



ICABS Activity Report February - July 2005

ICABS secretary

During this period the secretary has been coordinating the planning of the ICABS programme during the World Library and Information Congress in Oslo, and collecting and translating the papers. Support for the chair of the ICABS Advisory Board has been another important part of the work.

Coordination

- WLIC Oslo 2005 programme coordination
- Translations and organisational work

Susanne Oehlschläger
Die Deutsche Bibliothek
July 2005

IFLA

International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control (ICBC) was published on a quarterly basis. Four issues of this periodical completed Volume 33 (2004).

ICBC is devoted to issues, projects, research and new development in the broad field mentioned in the title. It provides an international forum for the exchange of views and best practice by members of the library and information management profession in general and those in the sectors of cataloguing, bibliography and indexing in particular.

Over the years *ICBC* has grown from a newsletter to a really international professional journal with currently around 800 subscribers worldwide. Apart from IFLA Conference papers and reports, it publishes commissioned articles but also unsolicited contributions, along with news items about relevant developments, workshops, publications etc. Articles are usually published in English but some have appeared in other IFLA working languages (French and Spanish).

A substantial number of translations of existing IFLA Publications in the field of bibliographic control was published. Among translations of ISBD-*) and FRBR-*) publications - apart from the IFLA working languages (English, French, German, Russian, Spanish) - were those into Croatian, Czech, Italian, Japanese, Korean.

Sjoerd Koopman
IFLA Headquarters
The Hague
August 2005

- *) International Standard Bibliographic Description
- *) Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records

For more information about the work of IFLA please visit IFLAnet (<http://www.ifla.org>).
Division IV: Bibliographic Control can be found at <http://www.ifla.org/VII/d4/dbc.htm> and
Division VI: Division of Management and Technology at <http://www.ifla.org/VII/d6/dmt.htm>.

British Library

This report covers the period from February to July 2005. The main developments are:

FRBR maintenance and development

The ICABS/British Library liaison with FRBR Review Group is Alan Danskin.

The FRBR review Group organized, "FRBR in 21st Century Catalogues: An Invitational Workshop". The workshop was hosted by OCLC at Dublin, Ohio, on 2nd-4th May 2005. The British Library provided substantial funding which supported attendance by review group members and speakers.

The workshop tackled a number of thorny issues within FRBR and was judged very successful. The workshop made a number of recommendations for activity by the review group and provoked new thinking on some longstanding issues.

- It is accepted that the FRBR model would benefit from an ontology, and it is acknowledged by the FRBR Review Group that the FRBR/CRM Harmonization Group is going in that direction.
- The FRBR Review Group will contact vendors in order to ask them what they think the issues are for introducing the FRBR concepts into library catalogues.
- The FRBR Review Group will focus on the revision of attributes and relationships that are defined for Group 1 entities, as the FRANAR and FRSAR Study Groups will deal with Groups 2 and Group 3 of entities
- A "middle implementation model" will be developed by the FRBR Review Group; that "middle implementation model" will include a practical definition for the Expression entity.
- The Review Group will seek to encourage a consensus on how to deal with complex aggregate entities.
- Further details: <http://www.oclc.org/research/events/frbr-workshop/default.htm>.

Alan has undertaken a survey of Library Management System vendors to gauge the level of commitment to FRBR in this sector and to gather input from system developers regarding the priorities for future activity by the review group. It is intended that preliminary results should be reported to the FRBR Review Group at its meeting in Oslo.

Promotion of FRBR

Alan has given a presentation on FRBR to a meeting of SINTO, the information partnership for South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire. Further presentations in London and North Yorkshire are being planned.

Within the BL quality sampling of our data using FRBR as benchmark for determining fitness for purpose is continuing. A summary of the work was included in a presentation given at Umbrella 2005 conference in July. The presentation will shortly be available on the CILIP Cataloguing and Indexing Group website (www.cilip.org.uk/cig).

The BL has undertaken a survey of Library Management System vendors to gauge the level of commitment to FRBR in this sector and to gather input from system developers regarding the priorities for future activity by the review group. It is intended that results should be reported to the FRBR Review Group at its meeting in Oslo.

FRANAR

The ICABS/ British Library liaison with the FRANAR Working Group is Andrew MacEwan.

The FRANAR report on *Functional Requirements for authority records* is out for worldwide review with a deadline of 25th October for comments. The BL is promoting awareness of the report to generate responses from libraries, the book trade and rights management agencies and collecting societies.

