



**IFLA Cataloguing Section
ISBD Review Group
ISBD/XML Study Group**

Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the ISBD/XML Study Group

25 August 2009, Milan, Italy

75th IFLA General Conference and Assembly

Present: Gordon Dunsire (consultant), Elena Escolano Rodríguez (member & ISBD RG chair), Lynne Howarth, Françoise Leresche (since August 2009; replacing Françoise Bourdon), Dorothy McGarry, Mirna Willer (Chair)

Absent: Boris Bosančić (XML expert)

Observers: John Hostage, Judith A. Kuhagen, Barbara B. Tillett

Opening of the Meeting

In absence of chair M. Willer at the beginning of the meeting, G. Dunsire reported on the discussions led during IFLA to create a task force/alliance working group that would bring together representatives of different sections in the newly established Division III and other interested individuals with the aim of establishing a mechanism of enabling the incorporating and branding of IFLA standards in the Semantic Web environment, in line with the objectives of universal bibliographic control. The following sections/groups were contacted: Cataloguing, Classification and Indexing, Bibliography, Knowledge Management, Information Technology, FRBR Review Group, ISBD Review Group and Permanent UNIMARC Committee.

The report and its aim were strongly supported.

Project Development of ISBDXML Schema

M. Willer gave brief overview of the current status of the Project, and the report she gave to the ISBD Review Group meeting on 24 August 2009. At the meeting the ISBD/XML Study Group proposed:

- (1) The change of membership: Françoise Bourdon asked to be replaced by Françoise Leresche (BnF): Accepted
- (2) Gordon Dunsire to act as consultant to the group: Accepted
- (3) Re-direction of the project goal: the SG had been charged with defining an XML Schema for ISBD; however, it proposed bypassing the general XML mark-up and going directly to an RDF/XML environment based on G. Dunsire's recommendation that such a re-direction would situate ISBD within the Semantic Web framework. That issue is closely linked to G. Dunsire's discussion paper on IFLA namespaces. The result of the project would be an ISBD RDF/XML Schema: Accepted

- (4) Liaison with VMF: Vocabulary Mapping Framework Project <<http://cdlr.strath.ac.uk/VMF/>> in order to add ISBD to standards and tools of VMF: Accepted

The ISBD/XML Study Group's proposals under (3) and (4) above conform to the ISBDXML Schema Project's *goals* (2) to develop ISBDXML schema, and (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, and to *methodology* (5): identify necessary procedure to position ISBD within the semantic web environment.

Vocabulary Mapping Framework (VMF) and ISBD, and IFLA namespaces

G. Dunsire explained that the VMF Project is a continuation of the RDA/ONIX Framework in which content/carrier issues were dealt with. VMF project will deal with FRBR Group 1 and Group 2 relationships, and create overall ontology based on multiple standards. In order to do so, identifiers and related namespaces for particular vocabularies should be developed.

Decisions and actions:

- (1) Support the motion to form task force/alliance working group across Sections in Division III and beyond to position IFLA standards and models in the semantic web environment as authoritative documents for semantic web services and tools.
- (2) Approve SG's involvement in VMF, and G. Dunsire as liaison for the Group.
- (3) Analyse technical issues about ISBD and RDF/XML (Action: G. Dunsire & B. Bosančić, September-December 2009).
- (4) Analyse modelling issues of ISBD in RDF/XML environment (Action: F. Leresche, M. Willer & interested members, November-December 2009).
- (5) Define uses and functions of ISBD in RDF/XML syntax within semantic web environment (Action: all, until July 2009)
- (6) Develop draft ISBD RDF/XML schema (Action: G. Dunsire & B. Bosančić, January-June 2010); review and comments (Action: all, July-August 2010).
- (7) Analyse and define the functionalities of ISBD elements in relation to FRBR, new cataloguing rules such as RDA, REICAT and Finnish cataloguing rules (Action: all, until July 2010).
- (8) Analyse and support the concept of linked data, and promote its relevance to vendors in support of development of new generation library information systems (Action: all).

The above decisions and actions conform to the Project's *goals* (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 ISBDXML 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.

Respectfully submitted by Mirna Willer, University of Zadar, Croatia
ISBD/XML Study Group, Chair

11 September 2009