



IFLA Cataloguing Section

“Names of Persons”

Report of activities and proposal 2008-2009

The latest edition of *Names of persons : national usages for entry in catalogues* was published in 1996 by K.G. Saur. Some of the content needs to be updated and missing countries should be added. However, because Saur did not have a machine-readable file of the 1996 edition and because I had professional and personal commitments until recently, most of the activity since the 2008 WLIC has been related to reconstructing the text of that edition. Due to the lack of a group of volunteers from the Standing Committee, the current project is only an updating of the 1996 publication rather than a “fresh look” at how such information could be presented.

Natalia Kulygina, a former Standing Committee colleague, had contributed a Word file of the text created from the PDF scan of the printed text posted on IFLANET in 2006. Because the Word file did not capture the diacritics and special characters and because many sections of the Word file had unreadable text, each country’s section needed to be recreated in a combination of “cut and paste” from the Word file and new input. Those sections have been checked against the 1996 printed text; some errors in that text have been corrected.

Natalia also sent revisions to the sections for Russia and the other former Soviet republics. Elena Escolano has already given me a revision of the Spain section I can include when I sent the drafts to the Central and South American countries.

This month I am beginning to send drafts to countries in the southern hemisphere. In September I’ll begin sending drafts to countries in the northern hemisphere.

The names supplied to me by some SC members for their own countries and names of attendees at the five regional IME ICC meetings form the first group of individuals and institutions to contact. Contacts for other countries will be established with the assistance of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries and of the IFLA regional offices; in the future, I may be asking SC members for names of colleagues in other countries.

Bodil Gustavsson will keep a back-up of all the country section drafts and revised drafts until the project is completed. My goal is to complete the final editing of the revised drafts in March-April 2010 for publication before WLIC 2010.

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Proposal for SC action at Milan WLIC:

One of the categories in some of the country sections in the 1996 edition is “National cataloguing code.”

I propose not including this category in the next edition. Instead, I propose that the Cataloguing Section and the Classification and Indexing Section jointly develop a survey asking countries to report all the standards used in creating bibliographic, authority, and holdings records. The survey results would be posted on IFLANET where the information could easily be shared with our colleagues and easily updated because libraries may change standards and often use different standards for different categories of resources. Among the categories of standards that could be included in the survey are the following:

- descriptive cataloguing standards
- subject and genre/form vocabularies
- classification schema
- holdings standards
- encoding standards
- presentation standards.

If the Cataloguing SC approves this proposal, it could be presented to the Classification and Indexing Section Standing Committee at its August 26 meeting with a list of volunteers from the Cataloguing Section. (The August 22 meeting of the Classification and Indexing Section Standing Committee precedes the Cataloguing Section SC meeting on that day.)

Judy Kuhagen
Coordinator, “Names of Persons” revision
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