



# SCATNews

Newsletter of the Standing Committee of the IFLA Cataloguing Section

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Gunilla Jonsson

## Letter from the Chair

As I write these lines, the catastrophe in South East Asia is vivid in all minds. Our thoughts go first, of course, to all people who have lost their lives or are still missing (many, many from my country) and to their families. Much of the infrastructure in the stricken countries, however, has also been wiped out, and I hope you have seen the request from Sri Lanka for help to restore the libraries that have been lost and destroyed in that country. It was sent out by Sjoerd Koopman at IFLA Headquarters, and this is precisely an occasion when an organisation like IFLA can make a difference, because the information channels to reach the whole world are there. Then it is up to individual libraries to answer to the request!

Another sad issue that is of great concern to European libraries at present is book thefts in public libraries. We have had a number of such cases revealed in Europe over the last years, both by external and internal thieves – the latter kind is the most disturbing case, indeed. One result of these circumstances is a raised awareness of security measures, and among those measures cataloguing ranks high. As persons responsible for cataloguing workflows or directly involved in them, we should make note of this and answer to the requirements. Comprehensive and complete catalogues do provide an important deterrent to thefts.

Well, after this gloomy start, I will try to look at brighter developments. The statement from the Buenos Aires IME ICC has been voted on by the Latin American participants and then by the Frankfurt participants. There have been a small number of changes, mostly editorial of character, but also some of a more essential nature. The plan is to finalize the statement during February 2005, but you can see the present state at [http://www.loc.gov/loc/ifla/imeicc/source/statement\\_draft04.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/loc/ifla/imeicc/source/statement_draft04.pdf).

We also got a message that the Frankfurt statement has been translated into Japanese!

Next IME ICC will take place in Cairo in mid-December 2005 and be directed at the Middle East and Arabic cataloguing communities.

Activities in the FRBR review group are not quite as wide spread yet, but I want to express my great excitement over the results achieved by the working group on a FRBR/CIDOC CRM dialogue. In my mind this group is adding precision and, as a consequence, also more flexibility to the model.

The ISBD review group is busy as always. A number of study groups work with special problems. Maybe, we look forward particularly to have the results of the Future Directions study group, which is looking at the overall structure of the family of ISBDs. You will forgive me also, I think, for mentioning just one of the other study groups, the one working with updating the ISBD(A), which started its work during autumn with me as chair. There was an overwhelming interest to participate in this group, and we have established both a core group and a corresponding network. Results are expected during spring 2005, although opinions in some cases are very divided! Which brings me over to the very interesting situation we face at present with the ISBD(ER) that was not approved by one of our committee members. We decided that we should carry on discussion within the committee to try and solve the controversies before going on with ER. Patrick and I decided that we need a listserv for the committee members in order to do this efficiently, and this will hopefully be set up as soon as the necessary people at IFLA Headquarters are back from holidays. We usually vote “yes, with comments” to the ISBD updates, but I think it was a good thing that we had one “no vote”. It will give us the opportunity to involve the committee members beyond the members of the ISBD review group in active work. I look forward to the discussions, once the listserv is in place.

*Names of Persons* has been scanned and formatted into a pdf file, and will appear at our pages on IFLANET some time in the near future. That means that Peter van Otegem can finally start building his network of language experts to help with the updating.

Finally, I want to remind you that 2005 is election year, and nominations for standing committee members must reach IFLA HQ on February 2, “by close of business”, as they put it.

Now, I wish you a Happy New Year!

With all good wishes,  
Gunilla Jonsson

## IME ICC News, by Barbara TILLET

Following the IME ICC2 meeting in Buenos Aires (IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code), the proposals from the Latin American/Caribbean participants in IME ICC were posted on the IME ICC Web sites during December 2004:

IME ICC1:

<[http://www.ddb.de/news/ifla\\_conf\\_index.htm](http://www.ddb.de/news/ifla_conf_index.htm)>

IME ICC2: <<http://www.loc.gov/imeicc2>>

As the next step, once the Latin American/Caribbean participants reach agreement on their suggested changes, the revisions will be sent to the European participants to discuss and reach consensus.

