

**Course** : - Bachelor of Library and Information Science (BLIS)

**Paper** : - Paper-I

**Prepared By:** - Aftab Ahmad, Assistant Librarian, Faculty Library Science

School of Library and Information Sciences, Nalanda  
Open University

**Topic:** International Federation for Library  
Association and Institution (IFLA)

**CONTENTS**

1. Introduction
2. Historical Background
3. Objective
4. Organizational Structure
5. Activities
6. Publication
7. Summary

# **International Federation For Library Association and Institution(IFLA):**

## **1. INTRODUCTION:**

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession.

Founded in 1927 in Edinburgh, Scotland at an international conference, we celebrated our 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2017. We now have more than 1,500 Members in over 150 countries around the world. IFLA was registered in the Netherlands in 1971. The Royal Library, the national library of the Netherlands, in The Hague, generously provides the facilities for our headquarters.

## **2. Historical Background:**

IFLA stands for International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. It has a „Public Libraries Section.“ This forum is actively engaged in the development and promotion of public libraries. IFLA was first founded in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1927 when library associations from 14 European countries and USA signed resolution at the celebration of 50th anniversary of Library Association of the United Kingdom. IFLA has organized several conferences to promote free and equal access to information to all and publishes newsletter. IFLA Public Library Section sponsored three sessions of the 78th IFLA General Conference and Assembly in Helsinki, Finland in 2012. IFLA Public Library Service Guidelines are also available in English as well as in Russian, Bulgarian, Czech and Slovak languages. IFLA has also contributed in the preparation of IFLA / UNESCO Public Library Manifesto 1994. Thus, it can be said that IFLA is playing a leading role in the promotion and development of public libraries globally.

## **3. Objective:**

IFLA aims at international cooperation, discussion and research in all fields of library activities. It offers a professional forum for library associations, libraries and librarians whatever the type of library or the expertise they have. It is concerned with all aspects of library work and tries to expand its membership to all countries. “IFLA aspires to speak with authority as the global voice of the library profession. The aims–universality, comprehensiveness and representative status give direction to IFLA’s structure as well its professional programmes.”

#### **4. Organizational Structure:**

IFLA structure is democratically set up with the Council as IFLA's highest organ. The Governing Board is responsible for the managerial and professional direction of IFLA within guidelines approved by Council. The Governing Board consists of the President, the President elect, 10 directly elected members and 9 indirectly elected members of the Professional Committee and up to 3 co-opted members. The Governing Board consists of the Executive Committee and the Professional Committee. The Executive Committee has executive responsibility delegated by the Governing Board to oversee the directions of IFLA. It consists of the President, the President elect, the Treasurer, the Chair of the Professional Committee, 2 members of the Governing Board and the IFLA's Secretary General. The Professional Committee maintains coordination of the activities of various IFLA units which are basically responsible for carrying out professional activities and programmes. The Committee consists of a Chair, an official representing each of IFLA's 8 Divisions and 3 members of the Governing Board.

#### **5. Core Activities:**

Issues common to library and information services around the world are the concern of the IFLA Core Activities. Directed by the Professional Committee, the objectives and projects of the Core Activities relate to the Federation's Programme and the priorities of the Divisions and Sections. ALP (Action for Development through Libraries Programme) has very wide scope, concentrating on the broad range of concerns specific to the developing world. The others cover current, internationally important issues. Preservation and Conservation (PAC), IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Digital Strategies (ICADS) and IFLA UNIMARC. The Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP), Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE), and Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM).

#### **6. Publication:**

- i. *IFLA Journal* is published four times a year
- ii. The *Annual Report* records IFLA's achievements during the previous years
- iii. IFLA Journal (Quarterly)
- iv. IFLA Annual
- v. IFLA Trends (Biennial Report),
- vi. IFLA Medium Term Programme
- vii. IFLA Statutes and Rules of Procedure
- viii. Divisional and Sectional Newsletters
- ix. IFLA Directory of Association
- x. IFLA First 50 Year

- xi. Standard For Public Library
- xii. ISBD For Serials
- xiii. ISBD For Monographic Publications
- xiv. World Directory Of Administrative Libraries
- xv. National and International Libraries Planning
- xvi. Organization of library Professions

## **7. SUMMARY:**

Membership criteria were expanded beyond library associations in 1976 to include institutions, i.e. libraries, library schools and bibliographic institutes. At this time, the word *Institutions* was added to the organization's name. Since then further new categories of membership have been created, including personal affiliates.

More than 60 sections and special interest groups are organized in five divisions to carry out a variety of IFLA's activities and programs. IFLA's journey from Vision to Strategy to Action. It is the result of a uniquely inclusive process – the IFLA Global Vision – launched in March 2017.

By engaging tens of thousands of library and information workers from over 190 countries in a conversation about the strengths and opportunities of the library field, the Vision has provided the energy, and represented the guiding star for this Strategy. On this basis, IFLA's Professional Units and Governing Board, working with the Headquarters Team, have developed this document, drawing also on an assessment of IFLA's existing strengths, and its commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. It was approved by the IFLA Governing Board on 12 April 2019.