



International Federation of
Library Associations and Institutions

Cataloguing Section
ISBD Review Group

Report of activities, 2010-2011

The ISBD Review Group currently has four study groups: ISBD Examples Study Group, ISBD-XML Study Group, Inclusion of Unpublished Resources in ISBD Study Group and Material Designations Study Group.

The following report is arranged by issues:

1. Financial:

The ISBD updating project had been allotted 5,806€ for 2010, which has been used to aid the attendance at an extra meeting held at the National Library of Spain, in Madrid from 19-22 October 2010. Total expenditures of 5,146€ for airplane tickets and hotel costs were reimbursed before the end of the year, giving a balance of 660€ returned to IFLA. The ISBD-XML Schema project had 3,600€ allotted for 2010. The assigned budget has been spent on the consultant's travel expenses and Open Metadata Registry development. The sum of 2,700€ was approved for 2011. The precise data will be given during IFLA Conference meetings. For the ISBD Review Group – JSC for Development of RDA meeting on alignment and interoperability of standards, 3,000€ has been allotted for 2011, from which no expenditures have been made to date.

2. ISBD Review Group activities on communication with rule-making bodies

internationally: In line with goal 3.3 of the Strategic Plan of the Cataloguing Section 2009-2011 of providing leadership in encouraging harmonization of existing cataloguing rules with the ISBD through communication with rule-making bodies internationally by forming liaison relationships between each rule-making body and the ISBD Review Group, there has not been any change during this year.

A presentation on the news of ISBD is scheduled for the next VII Encuentro Internacional de Catalogadores, 23- 25 November 2011 in Buenos Aires, Argentina
<http://www.bn.gov.ar/vii-encuentro-de-catalogadores>

3. ISBD updating project: The International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD), preliminary consolidated edition, was published by K.G. Saur in August 2007. The Strategic Plan for the years 2009-2011 goal 3.2 “Continue the work on the first

revision to the consolidated ISBD for publication in 2010” has been completed. The final draft was sent for the Cataloguing Section Standing Committee approval by December 31, 2010. Some final work from ISBD Review Group editor, John Hostage, was necessary. Approval of the standard for publication was on March, 1, 2011 and the editor’s work with De Gruyter Saur for its publication was completed and the publication was announced on July 12, 2011.

This edition is the result of coordinated work of the ISBD Review Group and its current study groups. First approved and published in 2009, the new area 0 proposed by the Material Designations Study Group (Lynne Howarth, chair) to replace the General Material Designation, has been included in this edition, changing the traditional structure of the ISBD, and putting this new area at the beginning of the record. The Examples Study Group (Dorothy McGarry, chair) has been updating the on-line examples publication to show the application of the ISBD and its changes and adaptation to the new area 0. Its work has raised many issues for discussion as changes to the ISBD are put into practice. The ISBD-XML Study Group (Mirna Willer, chair) has influenced many decisions on changes taken in order to adapt the standard as a semantic web tool.

4. ISBD Examples Study Group work: The examples publication for the Preliminary Consolidated Edition was agreed on in Milan’s Review Group meetings, and was published in October 2009. This publication presented examples with the GMD with an explanation that the examples support the full Preliminary Consolidated Edition and would be changed in the Consolidated Edition.

After approval for publication of the Consolidated ISBD, the ISBD Examples Study Group revised the full examples that had been prepared for the Preliminary Consolidated Edition of the ISBD in order to delete the GMD, add Area 0, and change other areas in line with other ISBD changes. In some cases new examples were substituted or added when the examples providers suggested that. The revised publication with the full examples was completed shortly after the Consolidated Edition of the ISBD, and is being added to the IFLA web site prior to the WLIC in San Juan.

5. The development of an ISBD-XML schema was redirected after the 2009 Review Group meeting agreement at the General Conference in Milan. The project currently is for an ISBD RDF/XML Schema for which the main objectives are: (1) to build a consensus on the *raison d’être* of moving the ISBD into the web environment, and define possible uses of such a product, (2) to develop an ISBD/XML schema, (3) to ensure the interoperability of the product with similar ones such as MARC/DCXML schemas, at least at the conceptual level, within the current semantic web technologies and services, (4) to liaise with relevant constituencies in the field, and (5) to propose further development of software tools and services.

