Precis of Minutes of 15 June 2017 Meeting

Action proposed: For information

Attendees:
(HJ) Hans Jansen, Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB), The Netherlands - Chaired the meeting
(UZ) Uldis Zarins, National Library of Latvia, Latvia
(JLR) Joke van der Leeuw-Roord, EUROCLIO, The Netherlands
(MS) Merete Sanderhoff, SMK, Denmark
(PK) Paul Keller, Kennisland, The Netherlands
(AM) Agnès Magnien, Institut national de l'audiovisuel, France
(MK) Max Kaiser, Austrian National Library (ONB), Austria
(MHS) Monika Hagedorn-Saupe, International Council of Museums Europe, Germany
(JF) Jeannette Frey, Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche (LIBER), Switzerland
(RR) Richard Ranft, International Association of Sound and Vision Archives, UK
(JO) Johan Oomen, Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision, The Netherlands

Observers:
(SA) Susana Alegre, Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of Spain, Spain - Observer
(EF) Elisabeth Freyre, Bibliothèque nationale de France, France - Observer
(KH) Karin van Honacker, EURBICA, Belgium - Observer

Apologies with comments, approvals and votes before the meeting:
(LH) Lorna Hughes, University of Glasgow, UK
(EF) Etienne Ferrito, National Archives of Malta, Maltese Presidency
(MP) Martijn Pronk, The Van Gogh Museum, The Netherlands

Apologies:
(JM) Jan Muller, International Federation of Television Archives (IFTA), The Netherlands
(MR) Mirjam Raabis, Ministry of Culture of Estonia, (succeeding) Estonian Presidency
(JK) Jana Kňažková, Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, (preceding) Slovak Presidency
(LA) Lora Aroyo, VU University, Bulgaria

Europeana Office:
(JC) Jill Cousins
(HV) Harry Verwayen
(AV) Albert Verhaar
(AE) Aubery Escande
(SA) Shadi Ardalan

NB: Some discussions are omitted from this version as they are deemed confidential to the Board at this point in time.

Hans Jansen opened the meeting. The meeting was quorate with eleven Board members present and seven apologies, three of whom provided comments, approvals and votes prior to the meeting. The Board adopted the agenda.

I. Minutes, Decisions & Actions of 6 April 2017 Meeting

Decision 1: The Board approved minutes, actions & decisions and precis of minutes of 6 Apr 2017 meeting. All actions were complete.

II. Governance - Nominations for Expert and Election of Vice Chair

The Board discussed the nominations for seat of Expert to decide the way forward. The criteria are important. As far as the country representation is concerned, Belgian, Bulgarian and Romanian nominees would be good for representation.

The Board found it difficult to choose one from the pool of nominees and suggested to form a Nominations Committee to do the prework and come up with a proposal for the Board to decide upon. PK volunteered to participate in the Nominations Committee as well as MHS and MS.

Decision 2: The Nominations Committee composed of PK, MHS, MS and JC to screen the nominees for the position of expert and come up with a short list proposal and the way forward for the Board to decide before or at the 28 September meeting.

Decision 3: The present Board members unanimously agreed to appoint the only candidate Monika Hagedorn-Saupe as Vice Chair of Governing Board for a period of two years until 15 June 2019. MP, EF and LH voted in favour via email before the meeting.

III. Aspiration & Approach

The Board discussed the outlined Europeana staff approach proposal to be read in conjunction with Europeana Foundation Governing Board and Europeana Network Association approaches, and the proposed next steps.

Decision 4: The Board agreed 1) to proceed with the amalgamated Foundation Board + Staff approach; 2) to explicitly mention in this amalgamated version that the Staff support the Governing Board and Network Association; 3) the members from Europeana Network Association did not wish to take up the proposal of the editorial advisor on the already approved Network Association approach given the extensive amount of time and effort the Members Council put into the process to formulate and approve their approach; 4) to ensure they don’t contradict but complement each other. The Board further agreed on next steps to present the final draft of amalgamated Governing Board + Staff
approach to the Members Council at their 6-7 July meeting and review and approve the final draft at the 28 September Governing Board meeting.

IV. DCHE Expert Group

MHS - The discussions at the first DCHE meeting on 10 and 11 May in Luxembourg revolved around the delay in the work of the evaluation committee, the DCHE Expert Group terms of reference, the issue of hosting of which EC said it was not aware and the Commission’s wish that such discussions have to be channelled through the DCHE Expert Group secretariat.

V. Procurement & Evaluation of Europeana

Europeana will have time until 11 July to complete DSI-3 procurement proposal. A lot more focus is put on education. Discussions and negotiations have not been easy. Unless the real value of Europeana is shown, more funding will not be secured. DSI-3 kick off is planned for 1 September 2017.