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/d4/wg-franar.htm>

FRANAR project

There have been no requests for support or funding during this period.

Financial Support

The British Library granted £5,000 (approximately €7,000/\$9,000) to OCLC in support of “FRBR in 21st Century Catalogues: An Invitational Workshop”. Dublin, Ohio, on 2nd-4th May 2005.

Wider ICABS related activity

Caroline Brazier represents the British Library on the ICABS Board.

MARC21

Corine Deliot represented the BL at MARBI. MARBI has begun to address the questions of how the MARC 21 format needs to adapt in response to the FRBR model and the increasing number of UNICODE implementations, while continuing to provide support for the ongoing creations, storage and exchange of bibliographic data.

Caroline Brazier, Alan Danskin, Andrew MacEwan
The British Library
July 2005

Die Deutsche Bibliothek

This report covers the period from **February – July 2005**.

During this period the focus of Die Deutsche Bibliothek as the chair of the ICABS-Board has been on work of the secretary to coordinate the planning of the ICABS programme during the World Library and Information Congress in Oslo, and to collect and translate the papers. Also in the field of support for the ISBD Review Group a lot of work has been done. Another main working field has been the VIAF cooperative.

VIAF cooperative

The goal of the VIAF project is to proof the feasibility of a “Virtual International Authority File”. Two big national authority files for personal names - the “Library of Congress Name Authority Files (LCNAF)” and the “Personennamendatei (PND)” - are linked through a crosslink file, the VIAF. The VIAF provides crosswalks between the national authority files and enables users to search in the same way as in a physically unified international file.

Within ICABS Die Deutsche Bibliothek and the Library of Congress are responsible for the VIAF cooperative. The executing partner in this project is OCLC, a non-member of ICABS. The project is scheduled into 4 stages:

1. Linking existing records
2. Establishing the server - Search and retrieval
3. Ongoing Maintenance - OAI Harvesting
4. End-user Services: Implementation of an user interface, adoption of Unicode, end-user facilities

Within the present stage, OCLC together with LC and DDB is going to conclude the preparatory operations for matching and merging LCNA and PND records. To improve the merging process the name authority records are enriched by attributes taken from the associated bibliographic records from the Library of Congress, Die Deutsche Bibliothek and the BibliotheksVerbund Bayern. Several tests have been carried out to check the algorithm which is used and the weightings of the different attributes. The final merging will be started in December 2005.

ISBD maintenance and development

Die Deutsche Bibliothek is the lead ICABS partner in supporting the work of the IFLA Cataloguing Section’s ISBD Review Group in developing and maintaining the International Standards for Bibliographic Description. We also work to encourage the harmonisation of national practices to follow these standards and to promote the results of the ISBD revisions.

ISBD Review Group

ICABS is represented on the ISBD Review Group by Renate Gömpel.

In Buenos Aires the ISBD Review Group set up a Study Group on Future Directions of the ISBDs. Among other terms of reference, the group is considering the use and values of an ISBD that combines into a single document provisions for the entire Family of ISBDs, in order to facilitate revision work and to abolish and further avoid inconsistencies in the ISBD stipulations. Die Deutsche Bibliothek agreed to support the "ISBD consolidation" work of the IFLA Study Group on Future Directions of the ISBDs by providing a first cut-and-paste version of current ISBDs for further consideration. Die Deutsche Bibliothek hosted a 3-day meeting of the Study Group in April 2005 in Frankfurt.

Before this meeting, there had been agreement on the feasibility of a consolidated ISBD. The Deutsche Bibliothek had arranged to have matrices of each area prepared to collocate the same areas from each ISBD. Working from that basis, the SG members had refined the matrices to collocate elements within the areas from all of the ISBDs. The SG will meet twice during the Oslo conference in order to consider priorities and procedures for the next stage.

The Study Group intends to prepare a further text including changes to stipulations, eliminating discrepancies, and updating provisions for those materials that have not been revised, in order to improve the text by bringing in new ideas and consideration of the needs of cataloguers and users of the catalogue. It is anticipated that a version could be ready for world-wide review late in 2006, with a final version prepared for a vote in 2007.

