IFLA-CDNL ALLIANCE FOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC STANDARDS (ICABS) DRAFT AGREEMENT

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DIE DEUTSCHE BIBLIOTHEK

AGREEMENT

DRAFT APRIL 9TH 2003

1. PREAMBLE

The UBCIM core activity was hosted by Die Deutsche Bibliothek (DDB) from 1990 to the beginning of 2003. From 2003 onwards the National Library of Portugal took over the responsibility for both UNIMARC and ICBC.

To cover other areas formerly handled by UBCIM, the National Library of Australia, the Library of Congress, the British Library, the Koninklijke Bibliotheek and Die Deutsche Bibliothek propose to participate in a joint responsibility together with the National Library of Portugal. These six national libraries propose an "IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards (ICABS)". The focus of the alliance is strategic and offers a credible way to improve international coordination and to steer developments in key areas. The ICABS partners wish to build a sustainable basis for cooperation in the 21st century.

2. OBJECTIVES

To coordinate
  ➢ activities aimed at the development of standards and practices for bibliographic and resource control, including metadata, persistent identifiers and interoperability standards

To support
  ➢ the international exchange of bibliographic resources by supporting, promoting, developing and testing the maintenance of metadata and format standards

To ensure
  ➢ the promotion of new conventions

To act
  ➢ as a clearinghouse for information on all IFLA endeavours in these fields

To organize and participate in
  ➢ seminars and workshops

To enhance
  ➢ communication within the community

PRIORITIES

All goals are primarily linked to IFLA professional priority "Promoting standards, guidelines and best practices", but some may also be linked to "Promoting resource sharing", "Providing unrestricted access to information" and "Represent libraries in the technological marketplace", "Developing library professionals".

3. GOALS AND ACTIONS

GOAL

3.1. Maintain, promote and harmonize existing standards and concepts related to bibliographic and resource control
Actions
3.1.1 ISBD maintenance and development
Share information and co-operate closely with the Cataloguing Section and the ISBD review group in accordance with their requests.
Promote the results of the ISBDs' revisions.
Responsible partner: Die Deutsche Bibliothek

3.1.2 FRBR development
Share information and co-operate closely with the Cataloguing Section in accordance with their requests.
Responsible partner: British Library

3.1.3 FRANAR project
Continue the Working Group of Functional Requirements and Numbering of Authority Records (FRANAR).
Responsible partner: British Library

3.1.4 UNIMARC
Promote the development and use of UNIMARC.
Responsible partner: National Library of Portugal

3.1.5 MARC 21
Promote the development and use of MARC21 and its XML derivatives.
Responsible partner: Library of Congress

3.1.6 Z39.50 and Z39.50-International:Next Generation (ZING)
Promote the application of the Z39.50 interface. Cooperate with ZING, a number of initiatives by Z39.50 implementors, in order to evolve next generation implementations.
Responsible partner: Library of Congress

GOAL

3.2. Develop strategies for bibliographic and resource control and ensure the promotion of new and recommended conventions
Actions
3.2.1 VIAF cooperative
Support and promote the idea of the Virtual International Authority File (VIAF), co-operate with the Cataloguing Section in exploring the creation of a VIAF and testing prototypes.
VIAF project partners: Library of Congress, Die Deutsche Bibliothek, OCLC/PICA

3.2.2 Metadata and XML based metadata schemes
Explore Metadata requirements in close co-operation with the Section on Information Technology. Collect and communicate information on existing Metadata schemes and application profiles.

