion in the online IFAP Information Society Observatory;

11. Regularly disseminating information about IFAP objectives and activities provided by the UNESCO/IFAP Secretariat, including via a national IFAP webpage, separately and on a common website designated by the IFAP Bureau, so as to create *inter alia* an information bank on work conducted by National IFAP Committees and its results and on national experts who could assist institutions or other countries with their expertise;

12. Organising periodic national IFAP meetings and preparing an annual report on national activities to be addressed to the UNESCO/IFAP Secretariat for publication by UNESCO and consideration by the IFAP Intergovernmental Council;

13. Facilitating appropriate national inputs to, and participation in, as a member or as an observer, the sessions of the IFAP Intergovernmental Council, and IFAP-related international and regional meetings;

14. Maintaining relations and cooperation with UNESCO Field Offices.

Structure and location

1. The IFAP National Committee should include representatives of all major national stakeholder groups in the Information Society, including ministries; parliamentary committees; libraries and archives; informatics, telematics and telecommunication infrastructure entrepreneurs and service providers; education and training institutions in the areas of information science and informatics; users of information and Information and

2. Given the transversal and multisectoral nature of Information Society policy and programmes, and the need for the National IFAP Committee to incorporate all stakeholders and operate across administrative and other divisions, it would be best if it could be established and operate under the auspices of a government body of equally comprehensive competences.

3. The secretariat for IFAP National Committee could also be established, for example:

   - within a national advisory board or committee on the information society, information resource development, or ICTs;

   - as a specialized committee of the National Commission for UNESCO.

4. Many UNESCO National Commissions already have committees dealing with communication and information. An IFAP National Committee is needed to: i) concentrate on Information Society issues, ii) have a mandate and resources to contribute more substantively to IFAP, and iii) as a platform for regular informal as well as formal consultation with the UNESCO/IFAP Secretariat and with other IFAP National Committees.

5. For a national coordination framework to be effective, specific responsibilities should be agreed in terms of information flow between national coordination entities and UNESCO, the expected contributions of the national coordination entities to IFAP, and the support function of UNESCO vis-à-vis these entities.

6. The IFAP National Committee should have Statutes which clearly define its membership, mandate and procedures.

Funding

1. The IFAP National Committee needs a budget to fund its own functioning and activities. This should, where possible, come from a central government allocation.

2. The Committee also needs funds for national IFAP activities and national participation in regional and international IFAP meetings.

3. Any of several methods of financing could be used, depending on national circumstances, alone or in combination, for example:

Structural funding:

   - allocations from concerned ministries and public agencies (including, in industrialized countries, the agency responsible for international development assistance); this should be oriented towards the implementation of the Committee's action plan;

   - contributions of institutions represented on the National Committee (though this should not be a condition for their involvement in the work of the Committee for institutions unable to make such contributions);

- fees, where appropriate (and again not as a barrier to participation), for attendance at national IFAP activities;

Project-related funding

- voluntary sponsorship, including of the private sector, especially in relation to joint projects;

- funding from government and other institutions for sector-specific projects in their areas.

Appendix 4

Draft

IFAP Council decision on a procedure for recognizing projects and activities of National IFAP Committees that best contribute to the promotion of Information for All in the five priority areas of IFAP

The Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme,

Recalling the mandate, programme objectives and implementation principles laid down for the Programme in the Decision 3.6.1 of the Executive Board that established it at its 160th session,

Recalling that the Programme's specific objectives are set our in its Strategic Plan (2008 – 2013) endorsed by the Executive Board at its 180th session in October 2008,

Mindful of the central importance of National IFAP Committees in implementing the Information for All Programme,

Taking into account the revised Guidelines for the Creation and Operation of National Committees of the Information For All Programme as adopted at this session of the Council,

Taking also into account the results of discussions on this topic during the First Consultation Meeting of National Committees for the Information for All Programme (Moscow, 7-8 December 2009),

Decides that IFAP should recognize each year activities or projects of National IFAP Committees that best contribute to the promotion of Information for All in the five priority areas of IFAP: information for development, information literacy, information preservation, information ethics and information accessibility;

Invites National IFAP Committees to inform the IFAP Bureau by the end of each calendar year of forms of activity or projects in each of those areas that best contribute to implementing IFAP goals and promote Information for All;

Requests the Bureau to assess entries sent in by National IFAP Committees and recognize the best accomplishments or projects of excellence in each of the five priority areas from the previous year by the end of March of the succeeding year;

Requests the Bureau to seek partners from among international institutions, private sector or NGOs in establishing awards for projects or activities of National IFAP Committees that won special recognition in this procedure.

Appendix 5

Letter by the Chair of the IFAP Council to Mr. Evgeny Kuzmin, Chair, Russian IFAP Committee

Warsaw, December 15, 2009

Mr. Evgeny Kuzmin
Chair
Russian IFAP Committee
President
Interregional Library Cooperation Centre (ILCC)
Moscow
Russian Federation

Dear Evgeny,

Following our very successful First Consultation Meeting of National IFAP Committees (Moscow, December 7-8, 2009), I wish, on behalf of the IFAP Bureau and all participants in the meeting, to extend heartfelt thanks to you and your colleagues at the Russian National IFAP Committee and ILCC for hosting the event and for providing excellent facilities. This meeting was a milestone in the history of IFAP, made possible by your Committee and ILCC and their generous sponsors and supporters.

For the first time, National IFAP Committees had an opportunity to meet and discuss their role in the Programme. Everyone was greatly impressed with the work of your Committee, its many publications, and the fact that your activities extend across the country, including large areas of Siberia.

Participants in the meeting had nothing but praise for the organizers and felt very well looked after. We could not have wished for better care and organization. Everything was done expertly and efficiently.

I hope that the Russian National IFAP Committee will continue its good work and contribution to IFAP as a whole.

With kind regards,

Karol Jakubowicz
Chair, IFAP Council