ICABS secretary

Coordination

WLIC Oslo 2005 programme coordination
Translations and organisational work

Promotion for ICABS

Publications

- Gömpel, Renate: ICABS – A New Approach to International Cooperation
In: IFLA Journal, 31.2005,2. - S. 199 - 203
- Gömpel, Renate: Umbrella for multifaceted activities : the new IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards
In: Alexandria

Lectures

- Gömpel, Renate: Lecture on ICABS
Frankfurt, Germany, 17 February 2005 for Library managers from South Caucasus (STAGE project)
- Gömpel, Renate: Die IFLA-CDNL Allianz für bibliografischer Standards
Düsseldorf, Germany, 15 March 2005 at the annual German librarian's conference (Deutscher Bibliothekartag)
- Le Bœuf, Patrick: Zwischen Traum und Wirklichkeit : die FRBR-Theoretisierung und einige FRBR-Anwendungen
Düsseldorf, Germany, 15 March 2005 at the annual German librarian's conference (Deutscher Bibliothekartag)

Renate Gömpel
Die Deutsche Bibliothek, July 2005

Koninklijke Bibliotheek

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Period: February 2005 – July 2005

Goal: To advance understanding of issues related to long-term archiving of electronic resources, in order to improve international coordination and to steer developments in the area of digital preservation.

Actions:

- 4.1 Explore the requirements/conditions for long-term archiving of electronic resources.
- 4.2 Migration & emulation: explore and promote strategies, methods and standards for migration and emulation.

Report:

To reach this goal the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB) has been writing a state-of-the art assessment on recent developments in digital archiving, based on the experiences of 15 national libraries in the field of digital preservation. The assessment addresses operational and R&D activities aimed at the long-term preservation of and access to digital resources. The results of this survey will be published in a report with the title *Building Networks in Digital Preservation. Recent Developments in Digital Preservation in 15 National Libraries. Report to ICABS by the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (National Library of the Netherlands)*. In July 2005 a draft version of this report was sent to the ICABS Partners for a review. This review version contained the analysis, the draft conclusion and the elaborate overviews of digital preservation in the 15 national libraries surveyed (Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States of America). The final version of this report will be available in third quarter of 2005. At present KB and IFLA Headquarters are discussing the possibilities of publication of the results of this ICABS research in IFLA's Green Series, published by Saur.

The results of this KB-ICABS survey will be presented together with the outcomes of the National Library of Australia's (NLA)-ICABS survey on guidelines in digital preservation, during the ICABS Session on Digital Preservation on the 18th of August at the World Library and Information Congress in Oslo, Norway.

The KB-ICABS survey gives a recent update on several aspects of digital preservation, and also provides new information on organisational embedding of digital preservation in the National Libraries. The outcome of the KB-ICABS Survey is that digital preservation is becoming more and more integrated in the day to day library activities. The last few years considerable progress has been made on building networks: this has led not only to achievements in building digital repository systems, but also in building cooperative networks on national and international level. It is to be expected that in the near future these networks can be used for the joint development of tools for permanent access.

In June 2005 representatives of KB and NLA had a meeting in The Hague to discuss possible subjects for cooperation in digital preservation within the framework of ICABS for the 2005/2006 period. First ideas focus on the joint testing and improvement of tools for format risk identification and networked access to preservation tools. A proposal of future actions will be discussed at the ICABS Board Meeting in Oslo.

(IV/August 2005)

Library of Congress

MARC 21 and its XML derivatives

MODS version 3.1 (draft) was published in July (www.loc.gov/mods). It is primarily a reorganization of the XML schema so that MADS could use parts of the MODS schema via reference rather than duplicating specifications, so version 3.1 does not invalidate any 3.0 data. MODS is being used in a number of digital library projects, either by deriving MODS data from MARC 21 records or by creating simple MODS records for uncataloged items. Recent use reports have come in from Brown University, Indiana University, the University of Chicago, Oxford University, and the University of Kiel (www.loc.gov/standards/mods/registry.html).

Version 1.0 of the XML Metadata Authority Description Schema (MADS) was recently posted on the MADS web site (www.loc.gov/mads), along with a draft mapping of MARC 21 Authority data to MADS. The mapping is out for comment from the community via the MODS listserv, which supports development of both MADS and MODS.

MARXML, which had been available from the MARC 21 web site since 2002, provides a lossless pathway from MARC 21 to MARC in XML and then back. Work is underway, led by Danish Standards, to create an ISO standard, called MarcXchange, for the basic underlying structure of MARXML. MARXML, which is the specific schema for MARC 21 in XML, would be related to MarcXchange as MARC 21 is to ISO 2709.