The meetings for the Middle East (2005 in Egypt – not yet finalised) and Africa (2007 near Durban, South Africa, not yet finalised) will be of a slightly different nature, as there are no rule making bodies in those countries, but their perspective will be very important on applying the rules to their resources being catalogued. The meeting of rule makers and cataloguing experts in Asia (2006 in Seoul, hosted by the National Library of Korea) will be similar in format to the European meeting, where the representatives of the various rule making bodies in Asia will discuss their similarities and differences. Their goal, as in Europe, will be to suggest adjustments to the principles relevant to their needs, as well as to recommend rules that might be included in an International Cataloguing Code (a code for code makers – rules that we agree should be in all cataloguing codes world-wide).

### ISBDs in all languages

Translations of ISBDs into languages other than English are listed on IFLANET at <<http://www.ifla.org/VI/3/nd1/isbdtran.htm>>, but it is very difficult to keep track of all translations in all languages. Some lists have no reference posterior to 1984...

Please check if your language is represented on that page, and **if a reference to a translation of an ISBD into your language is missing, please notify us!**

Thank you very much in advance.

## ISBD translations published in 2004:

### Estonian:

ISBD(CR) : rahvusvahelised jadaväljaannete ja teiste pidevväljaannete bibliograafilise kirjeldamise reeglid / Translated and edited by Sirje Nilbe and Janne Andresoo]. – Tallinn : Eesti Rahvusraamatukogu, 2004. – IX, 127 p. – (RRS ; 3:2004) (Kirjereeglid).

### French:

ISBD(CR) : description bibliographique internationale normalisée des publications en série et autres ressources continues / traduction et édition françaises établies par la Bibliothèque nationale de France, Bureau de normalisation documentaire. – Paris : Bibliothèque nationale de France, 2004. – ISBN 2-7177-2323-4.

[http://www.bnf.fr/pages/infopro/normes/pdf/ISBD\(CR\)\\_trad.pdf](http://www.bnf.fr/pages/infopro/normes/pdf/ISBD(CR)_trad.pdf)

### Serbian:

ISBD(CR) : Међународни стандардни библиографски опис серијских публикација и других континуираних извора : прерађено издање ISBD(S) Међународни стандардни библиографски опис серијских публикација / [приређивач] Међународна федерација библиотечких удружења и институција = [edited by] International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions ; превод прерађеног издања из 2002. године [Биљана Илић]. – Београд : Народна библиотека Србије, 2004. – 148 стр. : табеле ; 29 см. – (Едиција Савремена библиотека / [Народна библиотека Србије]). – ISBN 86-7035-109-9

### Spanish:

ISBD (CR) : Descripción Bibliográfica Internacional Normalizada para Publicaciones Seriadas y otros Recursos Continuados. – Madrid : ANABAD, 2004. – ISBN 84-88716-33-8

### ISBDs in French

Toutes les URL des traductions des ISBD en français disponibles sur le Web viennent de changer – veuillez donc mettre à jour vos signets :

<[http://www.bnf.fr/pages/infopro/normes/pdf/ISBD\(ER\)\\_trad.pdf](http://www.bnf.fr/pages/infopro/normes/pdf/ISBD(ER)_trad.pdf)> ;

<[http://www.bnf.fr/pages/infopro/normes/pdf/ISBD\(M\)\\_trad.pdf](http://www.bnf.fr/pages/infopro/normes/pdf/ISBD(M)_trad.pdf)> ;

<<http://www.bnf.fr/pages/infopro/normes/pdf/Isbd-nbm.pdf>> ;

<[http://www.bnf.fr/pages/infopro/normes/rtf/no-ISBD\(PM\).rtf](http://www.bnf.fr/pages/infopro/normes/rtf/no-ISBD(PM).rtf)> .

