

DRAFT (15. 7. 2016.)

M i n u t e s
of the
First meeting of the COBISS.Net Council

8 July 2016, Maribor, Slovenia

The has been held in Maribor, Slovenia, on July 8, 2016, starting at 9:30.

Participants:

Nominated members of the COBISS.Net Council and authorized proxies:

Davor Šoštarič; IZUM, Slovenia; (*Director*)
Irena Sešek; National and University Library, Slovenia; (*Head of Department*)
Laslo Blašković; National Library of Serbia; (*Director*)
Vesna Stevanović; National Library of Serbia; (*Head of NCC¹*)
Ismet Ovčina; National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina; (*Director*)
Nevenka Hajdarović; National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
(*Head of NCC*)
Tatjana Dunović; National and University Library of RS in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
(*Director's authorized proxy*)
Željka Komlenić; National and University Library of RS in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
(*Head of NCC*)
Sanela Vuklišević; Ministry of Science and Technology of RS in Bosnia and
Herzegovina; (*Head of E-CRIS*)
Jovica Tasevski; National and University Library, Macedonia; (*Director's authorized
proxy*)
Žaklina Gajevska; National and University Library, Macedonia; (*Head of NCC*)
Jelena Đurović; National Library of Montenegro; (*Director*)
Krasimira Aleksandrova; National Library of Bulgaria; (*Director*)
Nadia Karachodjukova; National Library of Bulgaria; (*Head of NCC*)
Geron Kamberi; Agency of Research, Technology and Innovation, Albania; (*Director*)

Representatives from University of Shkodra:

Vinçens Marku; University of Shkodra, Department of Literature, Albania; (*Director*)
Alida Luka; University of Shkodra, Library; Albania; (*Director*)

Invited experts:

Tomaž Seljak; COBISS.Net
Primož Južnič; University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
Tatjana Aparac Jelušić; University of Zadar, Croatia

¹ NCC – National COBISS Center

Agenda:

1. COBISS.Net Council formation
2. Consideration of UNESCO's proposal to finance the COBISS.Net project with EU funds
3. Any other business

1. COBISS.Net Council formation

Mr. D. Sostaric, director of IZUM, welcomed the audience and explained the purpose of his Appointment of the COBISS.Net Council (ref. *Appointment of the COBISS.Net Council by IZUM's Director on May 5, 2016.*). Members of the Council are appointed by their particular roles/functions. Representatives of the Skodra University as well as some other experts were invited to the meeting. There was no debate and the

Decision #1.1: The participants agree that the COBISS.Net Council is formally established.

has been accepted by acclamation.

Mr. D. Sostaric put forward the election of the Chair of the COBISS.Net Council. Its role should be performed by the most senior director of the national library that has been part of the COBISS.Net since its establishment in 2003. According to his records such person is Ms Jelena Đurović from the Montenegrin national library.

Mr Ismet Ovčina supported nomination of Ms Jelena Djurović. However, at the same time he proposed that until the next meeting the status of the Montenegrin national library regarding time period of joined state Serbia – Montenegro should be examined. Therefore, the

Decision #1.2: Ms Jelena Đurović is elected as the Chair of the COBISS.Net Council. The status of the Montenegrin national library regarding time period of joined state Serbia – Montenegro will be examined until next meeting.

has been accepted by mutual agreement.

Ms Jelena Đurović, the newly elected Active Chair of the COBISS.Net Council, took over the chairmanship and addressed the audience.

2. Consideration of UNESCO's proposal to finance the COBISS.Net project with EU funds

Mr. Bhanu Neupane (UNESCO) welcomed the audience via the live streaming from Paris. He described the UNESCO's role in the COBISS.Net current business and emphasized the significance of proposed project. He suggested that the COBISS.Net Council should support the UNESCO's planned activities as well as the project *Fostering Knowledge Societies in the Western Balkans through Knowledge Integration: Development of national library information*

systems and their integration into a common educational, research and cultural areas of the EU.

Mr Tomaž Seljak informed the participants of up-to-date activities for political support of Western Balkans countries and European Commission for financing the COBISS.Net project from European funds. After some unsuccessful activities last year, the DG EAC proposed at meeting in Brussels (on June 20, 2016) that support of the Western Balkans countries should be achieved at the »5th Ministerial Meeting of the Western Balkans Platform on Education and Training (27– 28 June in Sarajevo)«. UNESCO put forward the proposal for project's support to the meeting's host (i.e. the Minister for Civil Affairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina); however, the proposal was not included in the "Regional Activities" session. Mr Ismet Ovčina explained that he himself had spoken to the Deputy Minister; it seemed that that the support would be given. Later he found out that the UNESCO's local representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina put some procedural remarks to the Ministry for Civil Affairs and thus obviously complicated the issue.

The following twelve planned development assistance instruments have been laid out in details; the participants joined the discussion with their questions and remarks:

1. Co-financing the creation, editing and download of bibliographic records when establishing bibliographic databases and catalogues (based on the number of new, edited or downloaded/linked records)
2. Harmonising national databases /catalogues of libraries with the global catalogue WorldCat (OCLC)
3. Organising new national COBISS centres and providing technical conditions for performing their tasks (premises, equipment and communication infrastructure)
4. Translating COBISS user interfaces and manuals as well as other material
5. Training of instructors for COBISS Shared Cataloguing
6. Training of librarians for COBISS Shared Cataloguing
7. Co-financing purchase of workstations (PCs) and other peripheral equipment in libraries
8. Part-time postgraduate study of librarianship at the University of Shkoder (AL) following the curriculum of the University of Ljubljana (SI) or the University of Zadar (CR) – employment in libraries for the participants must be guaranteed in advance
9. Organising specialised information centres for monitoring the adequacy of classification of researchers' bibliographic units according to the valid typology for bibliographies in the COBISS system
10. Co-financing access to selected international e-resources, when such access is essential for the verification of the classification of bibliographic units and their evaluation
11. Co-financing the conversion of local databases (catalogues) from other systems (in exceptional cases, if justified)
12. Annual International COBISS Conferences (organization and covering selected participants' travel expenses)

Emphasized questions and comments:

- technical issues regarding the co-financing the creation and redaction of bibliographic records;
- priority of bibliographic records creation should be given to the national scientific production;
- reasonableness of holding data transfer to the WorldCat;

- evaluation of work and stimulation for heads of NCCs;
- there is a curriculum for librarianship studies in Macedonia now;
- presentation of COBISS platform to the regular curriculums for librarianship studies in all universities with accredited programs;
- question of conversions from other library systems.

The

Decision #2.1: The participants of the session of the COBISS.Net Council (8 July 2016, Maribor, Slovenia) support the project of UNESCO "*Fostering Knowledge Societies in the Western Balkans through Knowledge Integration: Development of national library information systems and their integration into a common educational, research and cultural area of the EU*" (Draft, 23 June 2016).

has been accepted by acclamation.

The **Letter of Support** has been signed by participants from Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania.

3. Any other business

There were no issues and Chair brought the meeting to the end.

The meeting has been concluded at 12:30.

Jelena Đurović
Chair