MARC 21 documentation activities included development of proposals, posting them on the web, and gaining consensus for 2005 format changes. Minor changes approved were expanded hierarchical geographic name capability and more precise subject access for image material. Issues discussed included handling Unicode in MARC 21 record distribution and the MARC 21 record configurations that support FRBR. The MARC 21 documentation has been converted from an SGML file, that was presentation-oriented, to an XML file that is element-type-oriented, to provide more flexibility in formatting and in searching the file. The various forms of the format will continue to be provided from the new XML file including the print "full" and print concise and the web concise, web lite, and web field list. The full format will also be available via the web and the XML file itself will be made available for download and use in systems early next year. A new Arabic translation of the Bibliographic Format is underway, the 14th language translation. Requests were also received to translate the popular explanatory booklets, Understanding MARC Bibliographic (www.loc.gov/marc/umb/), and Understanding MARC Authority Records (www.loc.gov/marc/uma/) into Arabic, Persian, and Bulgarian.

Z39.50 and SRW/SRU

A meeting to consider the next steps for the SRU/SRW (Search/Retrieve for the Web) information retrieval protocols was held in the US in June 2005. There were 45 attendees from 10 countries who focused on these next generation protocols in the Internet and XML environment, especially SRU (Search and Retrieve URL Service) that allows users to send a search using title, name, identifier and other parameters via a URL and receive records in response. Among the topics discussed were official ISO standardization for SRU, name change for SRU (SearchURL was mentioned), and the relationship of SRU to Amazon's OpenSearch, along with some technical changes to SRU. The SRU companion, SRW (Search and Retrieve Web Service) that supports a web search that operates over the web base protocol, SOAP, was also discussed in terms of the need for this less used "branch". The notes from the meeting are available at www.loc.gov/z3950/agency/zing/zif.html, along with a "Next Steps" document from the meeting.

Two popular new guidelines, "Understanding SRU is Simple!" and "Implementing SRU is Simple!" have been published on the web site. A paper on the use of SRU, SRW, and Z39.50 with MARXML records will be presented at session 121 at the IFLA Oslo conference.

Metadata and XML metadata schemes

The PREMIS Working Group, an international task force developing core data elements for the preservation of library and archive material, completed its report which was published in May 2005, and the Library of Congress began operation as the official home and maintenance center. A web site for PREMIS is available at www.loc.gov/standards/premis/, where the link to the final report and the XML schemas that support the set of elements can be found. Instructions for joining a listserv for implementers are on that page also. This 18-month effort builds on the work of earlier groups and experiments such as the CEDARS and NEDLIB projects in Europe, National Library of Australia initiatives, and an earlier preservation framework working group in the US. There will be a report on the project and related developments that are needed at the ICABS Open Session during the IFLA conference.

The METS Editorial Board, an international group that finalizes changes proposed for METS and approves profiles and related documentation, is currently making plans for a METS Opening Day Canada. This METS training and outreach event will take place on October 15, 2005 in Edmonton. This is the fourth METS Opening Day. Others have been held at the Library of Congress, Stanford University, and the British Library.

The METS Editorial Board approved for registration a METS Profiles for audio compact discs submitted by the Library of Congress. The CD Profile has been implemented in the LC digital library project "I Hear America Singing". There are now seven METS profiles approved for registration to date. The tutorial document "METS Overview" on the METS website was recently translated into Italian. The Italian translation was provided to the METS Editorial Board by Angela Di Iorio of the Biblioteca Provinciale Digitale. The Overview is also available in English and Portuguese.

Monitor work on PIDs

The Library of Congress added news posting to the URI Resource Page in March, April, and July 2005, reporting on actions and activities relating to URIs taking place in the IETF and the W3C (www.loc.gov/standards/uri/). The site explains the differences and relationships of URIs, URLs, and URNs, along with the roles of identification, resolution, and persistence as they continue to evolve. The latest posting looks at the issue of URIs for items such as controlled terms, code lists, and data elements.

Sally McCallum
Library of Congress

National Library of Australia

Update to ICABS Action Plan (July 2005)

Goal: Advance understanding of issues related to long-term archiving of electronic resources

Action 3.3 Web harvesting

Explore and promote methods to archive web-based publications collected by web harvesting.

Actions and update

(i) Through membership of the International Internet Preservation Consortium (IIPC), lead the work of the Working Group on the Deep Web.

The Library joined the International Internet Preservation Consortium (IIPC) in July 2003 and has been actively involved in its work since then. In close cooperation with the Bibliothèque nationale de France, we led a Working Group to investigate the identification, acquisition, storage and display of publications and web sites that are database driven. As the National Library's part of this collaboration a tool named Xinq has been developed to enable the automatic production of access interfaces for archived databases. Xinq was made available in early 2005 open source through SourceForge. For more information and a link to the software in SourceForge see <http://www.nla.gov.au/xinq/download.html>.

