

**International Annual Meeting on Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publications (IAMLADP)**

**Statement adopted by the Executive Session  
held at IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, on 28 June 2006**

The managers of the conference and language services of the international organizations, having gathered in Vienna in June 2006 for their annual meeting, reconfirmed the continuing essential and substantive role of conference and language services in international organizations.

They reaffirmed their full commitment to continued reforms with a view to enhancing core professional goals of quality, productivity, timeliness and cost-effectiveness. Their collective experience has demonstrated that greater cost-effectiveness and productivity can be realized without compromising quality when reform measures are implemented in a continuing, forward-looking manner, with clearly defined goals for each stage, and are underpinned by reliable, transparent and comparable indicators.

It was stressed that the greatest asset of all participating organizations is their staff. Reform initiatives in the area of conference, language and publishing services - as in any other area - should involve staff in the design and implementation stages, in order to take full advantage of their experience and expertise to ensure that maximum benefits are attained.

Members of IAMLADP welcomed progress in the areas of information and communication technology, which created opportunities to improve service delivery by simplifying and modernizing management practices and work processes of conference and language services.

The need for clear and concise systems of accountability in the context of comprehensive results-based budgeting was underlined, as was the importance of transparent evaluation of the services provided. It was felt that managers responsible for programme activities should be given the necessary resources, delegated authority and flexibility in order to deliver targeted outcomes.

The participants reaffirmed the importance of sound personnel policies based on clear accountability lines and merit-based career development. They recommend that staff mobility policies take into account the specialized nature of the work of conference and language professionals, as well as the importance of preserving and enriching institutional memory; and that solid core structures be maintained.

They expressed concern that conference and language professionals possessing the high level of expertise and experience required by international organizations are in short supply on the commercial market. They felt, therefore, that the problem of identifying, attracting, recruiting and retaining such qualified professionals must be addressed in order to meet the demand, both at present and in the near future when large numbers of translators and interpreters retire.

The importance of developing skills and competencies of conference and language specialists was underlined. Therefore, investment in the training of staff should be accorded high priority. In particular, the participants recommend the enhancement of both internal and external training programmes and the further development of staff exchange programmes between organizations.

They also advocate closer cooperation between the international organizations and universities and other reputable academic institutions to promote the training of conference and language service professionals.

It was agreed that participating organizations would bring this statement of their collective commitments, concerns and recommendations to the attention of their respective Senior Managements for referral to governing bodies as they deem appropriate.

-----