Responsible partner: Library of Congress

3.2.3 Monitor work on persistent identifiers
Responsible partner: Library of Congress

GOAL

3.3 Advance understanding of issues related to long-term archiving of electronic resources

Actions

3.3.1 Explore the requirements/conditions for long-term archiving of electronical resources
Responsible partner: Koninklijke Bibliotheek

3.3.2 Migration & Emulation
Explore and promote strategies, methods and standards for migration and emulation.
Responsible partner: Koninklijke Bibliotheek

3.3.3 Web harvesting
Explore and promote methods to archive web-based publications collected by web-harvesting.
Responsible partner: National Library of Australia

3.3.4 Work out a survey of existing standards, guidelines and codes for preservation of digital materials (in co-operation with the Section on Preservation and Conservation).
Responsible partner: National Library of Australia

4. COOPERATION

The National Library of Australia, the Library of Congress, the British Library, the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, the National Library of Portugal and Die Deutsche Bibliothek suggest a "pie approach", i.e. to form a coalition to work on several strategic aspects included in the ICABS agreement and in the UNIMARC contract between IFLA and the National Library of Portugal, each of the coalition partners taking responsibility on one or several aspects. The partners should sign mutual cooperation agreements.

The alliance aims to maintain, promote and harmonize existing standards and concepts related to bibliographic and resource control, to develop strategies for bibliographic and resource control and ensure the promotion of new and recommended conventions and to advance understanding of issues related to long-term archiving of electronic resources.

5. GOVERNANCE

Each partner responsible for an action package decides how to organize work in this package. The work may be based on existing projects (e.g. VIAF) and existing structures (e.g. UNIMARC, MARC21) or on working groups to be installed or other possible ways. The work could include seminars, workshops and publications and participation in related events as well as projects.
There is of course the need to co-ordinate the work and the activities to enhance co-operation between the alliance partners and to avoid overlapping or duplicating work and there is also the need to liaise to:
- IFLA Head Quarters, Governing Board, Divisions & sections
- CDNL and the regional groups of CDNL
- UNESCO and other funding bodies

A board of the participating institutions (plus two members nominated by IFLA) for this alliance will be set up, chaired by one of the participating institutions on a rotating basis. Die Deutsche Bibliothek has agreed to chair the board for the first 3-years-term.

There is also the need for a secretary of the group. The secretary will be provided by the member that chairs the board. The secretary would handle various arrangements and communications, e.g. create and maintain a webpage for the programme and maintain a web view that promotes the results of the programme. A moderated e-mail discussion list could be established to enhance communication within the community.

Travelling costs and costs of board meetings or other meetings and workshops are payed by the member institutions or by those in whose interest a workshop is organized.

Financial issues concerning support from IFLA for UNIMARC and ICBC for the National Library of Portugal are not part of this agreement.

6. DURATION

It was agreed between the partners and IFLA that the IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards (ICABS) should at first run for three years, starting with the signing of the ICABS agreement. Its terms and objectives will be reviewed by the partners and IFLA after evaluation of the results.

SIGNATORY INSTITUTIONS

The British Library

Die Deutsche Bibliothek

Koninklijke Bibliotheek

Library of Congress

National Library of Australia

National Library of Portugal

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
Secretary General

Conference of Directors of National Libraries
Chair

CDNL REVIEW OF IFLA CORE ACTIVITIES

Letter from Ross Shimmon Secretary General, IFLA to Dr Chia outlining the IFLA Board's response to the Committee's report is attached for information.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS DE BIBLIOTHtCAIRES ET
DES BIBLIOTHtQUES
INTERNATIONALER VERBAND DER BIBLIOTHEKARISCHEN VEREINE UND
INSTITUTIONEN FEDERACI6N INTERNATIONAL DE ASOCIACIONES DE
BIBLIOTECARIOS Y BIBLIOTECAS

Dr. Chris Chia Chief
Executive National
Library Board
1 Temasek Avenue #06-00, Millenia Tower
SINGAPORE 039192
Singapore

Date: 30 October 2002
Our ref: O/rs

Subject: CDNL review of IFLA Core Activities: preliminary report

Dear Chris

As you know, the preliminary report of the CDNL review of the IFLA Core Activities was presented in your absence at the CDNL meeting held in Edinburgh in August.
The IFLA Governing Board also gave it lengthy consideration at its meeting held immediately after the IFLA general conference, in August in Glasgow. The Board also gave detailed consideration to individual reports from the chairs of the Advisory Boards for each of the IFLA core activities. As you know, these chairs are themselves full members of the Governing Board. The Board also considered reports, from the IFLA Treasurer and from me, on recent developments and future arrangements on funding, especially in the light of the recent announcement from DANIDA of its withdrawal of support for the ALP and FAME core activities.
I thought it might be helpful if I summarised the Board's decision on each of the core activities, together with its view on the overall approach.