The Cataloguing Section was also informed that in 2004 other IFLA documents were translated and published in the following languages:

### Serbian: UNIMARC Authorities format:

Priručnik za UNIMARC : format za normativne podatke / [priredila] Međunarodna federacija bibliotekskih udruženja i institucija. – Beograd : Narodna biblioteka Srbije, 2004. – 221 str. : tabele ; 29 cm. – (Edicija Savremena biblioteka / [Narodna biblioteka Srbije]). – ISBN 86-7035-108-0

### Spanish: FRBR Final Report:

Requisitos funcionales de los registros bibliográficos : informe final / Grupo de estudio de la IFLA sobre los Requisitos funcionales de los registros bibliográficos ; traducción de Xavier Agenjo y Maria Luisa Martínez-Conde. – [Madrid] : Ministerio de Cultura, 2004. – ISBN 84-8181-213-7



## News from the ISBD Review Group,

by John BYRUM and Dorothy MCGARRY

The ISBD Review Group is currently in the midst of the “Second General Review” of the several International Standard Bibliographic Descriptions that make up the “Family of ISBDs” (see: <http://www.ifla.org/VI/3/nd1/isbdlist.htm>). The purpose of the “Second General Review” is to make optional (or conditional) in the ISBDs data elements that became optional with approval of the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Record (FRBR), to clarify and modernise terminology in the ISBDs, and otherwise to update the provisions of the ISBDs. To date, revision of ISBD(M), ISBD(CR) and ISBD(G) has been completed, and new versions have been published on IFLANET. The ISBD for Electronic Resources has advanced through world-wide review and is undergoing approval process at this time. It should be available in the course of January 2005. The ISBD for Cartographic Materials is nearly ready to post for world-wide review. A Study Group has been appointed and is working on an update of ISBD(A) which covers older publications. In preparation for review of ISBD for Non-Book Materials and the ISBD for Printed Music, the previous editions have been digitised and are now posted on IFLANET for consultation.

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A Study Group on Future Directions of the ISBDs was formed as a Study Group of the ISBD Review Group after the Berlin IFLA meeting in 2003. Its members consist of Françoise Bourdon, Elena Escolano Rodríguez, Renate Gömpel, Lynne Howarth, Dorothy McGarry (Chair), Eeva Murtomaa, and Mirna Willer.

This Study Group was formed:

- To consider the uses and values of an ISBD that combines into a single document provisions for the entire Family, with different chapters for the information specific to a particular type of material;
- To improve consistency of terminology and content throughout the ISBDs;
- To consider administrative issues related to the Review Group’s growing workload; and
- To assign priorities to new and ongoing projects to ensure timely, balanced completion of Review Group’s agenda.

The Study Group will meet at Die Deutsche Bibliothek in Frankfurt in 2005, to work on combining the ISBDs into a single document. Thanks are due to Renate Gömpel for arranging for the SG meeting.

Many parts of the current ISBDs are the same or similar, and preparing one document instead of the seven now in use will allow for better consistency in development and maintenance. At the present time, if one ISBD is revised, it might seem useful to revise a stipulation or some wording, but then the other ISBDs would not have the same applicable changes until they are again revised. Where stipulations from the various ISBDs would be the same, they need not be repeated. Where they must be different, e.g. to account for music or cartographic materials or continuing resources, differences would be included.

It is intended that after the meeting and further discussion within the Study Group, a revised version of a consolidated ISBD will be sent to the ISBD Review Group in July for its consideration in August 2005 at the IFLA conference in Oslo.

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In another area of special importance, the ISBD Review Group has been attempting to provide improved guidance with regard to use of the ISBDs for bibliographic description of publications in multiple formats, for example, an e-book or serially issued maps. Recognising the increasing incidence of resources published in more than one physical medium, and the challenges that these publications pose for bibliographic control, the Review Group appointed a task force that decided to investigate three topics in particular:

- (1) use of multiple ISBDs and use of multiple general material designations ([GMDS]),
- (2) the order in which elements for multiple formats should be treated, and
- (3) the number of bibliographic records to be created for multiple versions.