Evaluation is delayed with possibly some consequences as it should inform the next CEF. Europeana has not seen the final published version of the evaluation brief. Nor have we heard from the people charged with undertaking the Evaluation.

More financial information is required for the Board to better understand the procurement. In evaluation, transparency in the process is important and that the members of the Governing Board should be heard by the evaluators.

VI. Summary of DSI-2 Progress Report

Decision 5: The Board approved the DSI-2 progress report. MP, EF and LH approved the report via email before the meeting.

Action 1: Europeana office to share DSI-2 financial reports with the Board, when shared with the European Commission.

VII. Generic Services and Collections

JC – The proposal to deliver non-curated and multiple thematic collections and the paper on Generic Services 2018 & Adjustment to 2017 DSI interrelate. The thematic collections as conceived by the Member States under Council Conclusions add burden to the core service funding since they are human resource intensive and they rarely have sustainability plans post project. We are therefore recommending a return to the original concept i.e. automatic generation of collections, which we will test over the summer. The change in the concept of generic collections is from fully curated experiences to partially or voluntarily curated ones. Obviously curated collections result in more engagement. We hope there is some middle ground with non-curated collections and we are going to investigate it. Current curated collections will continue to exist and we observe what happens in comparison.
Poland has asked about the priorities and plans for the new edition of generic services call and that whether the focus will be more on developing the tools or on the curation of data. Paper 6B answers Poland’s questions. In brief it’s about improving data quality. France is satisfied with up to 75% co-funding by the Commission and following the DCHE Expert Group meeting in May started communicating with some institutions about the announcement of the next generic services call expected in July and some topics/themes are arising such as intangible heritage, audio heritage or tapestries. There is still strong interest from French institutions to get funding opportunities to digitise their collections.

In response to AM’s question about the generic services and the institutions’ appetite for digitisation and if they still benefit from it, JC commented the idea for digitisation was heavily pushed by France and Italy.

JC - Under the open procurement for DSI-4 the budget will be for 14 million euros against 24 months. The budget cannot be changed but we might be able to get the time span the budget covers shortened. JC invited the Board members to push the CEF Committee through their ministries’ contacts to influence the time frame.

VIII. Copyright

On 7 June the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO) voted on the suggested amendments taking up everything we had proposed and giving a first indication that the efforts are yielding results. The scope of the mandatory preservation exception has been significantly broadened. The proposal for access to out-of-commerce works has been improved towards a more comprehensive solution. The JURI committee will vote on the final position of the European Parliament on 28 September.

X. Europeana Network Association

Paper 8 recaps the Europeana Network Association Update. No further update or any questions at the meeting.

XI. Items to consider for September meeting Agenda

JC proposed a few discussion points at the September Board meeting besides the regular agenda items: voting for appointment of Expert, final discussion/approval of aspiration and approaches, European Year of Cultural Heritage, improving the links to Board members networks and update on Innovation Agenda Taskforce. She invited the Board to suggest other items they would like to cover. JC and JM have agreed to try a different method of meeting document package to be introduced as the ‘Board meeting briefing book’ for the 28 September meeting.

The following items on the agenda were for information and Q&A and hence were not discussed in detail:

XII. Finance & Financial Sustainability of Europeana
The Audit Report 2016, Funding Update, Cashflow Update and QI Report against budget were shared with the Board. Italy, Estonia and Ireland have paid their 2017 commitments. Sweden has confirmed is paying soon and Lithuania will pay too.

The switch to Rabobank was triggered, in part, by the bank's flexibility in granting credit facility.

Any Other Business

Recently JC was deregistered at the Dutch Chamber of Commerce as bestuurder because a non-voting board member is not a concept under Dutch law. A board member (in Dutch: bestuurder) is part of the management board (or governing board) (in Dutch: bestuur). For JC to be authorised to sign and file trade register forms for registration and deregistration of the Board members or bestuurders, she should be granted a proxy by the Board (in Dutch: procuratie), which basically is a continuous limited power of attorney granted by the Board to her for certain authorisation rights, in this case registration / deregistration of Board bestuurders. Then she will be registered with the KvK as a proxy holder.

Decision 6: The Board agreed to grant a proxy to JC to sign / file trade register forms on behalf of Europeana Governing Board.

The next Board meeting will be held on 28 September 2017 hosted by LA at VU.

HJ thanked RR for his participation and the work with the Europeana Governing Board as he steps down. JC thanked HJ, who will step down on 30th June, for many years of collaboration as a founding member of the Board.

The meeting was closed.

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Europeana Foundation Governing Board Members & Observers

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