MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SECTION OF ARCHIVES OF PARLIAMENTS AND POLITICAL PARTIES

Madrid, 11th and 12th September 2003

Attendees:
- Elisa de Santos Canalejo. Presidenta CIA/ICA
- Perrine Canavaggio. Vicesecretaria CIA/ICA
- Mª Ángeles Valle de Juan. Senado de España. Presidenta SPP
- Giuliana Limiti. Sorrintendente Archivio Storico Quirinale. Italy
- Reinhard Helmut Schreiner. Archiv für Christlich Demokratische Politik der Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung. Germany
- Béla Palmany. Archives of the National Assembly of Hungary
- M. Tonelotto. European Parliament
- Alessandro Massai. Archivio Storico della Camera dei Deputati. Italy
- Ángeles Nieto. Asamblea de Madrid. España
- Renate Hopfinger. Archiv für Christlich-Soziale Politik der Hanns-Seidel Stiftung. Germany
- Reinder H. Van der Heide. Tweede Kamer des State-Generaal. Netherlands
- France Belisle. Senate of Canada
- Lauren Klein. Assemblée Nationale. France
- Rivka Markus. Knesset Archives. Israel
- Josefina Velasco. Junta General del Principado de Asturias. España
- Lutgarde Aerts. Chambre des Représentants de Belgique
- Mateo Macia. Congreso de los Diputados. España
- Sofía Gandarias. Congreso de los Diputados. España
- Montserrat Garcia Muñoz. Congreso de los Diputados. España
- Rosario Martínez Cañavate. Congreso de los Diputados. España

Président/Chair: Dña Mª Ángeles Valle de Juan
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1) Report by Ms. Perrine Canavaggio on the CITRA meeting in Marseilles.

Ms. Canavaggio reported on the 35th meeting of the Chairs of the ICA Sections and Committees which was held in Marseilles from November 12th to 15th, 2002, regarding society’s perception of archives. She also referred to the publication of the minutes of the said meeting in the latest issue of the journal *Comma*, 2003 2-3.

At the same time, she informed those present of the ICA’s activities: The International Conference which will be held in Vienna from August 23rd to 29th, 2004, the review of the ICA’s statutes, some thoughts on priorities and programmes for the period 2004-2008 and on the projects under way.

2) Report on the meeting of the Section on International Organizations (SIO) Rome, October 22nd to 25th, 2002, by Mr. Alessandro Massai. Once more, attendance at this meeting was suggested by our colleague Mr. Schouller.

3) Report by the Chair, Ms. Valle de Juan

The Chair reported that no proposed amendments or changes had been received for the draft “Archive Regulations” presented by the Spanish Section in Rome, and so enquired of those present whether it could be taken as approved. The said Regulations were unanimously approved.

She then referred to the tables for the classification of parliamentary archives that had been drawn up by the Spanish Section as a preliminary working tool prior to the definitive presentation at Vienna next year, following the incorporation of the proposals of the members of the International Section. She proposed that the representatives of the political parties’ archives should co-ordinate their activities to achieve, in turn, the possible standardization of their classification tables.

She also reported that she had just received an e-mail from the Secretary Mr. Norberg notifying her of the impossibility of his attending the meeting as serious health problems had been detected the previous day.
4) Presentations on “Selection of documents”


4.2. Wlodzimierz Kucner. Senate of Poland: “The assessment and selection of documentation in the Senate Archives”

4.3. Belisle France. Senate of Canada “ Sélection de documents parlementaires. Expérience du Sénat du Canada” (Selection of parliamentary documents. Experience of the Canadian Senate)


4.8. Reinder H. van der Heide. “Assessment and selection of parliamentary records (search and destroy)”


September 12th, 2003

5) Proposal by the Spanish Group on Document Selection presented by Mariona Corominas (Catalan Regional Parliament) and Mª José Cubells (Valencian Regional Parliament)

Ms. Corominas and Ms. Cubells addressed the assembly on the draft records prepared for proposed document assessment and selection and the instructions for completing these records, and they also presented two examples of series of parliamentary documents for assessment.

This discussion was joined by Ms. Antonia Heredia, a member of the ICA Selection Committee.

At the proposal of Messrs. Tonelotto and Massai, the assembly resolved to recommend the use of these records as a working tool.
6) Archives on the web sites of Parliaments. Participants:

6.1. Alessandro Massai. Historical Archive of the Chamber of Deputies. Italy. “Historical archives on the official Chamber of Deputies Website”.


7) Perception of Archives.

Ms. Valle de Juan presented a survey questionnaire on the perception of our Archives, the theme of the CITRA for this period. All of the members are to send their proposals on the same or the outcome of presenting the said questionnaire to the users of their archives.

8) Proposal for the separation of Parliamentary Archives and the Archives of Political Parties and Proposal for the election of Committee Members for the period 2004-2008.

Ms. Valle de Juan indicated that the said proposals had been included on the Agenda at the request of Mr. Norberg, the Section’s Secretary, and in view of the latter’s absence she asked Mr. Schreiner, the Section’s Deputy Chair, to read the proposals. He did so and indicated afterwards that, in his opinion, this separation is not possible as the number of archives of political parties is too small to constitute their own Section. The Chair agreed with this analysis but asked him to co-ordinate the work of the members of these archives so that they can participate more fully in the work of the SPP.

With regard to the second issue, the meeting resolved to debate the matter at the Committee Meeting in Budapest for a proposal to be submitted in Vienna for approval by the Section.
The members listed having met in Madrid, at the Spanish Senate House, on September 11th and 12th, 2003, they held a meeting of the International Section of the ICA on Parliamentary Archives and Political Parties, at 9:30 a.m. on September 11th with the following agenda:

Welcome addresses by the Secretary General of the Senate Mr. Manuel Cavero, the Chair of the ICA, Ms. Elisa Carolina de Santos, and the Honorary Chair of the SPP, Ms. Limiti as well as the vote of thanks by the Chair of the SPP, Ms. Valle de Juan. The Seminar having been inaugurated, the meeting discussed the first point of the Agenda:

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9) Conclusions by the Chair and end of the session.

The Chair informed the meeting that the number of members in the Section had increased by 30% since 2000, congratulated everyone on the scientific rigour of the papers presented and thanked those present for attending the meeting. She also intimated that a Committee Meeting would be held at the Parliament in Budapest during May, 2004.

Mª Ángeles Nieto. Secretary ad interim
APPENDIX TO THE MINUTES

Our Secretary, Mr. Anders Norberg, most regrettably passed away on September 25th, 2003.

With the assistance of Mr. Elisson, the Chair has addressed letters of condolence to the Swedish Parliament and to the relatives of our esteemed colleague. A biography has been prepared and submitted to the ICA for inclusion on its web site, under the heading “In memoriam Anders Norberg”.

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