

# PORTUGAL

## NATIONAL LIBRARY OF PORTUGAL

### JORGE COUTO – DIRECTOR GENERAL

#### ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2007

#### SUMMARY OF THE MOST RELEVANT ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE NLP IN 2006:

##### MANAGEMENT

A process of reorganisation started, in the framework of a wider reorganisation of the civil service, mainly aimed at rationalising resources. In this context, a new organisational structure was prepared, reducing the number of departments, as well as a new bylaw and strategic plan 2007-2010, that went into practice in 2007. The work began for the proposal of a new legal deposit law which is expected to be ready for submission by the end of 2007. In November 2006, a new Deputy Director-General was appointed.

##### COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

This area of activity was particularly fertile in 2006: besides the legal deposit accessions, the Library acquired a significant number of heritage items, rare books and manuscripts, the latter with prominence for the Archive of the Contemporary Portuguese Culture which gathers the personal papers from a large number of Portuguese writers and other cultural personalities.

##### PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION

The Library continued its regular programme of preventive conservation and had to carry out a special intervention of anoxic disinfestation in some collections. The microfilming of Portuguese newspapers also continued, producing, as in previous years, half a million of new images. As to restoration, a three year agreement was signed with the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation which provides funding to reinforce the staff and the availability of materials needed for the restoration of major Portuguese treasures from the NLP collections.

##### NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASE – PORBASE AND OTHER COOPERATION PROJECTS

By the end of 2006, The National Bibliographic Database - PORBASE attained the following figures: 1,501,072 bibliographic records and 3,662,298 holdings from the BNP and 167 contributing libraries. The development of new automated facilities to process the records received from other libraries was concluded. The NLP continued its participation in TEL - The European Library and B-On, a portal for common services and digital resources for the university libraries network.

An agreement was established with Google for indexing the content of PORBASE in the search engine database. As a result, PORBASE records are now retrievable in Google searches, in the Google Scholar service.

An agreement for professional cooperation was formalised with the National Library of Angola, envisaging bibliographic exchanges and training, especially in library automation. In this context, several training activities already took place in 2007.

## NATIONAL DIGITAL LIBRARY

In 2006, digitisation was focused on Portuguese printed books of the XVII-XVIII centuries, in the context of a special project. Over 200 new books were digitised as well as cover pages of over 7,000 other works. Simultaneously, over 5,000 items, already digitised in previous years, were made available in the NDL, mainly iconographic works, including maps.

A new agreement was established with the Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento (FLAD) for the digitisation and web publication of a corpus of works in English about Portugal. This project, entitled *Portuguese Culture*, will be funded by FLAD in the period 2007-2010.

The NLP started its activities as partner of the following European projects: DigMap - *Discovering our Past World with Digitised Maps* (eContentPlus Programme) and EoD - *Ebooks on Demand* (Programme eTEN).

## EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

The NLP realised in 2006 four major exhibitions, all with a published catalogue, about the history of some initial holdings of the Library, the *Save a Book* campaign, the Portuguese writer Rómulo de Carvalho, and the Viscount de Santarém and his work on ancient cartography. Eleven other smaller exhibitions took place celebrating a variety of events and authors. During the year the Library issued over 20 publications, encompassing both technical and other titles.

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