Based on its experience in creating the PANDORA Digital Archiving System (PANDAS), in November 2004 the Library was asked to lead the initial phases of a new IIPC project, the development of a Curator Tool, which will enable non-technical staff of collecting agencies to initiate and manage web archiving programs. As a result, the Library wrote the Use Cases for the proposed system.

The Library is continuing to contribute to subsequent phases of development, including the specification process. It is intended to make available to the Curator Tool Project the re-developed PANDORA Digital Archiving System, PANDAS 3, as a major contribution to this work.

The Library regularly sends a representative to IIPC Working Group meetings and hosted a meeting of the Steering Committee in Canberra in November 2004.

(ii) Hold an international conference on digital archiving – **COMPLETED (November 2004)**

The international conference *Archiving web resources: issues for cultural heritage institutions*, was held at the National Library in Canberra from November 9-11 2004. Its main objective was to identify significant issues facing cultural heritage institutions in collecting web resources and to explore how the issues are being addressed. Major research programs and projects were included in the program.

The program was deemed to be a great success with 200 delegates and around 30 speakers representing a range of institutions around the world. A detailed report on the conference and details about speakers and the program are available on the conference web site at <http://www.nla.gov.au/webarchiving/>.

(iii) Automated deposit and archiving of online government resources

The Commonwealth Metadata Pilot Project

(<http://www.nla.gov.au/ntwkpubs/gw/65/html/p04a01.html>) aims to improve access to Australian government information published online by automating the contribution of metadata to the national bibliographic database provided through the Kinetica service, and by automating the archiving of content associated with the metadata in *PANDORA: Australia's web archive*. Data is converted from its original format to the MODS standard and then to MARC format for loading onto the national database.

The work to enhance PANDAS to enable the batch loading of metadata acquired through the Commonwealth Metadata Project and the automated harvesting of files has been held up because of the need to re-engineer PANDAS to improve stability. However, this work is scheduled as high priority for resumption once the re-engineering has been completed at the end of 2005.

(iv) Explore and promote methods to archive web-based publications collected by web harvesting – **COMPLETED (August 2004)**.

The PADI subject gateway (<http://www.nla.gov.au/padi/>) to digital preservation resources has been modified to incorporate information that provides an overview of approaches to archiving web based publications. Brief descriptions of a number of archiving programs that illustrate how the various approaches are being implemented have been linked to the overview page. These will be updated on an on-going basis in consultation with the owners of the programs described.

(v) Explore more cost-effective ways for creating resource discovery metadata for web resources selected for archiving. – **NEW ACTION (September 2004)**

Currently the National Library of Australia provides full MARC cataloguing for all web resources selected for archiving in *PANDORA: Australia's web archive*. With the aim of reducing the cost of this component of the archiving process, a review of standards and international approaches to metadata creation for web resources will be undertaken, basic requirements determined and options for providing access assessed. The new Access Level record proposed by Library of Congress will be considered as part of the review. Action will be on-going throughout 2005.

Action 3.4 Preservation of digital materials

Work out a survey of existing standards, guidelines and codes for preservation of digital materials (in co-operation with IFLA's Preservation and Conservation Section)

Actions and update

(i) By means of PADI, prepare a review of existing guidance documents (such as standards, guidelines and codes) that address digital preservation issues and identify any significant gaps in PADI coverage.

The review of existing guidance documents listed in PADI and various other sources was **COMPLETED** in July 2005. Following review and acceptance by ICABS, the NLA's report will be archived in the PANDORA archive of online Australian publications. Both the NLA's review of guidance documents and the KB's review of recent developments in 15 national libraries will be made available through PADI.

(ii) Establish a working relationship with the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB) to cooperate more formally on actions contributing to ICABS Goal 3.3 (Long-term archiving of electronic resources.) - **NEW ACTION (September 2004)**

The NLA and KB have agreed to work together to avoid duplication of effort and to ensure maximum benefit from resources available at both institutions to carry out research in this area. In particular, the NLA will test developments by KB of emulation tools and KB will provide input to the NLA's development of a Risk Alert system.

(ii) Critically review existing PADI structures and interfaces to ensure they offer useful and easy access to information about existing standards, guidelines and codes for preservation of digital materials (i.e., guidance documents) – **COMPLETED (December 2004)**

Following a review of PADI structures and interfaces a number of new approaches have been implemented that should make it easier to find readily useful information. A number of "trails" have been incorporated in PADI to guide beginning users to a small number of focused resources. The thesaurus used for the PADI database has been updated to better reflect current understandings. Finally, a mechanism has been developed to distinguish more up to date resources from those that may be less current although still of historical interest.

