

# ALA American Library Association

## Resolution on World Trade Organization Policies Affecting Libraries

- WHEREAS, The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and the Canadian Library Association (CLA) have taken very similar strong positions regarding new World Trade Organization (WTO) proposals affecting libraries; and
- WHEREAS, The national delegates to the November 1999 WTO Ministerial Conference in Seattle were unable to proceed due to large-scale protests mobilized by a wide coalition of environmental, labor, religious, professional, and civil society organizations; and
- WHEREAS, ALA sent a delegate to the WTO meeting but had no official position; and
- WHEREAS, The WTO negotiates in secret and excludes popular participation; and
- WHEREAS, The WTO proposals could have dramatic negative effects on publicly supported libraries as explained in the IFLA and CLA position statements; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That ALA endorses the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and World Trade Organization (WTO) position statements; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That ALA will work in coalition as identified by the International Relations Committee to protect libraries within the WTO context; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That this resolution be communicated to the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and to the Canadian Library Association.



ADOPTED BY THE  
COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (ALA)  
January 19, 2000

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William R. Gordon".  
William R. Gordon  
Secretary of the ALA Council

After much debate, Council

**VOTED**, To amend **CD#44, Exhibit 19**, Resolution on Requiring Professional Librarian Credentials for Executive Director and Director Level Management Positions in the American Library Association, to read: "That the American Library Association shall henceforth require a Master's Degree from a program accredited by the ALA or a Master's Degree with a specialty in school library media from an educational unit accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) for the Executive Director of ALA."

**RESOLUTION ON SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT, CD#45, Exhibit 20.** Councilor Mark Rosenzweig moved and Council

**VOTED**, To defeat the adoption of CD#45, Resolution on Socially Responsible Investment, which read: "That an ad hoc committee on Council be empowered to revisit this issue and report back at the July 2000 Annual Meeting."

**RESOLUTION ON WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION POLICIES AFFECTING LIBRARIES, CD#46, Exhibit 21.** Councilor Alfred Kagan moved that Council adopt CD#46, Resolution on World Trade Organization Policies Affecting Libraries, which read: "That ALA endorses the IFLA and the WTO position statements; and that ALA will work in coalition with other organizations to protect libraries within the WTO context."

It was moved and by **CONSENT**, Council amended CD#46, Resolution on World Trade Organization Policies Affecting Libraries, to read: "That ALA endorses the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and World Trade Organization (WTO) position statements; and that ALA will work in coalition **as identified by the International Relations Committee** to protect libraries within the WTO context; **and, that this resolution be communicated to the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and to the Canadian Library Association.**"

**RESOLUTION ON TRANSFERRING THE FUNCTIONS OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICE (NTIS) TO THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE (GPO), CD#47, Exhibit 22.** In lieu of a similar resolution to be introduced by the Committee on Legislation at Council III, CD#47 was withdrawn.

**APPROVAL OF FY2001 PROGRAMMATIC PRIORITIES, CD#13.2, Exhibit 23.** ALA Treasurer Bruce Daniels moved and Council

**VOTED**, To reaffirm the five (5) Key Action Areas to guide the FY2001 budget: Diversity, Intellectual Freedom, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literacy, Equity of Access, and Education & Continuous Learning.

**POLICY MONITORING COMMITTEE REPORT, CD#17, Exhibit 24.** Councilor Donald J. Sager, chair, moved the following three items, all of which were **ADOPTED**.

Item #1: To add a new Subsection to Policy 10.1, which reads: "Section 10.1.1. Definition of an ALA Publication. The term "ALA publication" means an information product or other discrete set of information, regardless of medium:

That is created or compiled:

by ALA staff in the course of their duties on behalf of ALA or one of its units; or through a contractual relationship between the creator and ALA or one of its units; or by ALA members in the