

Promoting and strengthening bibliodiversity together

INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF INDEPENDENT PUBLISHERS



CAPE TOWN MEETING, SOUTH AFRICA ► 18-21 SEPTEMBER 2014

 International
Alliance
of independent
publishers

A UNIQUE INTER-LINGUISTIC AND INTER-CULTURAL MEETING

“We, 85 independent publishers and 9 publishers’ collectives – representing more than 360 publishers – from 45 countries in Latin America, North America, Asia, Africa and Europe are gathered for professional, philosophical, political, cultural and supportive reasons within an alliance, the International Alliance of independent publishers. We established this alliance in 2002 to make our voices heard, to get off the beaten track, to build a movement of solidarity and to cope with any form of pressure (economic, political, religious, ideological). In a moment of profound transformation, we want to meet in order to examine our practices, to listen to new ideas and to integrate young generations of publishers who share our concerns. Considering two new situations – the emergence of new digital actors and the global financial crisis, we wish to question our role and reaffirm the issues of bibliodiversity.”

The International Assembly of Independent publishers –consisting of seven preparatory and thematic workshops run between 2012 and 2014 and closed by a meeting in Cape Town from 18 to 21 September 2014– results from this desire.

62 independent publishers from 38 countries but also South African booksellers, librarians, authors and players in the digital community are also gathering in Cape Town, for a unique meeting on bibliodiversity. **Held under the patronage of UNESCO**, this event is part of the continuation of the reflection, projects and analyses of the Alliance on bibliodiversity since its inception, and during key moments such as the Assembly of Dakar in 2003 and the Assembly of Paris in 2007. In keeping with the guidelines of the UNESCO Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions, the Cape Town meeting is a next step to promoting the emergence of concrete proposals for the strengthening of bibliodiversity.

Alternating between **plenary meetings that are open to the public and thematic workshops**, the Cape Town meeting is in itself

a **photograph of international independent publishing**. For four days, the publishers will tell their journey, for some their struggle, talk of their experiences, of the risks they take, their difficulties, their successes.

By building on practical cases and the exchange of know-how that is capitalized in the workshops, the Assembly will lead to **proposals and recommendations for bibliodiversity addressed to the public authorities; co-operative and innovative tools and practices between independent publishers, based on equitable principles; new forms of partnerships with other professionals in the book industry.**

The Cape Town meeting also represents a **crucial moment in the governance of the Alliance**: the way forward for the next few years, and the resulting programme of action that will be determined there collectively. The **International Committee of Independent Publishers (ICIP)** will meet on 22 September, at the end of the meeting, to work on the effective implementation of the policies and projects of the Alliance for the years to come.

Finally, the Assembly is a **meeting with a human dimension** between publishers from the five continents, but also with South African professionals. The Alliance has set up a partnership with the **Open Book Festival** (www.openbookfestival.co.za), a literary festival that works for a greater democratization of reading in South Africa by bringing together local and international writers around readings, debates, concerts, throughout the city of Cape Town. This collaboration will offer a space for expression around the challenges of independent publishing and give the general public the opportunity to discover the diversity of editorial productions from all over the world.

We are thus very much looking forward to meeting you in Cape Town –**62 publishers will be making the journey to meet you there!**



The Board and the team of the International Alliance of independent publishers

AGENDA

THURSDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER

Morning (8.30 – 13.00)

INDEPENDENT PUBLISHING AND BIBLIODIVERSITY ACROSS THE WORLD: AN OVERVIEW

Venue: Centre for the Book (Main Hall)
Plenary meeting open to the public
Interpretation in three languages (English, French and Spanish)

8.30 – 9.00

Welcome of participants

9.00 – 10.00

▶ **Welcome address** by a representative from the City of Cape Town and by a representative from the Department of Arts and Culture in South Africa

▶ **General introduction to the meeting**, by Hélène KLOECKNER (Chairwoman of the Alliance)

▶ **Introduction of participants invited by the Alliance to Cape Town**

▶ **The Alliance... what has been the progress since the 2007 Assembly?**, by Pablo HARARI (Ediciones Trilce, [Uruguay](#))

10.00 – 13.00

Independent publishing and bibliodiversity: publishers have their say

Presentations facilitated by Jean RICHARD (*éditions d'en bas*, [Switzerland](#)).