The task force developed a number of proposed additions or changes to the ISBD(M) that were posted to IFLANET last year for world-wide review. However, consensus could not be produced on the issues, so further investigation was deemed necessary.

As a result, the ISBD Review Group established the Material Designation Study Group, with Lynne Howarth (University of Toronto) as chair, and Françoise Bourdon, Mauro Guerrini, Cristina Magliano, and Glenn Patton serving as members. This Group is expected to deliver a preliminary outline of problems and issues for presentation to the Review Group during the IFLA 2005 meetings, taking into account relevant recommendation from IME ICC Working Group 5 (summarised within the report that has been made available at: [http://www.ddb.de/news/pdf/ime\\_icc\\_report\\_berlin.pdf](http://www.ddb.de/news/pdf/ime_icc_report_berlin.pdf)). Further input to be considered will result from changes authorised by the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR as it develops AACR3.

To address another area of interest, the Review Group in 2002 established the ISBD Series Study Group, with Françoise Bourdon and Joëlle Bellec (Bibliothèque nationale de France). This effort reflected concerns that some inconsistencies and ambiguities appear to have developed regarding the rules for recording information in Area 6 for Series and related information presented in Area 7 for Notes. The Study Group's mission is to set out how these areas are treated in all the ISBDs and then propose a common phrasing for the rules examined. The Study Group will also take into account relevant prescriptions from AACR2 and the ISSN Guidelines.

Specifically, the charge is three-fold:

- to clarify the purpose of area 6 and its relationship with area 1 in ISBD(CR) and ISSN: identification or transcription;
- to verify the compatibility of sources of information recommended or prescribed in all ISBDs for area 6 and for area 1 in ISBD(CR) and ISSN, and
- to propose a common phrasing for area 6 in all ISBDs.

After circulation of discussion papers that made clear the complexity of the issues under investigation, the Group agreed that through all the ISBDs, Area 6 is mainly for transcription of data from the item being catalogued, and less for identification, and that obvious typographical errors should not be corrected. Earlier this year, the ISBD Review Group considered a proposed change to the ISBD for Continuing Resources, but some reser-

vations were expressed that the Study Group has been asked to consider. Meanwhile, the Study Group is also investigating problems related to sources of information for Area 6, taking into consideration the great variety of publication practices throughout the world in laying out bibliographic information regarding series and sub-series and inconsistent practices among national bibliographic agencies in treating such information.

Comments and questions regarding these activities or other matters related to IFLA's ISBD program may be sent to John Byrum at [jbyr@loc.gov](mailto:jbyr@loc.gov).



**News from the FRBR Review Group,**  
by Patrick LE BŒUF

Since the publication of the *FRBR Final Report* in 1998, a number of suggestions have been made by various commentators in order to improve the model. Those suggestions have never been "officially" assessed by IFLA, although they would constitute an interesting basis for reviewing the model. But they were difficult to deal with, as they were scattered in many distinct papers, articles, Web pages, etc. It proved therefore necessary to gather them all in only one centralised document. This document now is available from the Internet:

<[http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/d\\_read/frbr/Suggestions\\_for\\_Reviewing.doc](http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/d_read/frbr/Suggestions_for_Reviewing.doc)>. The document does not claim to be exhaustive; if you know of any suggestion that has not been collected there, you are invited to download a template that is available at <[http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/d\\_read/frbr/Template\\_for\\_Suggestions.dot](http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/d_read/frbr/Template_for_Suggestions.dot)>, which will allow you to create a distinct formatted entry for each new suggestion. Of course, you also are warmly welcome to use that template to make suggestions of your own. Once you've completed the template, please send the resulting Word

file to me at [patrick.le-boeuf@bnf.fr](mailto:patrick.le-boeuf@bnf.fr); before doing so, please suppress the macro contained in the document, because the firewalls created by the institution where I work are so powerful that any Word file containing a macro that is sent to my e-mail system is relentlessly destroyed!