The study group has been working in this direction. Three meetings have been held since the last general conference at different locations in Croatia and the UK. All planned activities have been finalized: ISBD elements and vocabularies are registered in the Open Metadata Registry (OMR), while some of them, such as Area 0, were published with translations into Spanish and Croatian; the Application Profile’s final version and the XSLT display format for punctuation is being tested; the activities to integrate the ISBD RDF representations with the IFLA infrastructure are under way depending on the IFLA

relevant bodies' decisions. The first two activities will be finalized by the IFLA meeting in San Juan in August 2011, while the third will be prepared and its realization will be pending on IFLA's action. Liaison activities have brought further understanding and development of representing ISBD in RDF, ISBD in relation to other IFLA models and standards, ISBD and RDA, ISBD and namespaces (Namespaces Technical Group), and ISBD in Linked Data context (W3CLLD Incubator Group) in general. These activities as well as the three years' work of the ISBD/XML Study Group have been a strong part of the movement towards the new era of IFLA standards in the Semantic Web environment & "Universal Web Control". Important results of the work done by the Study Group include the Cambridge University Library and the British Library using some ISBD properties, the latter one for its release of more of the British National Bibliography as linked data.

For a more detailed report and future proposed work see the attached report of the chair Mirna Willer.

6. The Inclusion of Unpublished Resources in ISBD Study Group was established at the IFLA General Conference (Gothenburg, Sweden, 10-15 August 2010) in order to investigate the possibilities of integrating the description of all types of unpublished resources and the repercussions in the ISBD. The object of the Study Group was to prepare a draft showing what changes in the ISBD would be necessary, trying to keep the standard clear and simple and keeping in mind the principles and objectives that are in the introduction to the standard. The Study Group was established for one year and consists of 10 members from 5 countries. The basis for the final draft was the draft with stipulations for music manuscripts prepared by Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi and it was then expanded to include all manuscripts. The Study Group started to work in November 2010, most members prepared first comments by the end of December 2010. The exchanging of comments and suggestions continued until June 2011 when the final draft was prepared and sent to the ISBD RG for further debate and approval. The members of the ISBD RG had six weeks to consider the proposed changes, suggestions and issues, which were still open to debate, in order to be able to vote at the meeting in San Juan.

7. ISBD Review Group – JSC for RDA development meeting for harmonization was agreed to during Gothenburg's Review Group meeting, in accord with 3.4 in the Cataloguing Section's Strategic Plan for 2009-2011. The relationship of the ISBD-RDA "communities" and actions to get the ISBD and RDA to move closer to each other and facilitate interoperability of the two standards have been continuous. Conscious of the importance of the issue, the ISBD Review Group requested in the past a close alignment. It was suggested by the JSC that the Review Group wait until the release of RDA. During the 2010 general conference meeting the representative from the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA informed the RG that now was the right time. A first meeting proposal was offered, coinciding with the JSC meeting in Glasgow in late June 2011. The date has been delayed until November 2-4, 2011. The timeline for ISBD Review Group activities has been enlarged. The following tasks have been undertaken: investigate the differences between the standards ISBD and RDA with a base document prepared at the Bibliothèque nationale de France, which was delivered in April. After that

date, debate is on course and will continue during the IFLA General Conference at the Thursday 18 August Review Group meeting, from 11:30-13:30 (Room 101B).

The ISSN International Centre has requested also having a tripartite meeting coincident with the JSC-ISBD meeting. It is interested in re-opening discussions about harmonization issues among ISBD, RDA and ISSN. The ISSN International Centre representative has also been given time on the agenda for the second Review Group meeting on Thursday 18th of August.

8. Encouraging translations of the Consolidated ISBD is the Cataloguing Section Strategic Plan 3.5. A Chinese translation has been announced. A Spanish translation of the standard is being organized, and a Spanish translation of the ISBD properties declared in the Open Metadata Registry has been published.

Meetings scheduled for the ISBD Review Group and the ISBD-XML Study Group during the IFLA General Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico are:

ISBD Review Group: Monday, 15 August 8:00-10:00 (Room 102B) and Thursday 18 August 11:30-13:30 (Room 101B)

ISBD-XML SG: Monday, 15 August 14:45-16:45 (Room 102B) and Tuesday, 16 August 15:30-17:30 (Room 101B)

Observers are welcome.

As Chair, I would like to thank the members of the Review Group for their interest and constant work and for their many contributions to the discussions.

Respectfully submitted,

Elena Escolano Rodríguez
Chair, ISBD RG

Madrid, August 5, 2011