40th International Children’s Book Day: 2 April 2007

Since 1967, IBBY sections around the world have celebrated International Children’s Books Day – the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen.

This year, the materials have been sponsored by IBBY New Zealand. Andersen Award winner Margaret Mahy wrote the message to the children of the world, telling us what an unforgettable experience learning to read was for her.

The artist behind the poster is Zak Waipara, a graphic artist and illustrator of Maori descent. He has incorporated many images from New Zealand folklore and legends into the poster with the motto “Stories Ring the World”. Ranginui and Papatuanuku – the Maori sky-father and earth-mother – are represented as carved figures embracing the rich traditions of the New Zealand heritage. The central tree symbolizes Tane Mahuta, God of the Forest, showing how he created the world by separating his parents Ranginui and Papatuanuku by planting his shoulders on the earth and pushing up to the sky with his feet. Other figures include Kopuwai, the giant dog-headed monster, Kurangaituku the bird-woman, a patupaiarehe or sprite-child, and the tuatara, an ancient reptile. The artist has introduced a contemporary theme by placing in the undergrowth the small and pitiful figure of Gollum from the film version of Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings.

More information about the availability of the poster and message can be found on the IBBY New Zealand website. Ideas about how to celebrate the day are also on the site: www.storylines.org.nz.
From 10 – 14 December 2006 the South African Department of Education hosted the 16th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers (16CCEM) in Cape Town, South Africa.

The theme of the Conference was “Access to Quality Education: For the Good of All”.

At the previous CCEM in Edinburgh, Scotland, the Education Ministers had agreed to recognize good and promising practices from the Commonwealth’s 53 member countries in one or more of the Six Action Areas that emanated from the 15th CCEM.

In all, there were 47 submissions from 19 Commonwealth countries. Of these, 21 submissions from 12 countries were short-listed in the first phase and then 9 finalists from 7 countries met in Cape Town in December for the final decision.

The Alif Laila Book Bus Society – IBBY Pakistan – was chosen as one of the finalists for its work in Eliminating Gender Disparities in Secondary Education through Libraries and Resource Centres. All nine finalists received the Nelson Mandela Award.

The meeting, with so many people doing such marvellous work, was a tremendous experience as all of the participants were eager to learn and replicate the good practices in each other’s work.

The Conference itself was fantastic with eminent keynote speakers talking boldly and eloquently. The hospitality of the South African government was excellent.

The three recipients of the Good Practice Award were:

GoLD (Generation of Leaders Discovered) Peer Education Development Agency, South Africa for: Supporting Education in Difficult Circumstances – Mitigating the Impact of HIV/AIDS on Education Systems

The 18th Agios-Lemesos Primary School, Cyprus for: Educational innovations carried forward by the School Unit after acceptance in the Educational Priority Zone of the Ministry of Culture and Education of the Republic of Cyprus

CARE, India for: Advancing Lessons from Udaan – Addressing Challenges faced by Vulnerable Children

Syeda Basarat M. Kazin
President of IBBY Pakistan
Membership News

**IBBY Section Established in Serbia**

We are pleased to welcome IBBY Serbia to the international network of IBBY.

The section is based in Belgrade at the Association of Educational Publishers of Serbia. The two representatives who will work closely with IBBY colleagues around the world are: Ms Dragana Litricin Dunic, President of the Association, Editor in Chief of the School Programme and official collaborator appointed by the Ministry of Education; and Mr Srdjan Seratlic, Manager of the Foreign Rights Department of the Association. For the past few years they have been active participants in the Educational Curriculum Project in Serbia and members of the US-based AEP – Association of Educational Publishers.

IBBY Serbia can be contacted at the following address:

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SR-11 000 Belgrade
Republic of Serbia

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Website: www.ibbyserbia.org

**Individual Member in Morocco**

We are pleased to welcome to the IBBY network a new Individual Member: Mr Ahmed Bensaid, an author, playwright and songwriter for children. He is based in Oujda in Northern Morocco on the Algerian border and is keen to introduce IBBY’s aims to his country.