At the initiative of OCLC, an invitational symposium on FRBR will be held in Dublin, Ohio, on May 2-4, 2005. The programme has not been finalised yet, but the Planning Committee, chaired by Maja Žumer, is considering the following issues: treatment of composite works; relationships in FRBR; review of FRBR; FRANAR/FRAR state-of-the-art and consequences for implementation; subject access in FRBR; implementation of FRBR; interaction with the library community and beyond. A Web site devoted to that symposium will be created in January or February.

The Working Group on FRBR/CRM dialogue will have its third meeting in London on February 9-11, 2005. It will be organised by Dolores Iorizzo, from the Newton Project at the Imperial College (<<http://www.newtonproject.ic.ac.uk>>), who would like to take advantage of that meeting to promote both the FRBR model and the CRM model within such institutions as the Imperial College or the Royal Society. At this stage of our work, it is certainly premature to publicise our intermediate results, as they might convey a distorted picture of our intentions. FRBR is being “translated” into object-oriented formalism, following the same methodology as for the CIDOC CRM model that was developed for museum information: this is required in order to facilitate a comparison, and perhaps eventually a merging, between the library model and the museum model. Developing an OO version of FRBR will also have two “side effects”: (1) FRBR will be formally closer to the kind of “ontologies” that are required in Semantic Web technologies, and (2) by striving to express the implicit semantics of FRBR at the light of the “event-centred” CRM model, we are led to model not just the information contained in catalogue records, but some aspects of cataloguers’ expertise as well. We do hope that our progress during the London meeting will be significant enough so as to allow us to give our thinking a wider diffusion.



## Revision of the ISBN standard, by Gunilla JONSSON

The ISBN standard has recently gone through the ISO updating process, and the new standard will be published in the beginning of 2005, but the transition will not take place until January 1, 2007. The most notable feature is that the standard will be extended from 10 to 13 digits, and this will affect even the numbers issued under the existing standard. As a matter of fact, we already receive books with 13 digit ISBNs and must be prepared to handle that.

The 13 digit ISBNs will start with “978”, but that prefix is reserved for the ISBNs that have already been allocated to local agencies for dissemination to their publishing constituencies. When a local agency has finished its supply of numbers they will request new blocks from the central agency, and the new numbers will start with 979. The 978 is added to the old numbers to make them compatible in structure with the new ones.

Many national ISBN agencies are located in national libraries, and in those countries, the library community is already aware of the changes. I hope information has reached the libraries even in countries where the agencies are kept by the publishing community. Extensive information can be found on the homepage of the international ISBN agency: <http://www.isbn-international.org/en/revision.html>.

There is, however, one specific feature of the new standard that I wish to draw your attention to. There is a strong recommendation that metadata should be supplied for each publication that has been assigned an ISBN. A minimum level record has been designed, comprising the following elements:

ISBN, code for product form, title, series title and enumeration, contributor name and code for contributor role, edition, language, imprint (a bit confusing for librarians, as “imprint” designates brand name in this context), publisher, country of publication, publication date (in ISO 8601 format – YYYY-MM-DD), ISBN of parent publication if applicable. Most interestingly, it is also planned to make a downloadable metadata template available. This template will generate a record in ONIX format, and as mappings exist between ONIX and UNIMARC as well as between ONIX and MARC21, it could have the potential to facilitate efficient cooperation between libraries and publishers in the cataloguing workflow. (See the different mappings, or links to them, at <http://www.editeur.org/onixmarc.html>.)

It remains to be seen to what extent publishers will use this, if indeed at all. However, every step towards standardization of the workflow between publishers and libraries must be welcomed!



## News from the Library of Congress

by John BYRUM

### LIBRARY SERVICES REALIGNMENT

On July 2, 2004, associate librarian for Library Services Deanna Marcum announced a realignment of the service unit's top levels of management, intended to ensure that Library Services delivers the best service and products to its users.

The service unit is now aligned in five directorates: Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access; Collections and Services; Partnerships and Outreach Programs; Preservation; and Technology Policy. The Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate (ABA) encompasses acquisitions and cataloging functions, recognizing that both functions serve the goal of providing access to information and knowledge.

