1. MAINTENANCE AND UPDATE OF THE UNIMARC FORMATS

In 2009 the major achievement in the UNIMARC formats maintenance was the completion of the 3rd edition of the UNIMARC manual: authorities format. Final decisions for this edition were made at the 20th PUC Meeting (held in Lisbon, 09-10 March 2009, at the National Library of Portugal). An additional meeting of the PUC took place in 24 and 27 August at the WLIC: 75th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, Milan, Italy, 23-27 August, during which the new edition of UNIMARC Authorities was also launched.


This edition replaces the second edition (2001) and its updates not only parallel the developments of the 3rd ed. of the UNIMARC Manual: Bibliographic Format but also encompass changes suggested by UNIMARC users to the PUC and incorporates concepts and terminology from FRAD – Functional Requirements of Authority Data.

The UNIMARC/Holdings format was not subject to any change. The UNIMARC/Classification format is still in progress. It is expected that work can be carried out to finalize the corresponding manual in 2010.


2. UNIMARC GUIDELINES

Ongoing developments regarding guidance materials include the revision of Guidelines for Using UNIMARC for Microforms, first published in 1999, and preparation of a UNIMARC Guidelines for Manuscripts, which is expected to be finalized in the PUC of 2010. Up to now there are eight UNIMARC guidelines (available at http://www.ifla.org/en/publications/unimarc-formats-and-related-documentation).

3. CONFERENCES AND FUTURE MEETINGS

IFLA 2009, Milan, Italy

A UNIMARC Core Activity session was held at the IFLA Conference 2009 under the topic UNIMARC and the future of catalogues. The session was very well attended, with over 100 attendees. Five papers will be presented by speakers from five countries. All the papers are available on the conference website, most of them in four different languages (English, Chinese, French and Spanish):

- FRBR information discovery in traditional catalogues: the TelPlus experience - Rosa Galvão, Margarida Pedreiro Lopes, Nuno Freire (National Library of Portugal, Portugal)
- UNIMARC, RDA and the Semantic Web - Gordon Dunsire (University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK)
- The new Italian Cataloguing Rules (REICAT) and the UNIMARC standard: open problems and proposals for the application in library catalogues - Antonella Trombone (Universita’ degli Studi della Basilicata, Potenza, Italy) and Fernanda Canepa (Berio Library, Genoa, Italy)
- An evaluation of multi-language/multi-script functions in KOHA - Naicheng Chang (Tatung University, Taipei, China) and Yuchin Tsai (National Applied Research Laboratories, Taipei, China)

Next PUC Meeting and the 3rd UNIMARC Users Group Meeting, Lyon, March 2010

The 21st PUC Meeting is scheduled to be held at the Ecole nationale supérieure des sciences de l'information et des bibliothèques (ENSSIB) in Lyon, France, on March 29 and 30 2010. The 3rd Meeting of the UNIMARC Users Group will follow on Wednesday, March 31, at the same venue.

IFLA 2010, Gothenburg, Sweden

A UNIMARC session is planned for IFLA 2010, under the theme Breaking through the metadata world: UNIMARC and its relatives.