IBBY currently has ten Individual Members from seven different countries: Ms Loujaina Al-Assil (Syria), Mr Ahmed Bensaid (Morocco), Ms Sing-Ju Chang (Taiwan), Mr K.T. Hao (Taiwan), Mr Mofidul Hoque (Bangladesh), Ms Cynthia James (Trinidad), Ms Prasansa Kalukottege (Sri Lanka), Mr Robert Lin (Taiwan), Ms Sophia Lin (Taiwan), and Mr Sriram K. Kadav (Qatar).

Individual Members can be admitted to IBBY when there is no established National Section in the country or territory where the applicant is living. An annual membership fee is charged and subscription to IBBY’s quarterly journal Bookbird is included in the membership. All IBBY membership applications have to be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval. Details about the different types of IBBY membership can be found on the IBBY Website > About IBBY > Membership, or contact the IBBY Secretariat.

**IBBY China Establishes Four New Branches**

Following the 30th IBBY World Congress in Macau, September 2006, CBBY has been making great efforts to promote IBBY and children’s reading in China.

To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the International Children’s Book Day (ICBD), CBBY will hold a press conference to announce the formal inauguration of four newly established branches of the Chinese Section of IBBY and the re-launch of the upgraded CBBY official website. The press conference will be held at the Capital Library in Beijing on 23 March 2007. The four branches of CBBY are based in Hong Kong, Shenzhen (Guangdong Province), Shanghai, and Jiuquan (Gansu Province).

Immediately after the press conference, official representatives from IBBY, CBBY and the Chinese educational system will visit CBBY model schools and attend seminars on children’s reading, storytelling sessions, and a mini-exhibition of international picture books, BIB illustrations and picture books created by children. CBBY is expecting broad media coverage of all these events. Visit the new CBBY website www.cbby.org
**Storylines Festival 2007**

IBBY New Zealand will be holding the 2007 Storylines Festival from 5 to 10 June. International guests include Shaun Tan from Australia and Mal Peet from the UK. Joining them will be over 50 New Zealand writers, illustrators, storytellers and performers. More information at www.storylines.org.nz

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**Indian Storytelling Conference**

IBBY India / the Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC), is organizing its biennial three-day International Conference to discuss and demonstrate the art of storytelling in its different forms as a way of promoting cultural integration and the reading habit in children.

When: 17 – 19 September 2007
Venue: India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
For more information visit the IBBY website or contact IBBY India: awicbooks@yahoo.com

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**Namibook ‘007**

The Korean Section of IBBY is organizing its third annual Nami Island International Children’s Book Festival.

The Festival will take place under the slogan *The Whole Island is a Library* from 1 May to 1 July 2007 on Nami Island, which lies in the Han River. The organizers plan to blanket the whole island in books: an area of 400,000m²! Major events include books exhibitions, performances and contests, seminars and workshops and various cultural markets. All IBBY Sections have been invited to take part. More information is available at www.kbb.org or contact info@kbb.org

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**Artists for Children**

IBBY Poland has published an attractive almanac describing the Polish children’s book scene after the 1990 political and economic transformation of the country. The almanac contains a wonderful array of illustrations and articles about the writers, artists and translators of modern-day Poland. Enquiries should be addressed to IBBY Poland at www.ibby.pl

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155pp, 230x205mm, ISBN 83-909402-4-8
The IBBY campaign was established in 2005 when it was announced at the Bologna Children’s Book Fair. The campaign is possible thanks to the generous support given by the Yamada Apiculture Group of Japan to a special fund set up by IBBY called the IBBY-Yamada Fund. The first events took place in 2006 in Guatemala, Mongolia and Rwanda. Another project included in the campaign is the virtual exhibition *Books for Africa*. *Books from Africa*, which is an ongoing project and is featured on the IBBY website. A brief summary of the 2006 workshops is below.

**Guatemala**, Guatemala City: Symposium on the importance of developing life long readers in a democracy and workshops on reading promotion. **August 2006**

**Mongolia**, Ulaanbaatar: Two workshops on producing picture books about how to produce cloth picture books. **September 2006**

**Rwanda**, Kigali: Enrichment of Cultural Development, Encouraging Literacy by Bringing Children’s Books to the Classroom. This took the form of a five-day workshop for heads of teacher training colleges, government officials and teachers from Rwanda and neighbouring countries. The workshop was aimed at promoting the use of locally published children’s books in the classroom and of reading in local languages and the mother tongue. The workshop was supported by the IBBY-Yamada Fund, UNESCO’s International Fund for the Promotion of Culture and Rwanda’s children’s publishing house Editions Bakame. **June 2006**.