(iii) Work with IFLA PAC partners and UNESCO to identify digital preservation "readiness" issues in SE Asian and the Pacific. The objective is to:

- Review information that is already available on the issue
- Develop a set of "readiness" indicators – i.e., what needs to be in place to embark on a digital preservation program
- Provide guidance on how to improve levels of readiness

Readiness factors and guidance on improving readiness were prepared and incorporated into two products:

- a brochure entitled *Recommended Practices for Digital Preservation*, prepared in October 2004 and available at <http://www.nla.gov.au/preserve/digipres/digiprespractices.html>; and
- a UNESCO funded workshop on digital preservation conducted by the National Library of Australia hosted by the National Library of Malaysia in December 2004.

National Library of Portugal: IFLA UNIMARC Core Activity

The main activities undertaken were

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1. 16th Meeting of the Permanent UNIMARC Committee
 2. Maintenance and update of UNIMARC formats
 3. UNIMARC Forum and UNIMARC Registry
 4. UNIMARC session in Oslo 2005, jointly with Information Technology Section and ICABS
 5. International Conference – UNIMARC & Friends: Charting the new landscape of library standards
 6. IFLA Seoul 2006
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1. 16th Meeting of the Permanent UNIMARC Committee

PUC annual meeting took place in Lisbon, at Biblioteca Nacional, 7-9 March. In attendance were all current standing members and the agenda included decision about change proposals in UNIMARC/B, the errata for UNIMARC/Authorities, the Web version of UNIMARC/Holdings and the approval of the final version of the Guidelines for Music. A draft of the UNIMARC Guidelines for Continuing Resources is under review and investigation regarding UNIMARC use for manuscripts and archival materials is also being addressed starting with crosswalks between EAD and UNIMARC.

2. Maintenance and update of UNIMARC formats

At the IFLA Oslo Conference, Update 5 of UNIMARC Manual, 2nd edition will be available, by Saur, and UNIMARC/Authorities revised electronic version and Guidelines for Music will be ready to be posted on IFLANET.

A CD with all existing UNIMARC Guidelines will be prepared for 2006.

3. UNIMARC Forum and UNIMARC Registry

The UNIMARC Core Activity is preparing a UNIMARC dedicated site (<http://www.unimarc.net>) that includes a password only working space for PUC. The Core Activity also supports work on a UNIMARC Registry, an XML – based tool to allow users, vendors and the PUC to maintain changes to the UNIMARC formats and in terms of practical work, control duplicates, generate statistics and other functionalities in a UNIMARC database. Presentations about on-going work were performed during the PUC meeting.

4. UNIMARC session in Oslo 2005, jointly with Information Technology Section and ICABS

As indicated in the previous report the session will be about “MARC/XML derivatives: the state of the art” and it is scheduled for August 16, 13.45-15.45. Under discussion will be improvements in accessibility and reusability of UNIMARC and MARC 21 data, made possible by XML representations.

5. International Conference – UNIMARC & Friends: Charting the new landscape of library standards, Lisbon, 20-21 March 2006

The UNIMARC Core Activity with the sponsorship of the National Library of Portugal and the Art Library – Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation has been preparing this Conference and copies of the provisional programme are available in Oslo. The Conference will bring together current bibliographic developments on ISBD, FRBR, FRANAR, MARC along with the revision of cataloguing codes and web based transmission standards with the objective of disclosing the current state of the art of new conceptual models and data specifications with implications for the future of MARC standards.

The provisional programme proposes three sessions:

Session 1: Cataloguing standards: challenges and future directions

Session 2: MARC portability and reuse in the open Web environment

Session 3: Round Table: Evolving standards for bibliographic data handling: IFLA's role

The Conference has the support of IFLA – Division IV and of ICABS.

6. IFLA Seoul 2006

According to IFLA's regulations and rules, the UNIMARC Core Activity will have to prepare a new strategic plan for 2006-2007. At the IFLA Conference in Seoul, 2006, it is expected that there will be a UNIMARC session and the topic, as decided at the PUC meeting will concentrate on the state of the art regarding multi-scripts and UNICODE, an appropriate topic given the large number of scripts in use in the region.

Fernanda Maria Campos
Director, IFLA UNIMARC Core Activity
22 July 2005