IGF 2016 Workshop Report

Session Title	DC on Public Access in Libraries
Date	Wednesday 07 December
Time	15:00-16:30
Session Organizer	DC-PAL
Chair/Moderator	Stuart Hamilton, International Federation of Library IFLA
Rapporteur/Notetaker	
List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations	The following speakers were invited to give remarks during the workshop: Mandiaye Ndiaye (Cheikh Anta Diop University) Vint Cerf (Google) Don Means (Gigabit Libraries Network) Janet Sawaya (Electronic Information for Libraries) Jim Wendorf (IEEE) Mei Lin Fung (People Centered Internet) Manu Bhardwaj (US State Department) Nicolas Pace (DC on Community Connectivity)
Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue):	There was a recap of DC-PAL-related activity since the last IGF. Bringing the next billion people online will require a public access component, and all stakeholders should recognise this and work together to build it. Libraries are a key player in public access to the internet, but they can partner with other organisations such as community connectivity specialists, and engineers to improve their services and reach.
If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each Presentation	Stuart Hamilton recapped the work of DC-PAL in 2016: • EuroDIG (Europe) - arranged sessions on public access for refugees and minorities, and Right to be Forgotten. • LACIGF (Latin-American & Caribbean) – indirect participation through corresponding IFLA member. • APRIGF (Asia-Pacific) – arranged session on Right to be Forgotten. • AFRIGF (Africa) – arranged session on public access. • DC-PAL session on public access at the World Library and Information Congress in Columbus. • Contributed to *The Principles on Internet Connectivity Investment and Human Rights (draft).* • Participation in two Global Connect Initiative/World

	Bank meetings to liaise with other stakeholders working for public access (through libraries and other means). • Promoting the DC-PAL Principles as tool for working with the IFLA International Advocacy Programme on the UN 2030 Agenda. Mandiaye Ndiaye spoke in more depth about the involvement of DC-PAL at the Africa Internet Governance Forum. The theme of the AIGF was inclusive development and digital transformation of Africa, and Pal-DC members spoke at the session on 'Assessing the role of Internet Governance in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)'. Mandiaye and John Tsebe (South Africa) led a discussion on how African governments can use libraries as critical spaces of information to deliver on national development plans SDGs and the African Union Agenda.
Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session: (3 paragraphs)	The bulk of the workshop took the form of a discussion on the role of public access in the SDGS, the Global Connect Initiative, and other initiatives to bring the next billion online. Substantial interventions were made by: • Mei Lin Fung (People Centered Internet) • Don Means (Gigabit Libraries Network) • Vint Cerf (Google) • Janet Sawaya (Electronic Information for Libraries) • Jim Wendorf (IEEE) • Manu Bhardwaj (US State Department) • Stuart Hamilton (IFLA) • Nicolas Pace (DC on Community Connectivity) • Ritu Sharma (Facebook) • Larry Magid (CBS) • Mandiaye Ndiaye (Cheikh Anta Diop University) • David Ramirez (ASCOLBI) • Jonathan Hernandez (UNAM) • Jesus Lau (Veracruz University) • Carolina Rossini (Facebook) The discussions focused on the public access component that would be needed in national and regional connectivity projects, the Global Connect Initiative and the relevant targets in the SDGs. Without utilising public access, the next 1 billion Internet users will not be reached – mobile phones alone will not solve connectivity problems for such a large number. Speakers discussed the role that libraries could play as partners for governments and the private sector, and for

	civil society groups working on community connectivity projects. Other types of anchor institutions were also mentioned in the workshop (such as railway stations, schools, hospitals, or post offices), and there was discussion about equipping them to take advantage of technologies such as TV White Space, and helping them become working partners with libraries to provide public access and wider community connectivity. There was a general agreement that a closer partnership with the Dynamic Coalition on Community Connectivity could be very positive for DC-PAL, and that libraries would be excellent focal points for community connectivity projects, both in terms of locations for access and technology, but also for training in how to set up as well as maintaining the networks themselves.
Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways: (3 paragraphs)	DC-PAL, IEEE, ISOC and the Dynamic Coalition on Community Connectivity will develop a workplan to pilot co-operative connectivity projects in 1-3 countries in 2017. IFLA, IEEE, ISOC, EIFL, Gigabit Libraries Network and Microsoft will work on a pilot public access project through libraries in Tunisia in 2017. DC-PAL and the US State Department will explore the development of public access strategies for incorporation into the Global Connect Initiative focus countries.