In early 2006, IBBY made a call to its National Sections for proposals for projects to take place in 2007. From the submitted proposals the Executive Committee made a selection of eight projects. Some are specific workshops for set dates, others are ongoing projects running throughout the year. The projects sanctioned for 2007 are below.

**Cuba**, Havana: Regional workshop on writing and illustration in connection with 2007 Regional Conference. **October 2007**

**India**: Creating libraries. The project will establish libraries in two community centres: in Arunachal Pradesh (N. India) and in New Delhi. Training sessions will be organized with parents, social workers and teachers to teach them how to promote the reading habit. Libraries will be established in the centres and staff trained to run the libraries as well as how to organize additional book-related activities after the initial setting up period. **Through 2007**.

**Indonesia**, Jakarta: Workshop on publishing. Designed to equip the participants with basic knowledge and some of the skills needed to publish and distribute quality books for teenagers. **March 2007**

**Mongolia**, Ulaanbaatar: The second Mongolian workshop will take place in 2007 and comprise a five-day course to study design, layout and illustration. The workshop is designed to enrich the quality of Mongolian children’s literature. **September 2007**.

**Palestine**, Ramallah: Workshop for professional editing of children’s literature. **Date to be decided**.

**South Africa**, Cape Town: Books where there are no books. The project is designed to encourage children to gather stories from their parents, grandparents and neighbours and subsequently turn them into written stories, thus helping the children develop essential writing skills. In addition, the project will increase their knowledge, confidence and communication skills. (Supported by IBBY Canada.) **February to December 2007**.
Uganda, Kampala: Workshop on writing and illustrating skills for children's storybooks. The three-day course will include context analysis, skills needed for writers/illustrators, group discussions and presentations. *May to August 2007.*

Uruguay, Montevideo: This project is designed to promote support and training for people who work with children and young people. It will concentrate on training modules in public schools, encouraging more permanent trainings as well as workshops on reading promotion strategies. (Supported by IBBY Netherlands.) *Through 2007.*

One more project will be sanctioned by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.

Madagascar, Antananarivo: Known as the *Bobiko* project designed to develop a children's book culture: books in the local language as well as bilingual books. It includes a publishing workshop and a workshop for writers and one for illustrators. (Supported by IBBY France.) *Through 2007.*

The IBBY campaign is expected to continue and we hope that the success of these exciting accomplishments around the world by IBBY members and colleagues will attract local sponsoring, thus making them more sustainable. A new call to the National Sections will be made for proposals for 2008. The IBBY website will be updated with news about the projects.

**Children in Crisis**

Another exciting innovation is the new IBBY Children in Crisis Fund. During the open discussions at the IBBY Congress in Macau in 2006, it became clear there was a desire among the membership to initiate a series of projects that could reach children whose lives are disrupted by natural disasters, wars and other civil disturbances. The short term goals are to help relieve trauma through the use of bibliotherapy and/or replace damaged or destroyed book-related infrastructure, such as libraries or reading centres. In the long-term we hope to be able to leave a legacy of an improved or renewed infrastructure, with adults trained in the use of books in trauma relief and reading promotion. Accompanying this goal is the strengthening of the local IBBY section.

Guidelines are being put into place for the selection of the projects and IBBY aims at being able to rapidly respond to crises that come to our attention. Outside sponsorship will be sought to supplement the available IBBY funds.

One of the first projects to be supported by the Fund is a project in Lebanon. The project, under the title Conflict Control, will take place in southern Lebanon. Teachers from local schools will be trained in the use of books and drama for relieving the trauma experienced by the children following the war there last year. IBBY Lebanon has a lot of experience in this field and we believe that with expert training the local teachers will be able to help many of the children in the region who remain traumatized.

A complete day preceding the 2008 IBBY Congress in Copenhagen will be devoted to an IBBY workshop covering bibliotherapy methods, fundraising and IBBY networking.

More information about this workshop will be available nearer the Congress.
IBBY Survey 2006

In 2006, IBBY conducted a survey of government policies that act as impediments to book publishing, distribution and other relevant aspects of the industry. The survey was carried out by means of a questionnaire disseminated to the IBBY National Sections and, with the help of APNET (The African Publishing Network), to publishers in Africa. The aim was to propose a resolution directed to UNESCO following its adoption of the principle of “free flow of books” and in endorsing this principle worldwide.