▶ **Overview of the publishing industry in South Africa: which specifics and which issues?**, by Bridget IMPEY (Jacana Media, [South Africa](#))

▶ **Which national book policies in Latin America?**, by Paulo SLACHEVSKY (Lom Ediciones, [Chile](#))

▶ **Unity in strength: the commitment of publishers in Mali**, by Hamidou KONATÉ (Jamana, [Mali](#))

Coffee break: 11.00 – 11.30

▶ **“Small is beautiful”: an exchange of viewpoints between France and Chile**, by Jutta HEPKE (Vents d’ailleurs, [France](#)) and Juan Carlos SÁEZ (JC Sáez Editor, [Chile](#))

▶ **Publishing in Tunisia: what prospects after the “Jasmine Revolution”?**, by Nouri ABID (Med Ali, [Tunisia](#)) and Élisabeth DALDOUL (elyzad, [Tunisia](#))

▶ **Digital publishing, what implications for bibliodiversity? Testimony from an Iranian publisher of the diaspora**, by Tinouche NAZMJOU (Naakojaa, [France/ Iran](#))

Lunch (13.00 – 14.30)

Venue: Centre for the Book

Afternoon (14.30 – 18.00)

TOWARDS PROPOSALS AND CONCRETE TOOLS FOR BIBLIODIVERSITY (1/2)

Thematic and inter-linguistic workshops

The list of participants for each workshop is currently being drawn up and will be available on the website of the Alliance (www.alliance-editeurs.org)

▶ **Workshop 1: Youth publishing, a key issue for bibliodiversity**

Venue: Alliance française
14.30 – 17.25

French / English interpreting

▶ **Workshop 2: Publishing in local and national languages**

Venue: Alliance française
14.30 – 17.25

French / English interpreting

▶ **Workshop 3: The “Fair Trade book” and other fair editorial partnerships**

Venue: Centre for the Book
14.30 – 18.00

French / English interpreting

▶ **Workshop 4: Public book policies: what essential measures for bibliodiversity?**

Venue: Centre for the Book
14.30 – 18.00

French / Spanish interpreting

▶ **Workshop 5: Digital publishing: what implications and prospects for bibliodiversity?**

Venue: Fire & Ice Hotel
14.30 – 18.00

French / English interpreting

▶ **Workshop 6: Small is beautiful: which economic models for which independent publishers?**

Venue: Fire & Ice Hotel
14.30 – 18.00

French / English interpreting

Welcome Dinner (19.30 – 21.30)

FRIDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER

Morning (8.30 – 12.00)

MEETING OF LINGUISTIC NETWORKS

▶ **French-language network**

Venue: Centre for the Book

▶ **Spanish-language network**

Venue: Centre for the Book

▶ **English-language network**

Venue: Alliance française

▶ **Arabic-language network**

Venue: Fire & Ice Hotel

▶ **Portuguese-language network**

Venue: Fire & Ice Hotel

▶ **Farsi-language group**

Venue: Alliance française

Lunch (12.00 – 14.00)

Venue: Centre for the Book

Afternoon (14.00 – 17.00)

TOWARDS PROPOSALS AND CONCRETE TOOLS FOR BIBLIODIVERSITY: FEEDBACK AND VALIDATION OF THEMATIC WORKSHOPS (2/2)

Venue: Centre for the Book (Main Hall)
Plenary meeting open to the public

Interpretation in three languages (English, French and Spanish)

During this plenary meeting, all participants will receive feedback of the preparatory and thematic workshops held between 2012 and 2014.

All presentations will be followed by exchanges with the participants in order to reach collective validation of the recommendations, which will be integrated in the 2014 Declaration according to theme. *Presentations chaired by Hélène KLOECKNER and Luc PINHAS*

▶ **Book donations, rethinking a system:** Marie Michèle RAZAFINTSALAMA (Jeunes malgaches, **Madagascar**) – workshop held in March 2013 in Paris

▶ **Youth publishing, a key issue for bibliodiversity:** Mariana WARTH (Pallas Editora, **Brazil**) –workshops held in March 2013 in Bologna and subsequently in September 2014 in Cape Town

▶ **Publishing in local and national languages:** Jean-Claude NABA (Sankofa & Gurli, **Burkina Faso**) –workshops held in June 2013 in Ouagadougou and subsequently in September 2014 in Cape Town

▶ **The “Fair Trade Book” and other fair editorial partnerships:** Serge D. KOUAM (Presses universitaires d’Afrique, **Cameroon**) –workshops held in June 2013 in Ouagadougou and subsequently in September 2014 in Cape Town

Coffee break: 15.30 – 16.00

▶ **Public book policies: what essential measures for bibliodiversity?:** Juan Carlos SÁEZ (JC Sáez Editor, **Chile**) and Jose Mari ESPARZA (Txalaparta, **Basque country/Spain**)

▶ **Digital publishing: what implications and prospects for bibliodiversity?:** Octavio KULESZ (Alliance Lab, **Argentina**) –workshops held in April 2014 in Abu Dhabi and subsequently in September 2014 in Cape Town

▶ **“Small is beautiful”: which economic models for which independent publishers?:** Guido INDIJ (la marca editora, **Argentina**) and Pablo HARARI (Ediciones Trilce, **Uruguay**)



SATURDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER

Morning (8.30 – 12.30)