### LC PLAN TO ACCOMMODATE 13-DIGIT ISBN

In response to requests from publishers to include 13-digit ISBNs in their CIP data, the Library of Congress began to accommodate the new ISBN configuration in the *MARC 21 Format for Bibliographic Data* on Oct. 1, 2004. Background about this ISBN change may be found at: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsol/13digit.html> [Nov. 2004]. The Library has also included a new section for 13-digit ISBNs in the October 2004 *LCRI* 1.8, p.2.

During the transition period from the current ISBN configuration to the new configuration, which must be fully implemented worldwide by Jan. 1, 2007, LC has adopted the following guidelines:

- *Before Oct. 1, 2004*

No 13-digit ISBNs were added to bibliographic records issued by LC either through the CIP Program or the Preassigned Control Number Program.

- *Oct. 1, 2004-Jan. 1, 2007*

LC began inputting in bibliographic records ISBNs that have been expanded to thirteen digits (ISBN-13). ISBN-13 numbers begin with the digits "978." These ISBNs should *not* be confused with EAN. EAN are not being input.

LC will accept both an ISBN-13 and an ISBN-10 for the same manifestation. These numbers are shown by publishers according to guidelines issued by the International ISBN Agency, which call for grouping the pairs of ISBNs by manifestation. In printed products the ISBN-13 appears first, and each number is preceded by a print constant as in the following example:

ISBN-13: 978-1-873671-00-00

ISBN-10: 1-873671-008

Multiple pairs are to be printed on separate lines down the page, one pair after the other, in contrast to the style now used for CIP data.

LC will group pairs of ISBN-13 and ISBN-10 in repeated MARC 21 020 fields, ISBN-13 first in each pair. Each number will be qualified as may be appropriate. Hyphens are not carried in the MARC record.

The pair related to the manifestation represented by the bibliographic record will be given first. All pairs provided by publishers will be input to the bibliographic record.

For CIP data supplied to publishers to be printed in the book on the verso of the title page, no more than two pairs will be printed. To indicate that additional ISBN pairs are in the bibliographic record beyond those provided in the printed CIP data, "[etc.]" will be printed on the line under the last printed ISBN.

- *Jan. 1, 2007-*

Upon full implementation of ISBN-13, LC anticipates that publishers will supply only an ISBN-13.

### BIBLIOGRAPHIC ACCESS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2005-2006

The Bibliographic Access Divisions have finalized their strategic plan for fiscal years 2005 and 2006. This new strategic plan will guide the Bibliographic Access Divisions as they work to integrate cataloging and metadata for digital and traditional library materials into the larger universe of information and creative knowledge. The plan defines 23 strategic objectives for the period as related to the following five goals:

**I.** Make it easy and fast for end users to find, identify, select, obtain, and use a complete range of information and creative resources.

**II.** Lead and collaborate globally in the development, promotion, and dissemination of policy, practice, standards, and programs for bibliographic description and access and inventory control.

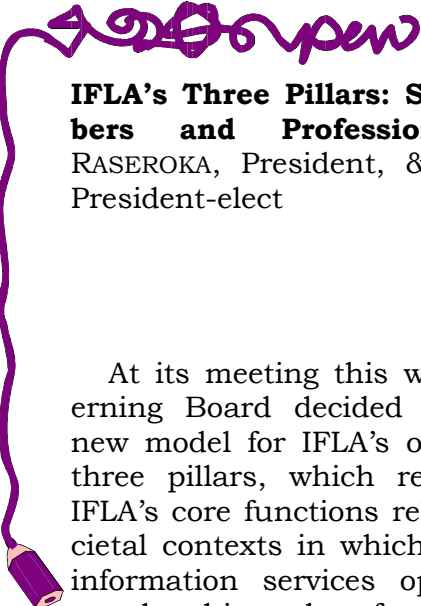
**III.** Leverage opportunities presented by the service unit realignment to realize efficiencies that will optimize service to users.