The survey was completed and the resulting resolution was put to the IBBY membership at the IBBY General Assembly in Macau, China. The resolution was accepted by the membership and subsequently submitted to the Director General of UNESCO. The resolution declares that:

*Given UNESCO’s stated objectives*
- to promote the free flow of expression
- to increase access to books for all, and
- to develop national book publishing, and

given that UNESCO recognizes that the taxation policies of member states are frequently barriers to achieving these goals, and

given that many UNESCO member states continue to tax import and export of books, tax the materials required to produce books, and tax book consumption through VAT, and

given that IBBY’s special concern with children’s books and the child’s right to become a reader, IBBY calls on UNESCO member states to:
  - eliminate duties on the import and export of books;
  - cease to treat illustrated books as toys for the purposes of taxation;
  - eliminate import duties on materials required for the creation and production of books;
  - and, reduce or eliminate VAT on books and or the materials used in their creation.

A summary of the results of the survey and the text of the resolution is posted on the IBBY website.

Bologna Children’s Book Fair 2007

IBBY is pleased to announce that, thanks to the generosity of the Bologna Children’s Book Fair management, we shall once again be present at the fair. The international book fair will take place from Tuesday, 24 April and close on Friday, 27 April. The traditional IBBY press conference will take place on Tuesday, 24 April in the auditorium “Concerto” in the services centre block D, at 14:30. Everyone is welcome to attend.

A reception will take place at the IBBY stand immediately after the press conference: 29/A51. At the stand the 2007 selection of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities will be presented for the first time. The latest information concerning the project programmes, the forthcoming Congress in Copenhagen and all IBBY news will also be presented. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Copenhagen 2008

Preparations for the 2008 Congress are well underway. The call for papers will be sent out shortly.

You are invited to visit the special IBBY Denmark Congress website for all the latest news: www.ibby2008.dk
**IBBY Agenda March to July 2007**

This is a brief overview of forthcoming important events

For more information and news of further events visit the IBBY website

www.ibby.org > IBBY Worldwide

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>22 – 25 March</td>
<td>Leipzig Book Fair with announcement of nominations for the 2007 German Youth Literature Award <em>(Der Deutsche Jugendliteraturpreis)</em> by IBBY Germany</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td><strong>Publication:</strong> Bookbird issue 2/2007</td>
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<td>2 April</td>
<td>International Children’s Book Day: sponsor IBBY New Zealand</td>
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<td>22 – 23 April</td>
<td>EC meeting in Bologna</td>
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<td>24 – 27 April</td>
<td>Bologna International Children’s Book Fair, IBBY stand in hall 29/A51 Featuring:</td>
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<td>• IBBY Honour List 2006</td>
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<td>• Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities 2007</td>
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<td>• International Children’s Book Day 2007</td>
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<td>• IBBY 31st Congress 2008 in Copenhagen</td>
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<td>• Books for Africa. Books from Africa exhibition</td>
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<td>• Bookbird: A Journal of International Children’s Literature</td>
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<td>24 April</td>
<td>IBBY Press Conference, 14:30 Sala Concerto, followed by reception at IBBY stand 29/A51</td>
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<td>27 April – 6 May</td>
<td>Kuala Lumpur International Book Fair, with participation by IBBY Malaysia in the Children’s Book Pavilion (<a href="http://www.klibf.com">www.klibf.com</a>)</td>
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<td>30 April</td>
<td>Registration deadline for IBBY Cuba Congress Congreso Lectura 2007: Para Leer el XXI: 23-27 October in Havana</td>
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<td>May</td>
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<td>1 May – 1 July</td>
<td>Nami Island International Children’s Book Festival (<a href="http://www.kbby.org">www.kbby.org</a>)</td>
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<td>11 – 13 May</td>
<td>BuchBasel: IBBY Secretariat will present IBBY’s current activities</td>
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<td>5 – 10 June</td>
<td>Storylines Festival, New Zealand (<a href="http://www.storylines.org.nz">www.storylines.org.nz</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td><strong>Publication:</strong> Bookbird issue 3/2007</td>
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