THE 2014 DECLARATION, PROMOTING AND STRENGTHENING BIBLIODIVERSITY TOGETHER

Venue: Centre for the Book (Main Hall)
Plenary meeting open to the public
Interpretation in three languages (English, French and Spanish)

8.30 – 9.00

Welcome of participants

- **Reading of the draft 2014 Declaration**
- **Exchanges, discussions, modifications** and changes to the text of the Declaration as it is being read by the publishers

Validation of the text of the 2014 Declaration by publishers

Coffee break: 11.00 – 11.30

- **Final reading of the 2014 Declaration** by the members of the International Committee of Independent Publishers
- **Send the Declaration in French and English for validation to the publishers not present**

Lunch (12.30 – 14.00)

Venue: Centre for the Book

Afternoon (14.00 – 17.00)

ROUND TABLES AND DISCUSSIONS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE OPEN BOOK FESTIVAL

Venue: Fugard Complex – Fugard Annexe 2
To view the full programme of events of the Open Book Festival:
www.openbookfestival.co.za

14.00 – 15.00

▶ **Independent feminist publishing: perspectives from South Africa, Asia and Australia**
Colleen HIGGS (Modjaji, **South Africa**), Susan HAWTHORNE (Spinifex Press, **Australia**) and Ritu MENON (Women Unlimited, **India**) provide testimonies of their journey and experience.
Chaired by Meg VAN DER MERWE (author and lecturer at the University of the Western Cape, **South Africa**).

16.00 – 17.00

▶ **Translation in the world: points of view of independent publishers (Switzerland, France and South Africa)**
Jean RICHARD (éditions d’en bas, **Switzerland**), Jutta HEPKE (Vents d’ailleurs, **France**) and Dusanka STOJAKOVIC (New Africa Books, **South Africa**) share their experiences and practices on translation.
Chaired by Carole BLOCH (director of PRAESA –Project for the Study of Alternative Education in South Africa, **South Africa**)

Evening at the water’s edge (17.30 – 22.00)

SUNDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER

Morning and afternoon

ROUND TABLES AND DISCUSSIONS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE OPEN BOOK FESTIVAL

Venue: Fugard Complex – Fugard Annexe 2
10.00 – 11.00

▶ International Biodiversity Day (B Day)!

- What is biodiversity? by Indira CHANDRASEKHAR (Tulika Books, **India**)
- Presentation of B Day and videos of B Day 2014, by Guido INDIJ (la marca editora, **Argentina**)
- Readings in Creole, Kinyarwanda, Portuguese, Spanish and Arabic, by Rodney SAINT-ÉLOI (Mémoire d'encrier, **Quebec/Haiti**), Agnès GYR UKUNDA (Bakame, **Rwanda**), Abdulai SILA (Ku Si Mon, **Guinea Bissau**), Silvia GONZALES (Madriguera, **Peru**) and Hassan KHALIL (Dar Al Farabi, **Lebanon**).

12.00 – 13.00

▶ Censorship: an international perspective

Samar HADDAD (Atlas publishing, **Syria**), Samer ALKADRI (Bright fingers, **Syria**), Kader ABDOLAH (author, **Iran/ Netherlands**).

Chaired by Ester LEVINRAD (Jacana Media, **South Africa**).

16.00 – 17.00

▶ Pan-African publishing: the "Terres solidaires" collection as an example

Yasmin ISSAKA-COUBAGEAT (Graines de Pensées, **Togo**) and François NKEME (Ifrikiya, **Cameroon**).

Chaired by Nancy ONYANGO (journalist, director of This is Africa: www.thisisafrika.me, **South Africa**).

"Closed Book" with the Open Book Festival and the Alliance (19.00)

Venue: Fugard Foyer

MONDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER

(10.00 – 17.00)

MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF INDEPENDENT PUBLISHERS (ICIP)

Meeting of coordinators and vice-coordinators of linguistic networks, with the members of the Board and the permanent team of the Alliance.

Venue: Alliance française French / English interpreting

- On-the-spot feedback about the Cape Town meeting and follow-up to the Assembly
- Decisions on the functioning and governance of the Alliance for the period 2015 to 2018
- Linguistic network projects of the Alliance for the period 2014-2016 (assessment of the meetings by linguistic network)

PARTICIPANTS

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Togo

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South African professionals and institutional players

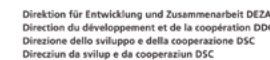
This list is constantly evolving and a final version will be available on the Alliance website (www.alliance-editeurs.org) a few days before the meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PARTNERS IN SOUTH AFRICA



PARTNERS OUTSIDE OF SOUTH AFRICA



We also thank the publishers who have contributed to this meeting, funding their travel, or seeking local support in their country.



Under the patronage of
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Cultural Organization



To participate in the closing meeting of the
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