**IV.** Reduce overall costs to meet appropriations targets and to free resources for exploring and implementing innovations in the Bibliographic Access Divisions.

**V.** Prepare managers, team leaders, and team members for successful performance in the hybrid analog and digital environment.

Details regarding the strategic initiatives are available at:

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/stratplan0506.pdf>.



**IFLA's Three Pillars: Society, Members and Profession**, by Kay RASEROKA, President, & Alex BYRNE, President-elect

At its meeting this week, the Governing Board decided to endorse a new model for IFLA's operations, the three pillars, which recognises that IFLA's core functions relate to the societal contexts in which libraries and information services operate, IFLA's membership and professional matters. These three pillars are supported by the infrastructure offered by IFLA HQ, IFLANET and the Federation's governance structures.

\* The Society Pillar focuses on the role and impact of libraries and information services in society and the contextual issues that condition and constrain the environment in which they operate across the world. Those issues are addressed currently through FAIFE, CLM, Blue Shield, and our advocacy in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and other arenas. Next year, of course, we will need to place particular emphasis on the World Summit on the Information Society in which IFLA has invested so much and to such good effect. We must capitalise on that investment and those results so that we take full advantage of the second phase leading up to the November 2005 summit meeting in Tunis and to the achieve the longer term goals.

\* The Profession Pillar focuses on the issues covered by the long established Core Activities – ALP, ICABS, PAC, UNIMARC – and the Sections and Divisions. They lie at the core of our professional practice and help libraries and information services to fulfil their purposes and to shape responses to the needs of clients in a rapidly changing global environment.

\* The Members Pillar is of course central to IFLA. It includes the services we offer to members, management of their membership of IFLA, conferences and publications. We must work together to make IFLA more vibrant and attractive and beneficial for members throughout the world.

Of course, all three pillars and the underlying infrastructure are interdependent and not mutually exclusive. They offer a way of understanding and presenting IFLA holistically to the library and information sector and to governments and the wider community. The pillars should also provide the framework for IFLA's management and their focus should be reflected in program based budgeting.

Working parties of the Governing Board are focussing on the Society Pillar, the improvement of IFLANET and the new approach to budget management with actions to be identified early in 2005. These priorities recognise the crucial significance of WSIS, WIPO and other current advocacy initiatives, the vital importance of IFLANET as a medium for engagement and communication within the Federation and beyond and the need for more contemporary approaches to management and finances. The other pillars and areas of activity will be tackled subsequently.

As announced, Mr Ramachandran has resigned from the position of Secretary General. Mr Sjoerd Koopman, the Coordinator of Professional Activities has been appointed acting Secretary General while a new Secretary General is being sought. Sjoerd will continue the process of change and support the reframing of IFLA's programs over the coming months. Any issues relating to IFLA activities should be referred to Mr Koopman at [ifla@ifla.org](mailto:ifla@ifla.org).

At this time, as the process of change in IFLA accelerates, it is im

portant that we should all work to strengthen our Federation. We need to build the resources to undertake fully the priorities which IFLA members have signalled especially a strong advocacy program, flourishing professional activities, valued membership benefits and effective infrastructure. All members need to join with IFLA staff and elected leaders to help secure the required financial strength which will allow us to achieve these goals. All need to promote IFLA and its priorities – and particularly, at this time, the World Summit on the Information Society.

And, finally, if we are to achieve these aims we need the best possible governance so we encourage the nomination of committed colleagues from around the world to the positions on Standing Committees, to the Governing Board and for President elect by the closing date of 2 February 2005. They should be nominated not as sectoral representatives or representatives or particular countries or regions but as strong candidates who represent the best of our profession, reflect its diversity and will be able to make significant contributions to its development through a strong and effective IFLA.

We both wish you all the very best for 2005:

Kay RASEROKA  
President

Alex BYRNE  
President elect

The Hague, 10 December 2004

Contributions to SCATNews are welcome at any time. Please send news items, articles, comments to the Editor:



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<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/sc.htm>