1.   Advancement of Librarianship (ALP):
The DANIDA withdrawal means that the funding for the FLA Conference attendance grants, for participants from developing countries, will no longer be available. These grants have enabled between 20 and 30 librarians from the developing world to take part in the FLA conference and in related activities for each of the last four years. About one third of the funding for third world library development projects and for the operation of the ALP office in Uppsala University, Sweden is also no longer available. The Board decided to continue the ALP programme at a reduced level while seeking to broaden the funding base. The Swedish development agency, SIDA, the Swedish Library Association continue to give substantial support to ALP. Other support comes from a variety of Nordic organisations.

2.   Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM):
The Board decided to transfer most of the work of the secretariat of CLM from the British Library to MLA HQ. The remaining work will have to be done on a voluntary basis by members of the committee. It also decided to accept an offer from colleagues from Switzerland to identify a member who could represent MLA at meetings of WIPO and other relevant organisations based in Geneva. We are currently investigating the possibilities of some joint activities in this area with other interested parties including EBLIDA.
3.   Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE):
The withdrawal of DANIDA funding leaves a gap in the funding of FAIFE of about EUR 24,000 for 2003. The Swedish development agency, SIDA, and the Swedish Library Associations had made generous

donations to help meet some of the shortfall. The Board agreed that a further submission should be made to DANIDA for funding support for the year 2003, although there appeared to be little hope of success with this. Meanwhile, the Board agreed that FAIFE was an essential part of the work of IFLA and that it should continue at a reduced level, while attempts were made to broaden the funding base. In this connection it is worth-mentioning that IFLA Council unanimously adopted both the "Glasgow Declaration" on libraries and intellectual freedom, and the IFLA Internet Manifesto.

4.   Preservation and Conservation (PAC):
The present contract with the Bibliotheque national de France runs out in December. The Board agreed to go ahead with negotiations to renew the contract for a further three years on similar terms to the contract.

5.   Universal Availability of Publications (UAP):
The Board accepted the inevitability of closure of UAP. This would take effect from March 2003. The Board did agree, however, to investigate the possibility of continuing the International Lending Voucher Scheme, either by finding a new host or running it from IFLA HQ, at least on a temporary basis. It also agreed to investigate ways of running it on a more cost-effective basis.

6.   Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UNIMARCZ
The Board accepted that UBCIM would close down in February 2003, on the retirement of the current Director. Die Deutsche Bibliotheek has announced, as you know, that it did not wish to support the UNIMARC element of UBCIM from that date. It has also offered to host a new core activity based on parts of UBC and the former UDT, provisionally entitled UBCMS (Universal Bibliographic control and Interoperability Standards). However the contribution required from MLA central funds would be unsustainable. So we are discussing with DDB and others possible alternative models. The Board did, however, accept an offer from the National Library of Portugal to take over the maintenance and development of the UNIMARC element of UBCIM, together with the publication of the UBCIM journal 'International Bibliographic Control'. The initial contract would be for three years and the contribution required from ILFA central funds would be similar to that provided in recent years to UBCIM as a whole.

7.   Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications (UDT):
As you know, UDT closed down at the end of 2001 following the withdrawal of support by the National Library of Canada.

In considering the overall funding of IFLA, including the core activities, the Board considered various ways of generating new revenue streams, including the establishment of a 'Blue Ribbon fund raising group. All these will be actively pursued.

Meanwhile, the Board asked me to convey to you and CDNL that it greatly appreciates the support given to our core activities over many years. In particular it acknowledged that many CDNL members contribute to the work of IFLA in many different ways: including hosting a core activity, making financial contributions to the core activities fund, paying IFLA membership fees and supporting staff to take an active part in IFLA's professional work and management. Without this support, IFLA could not carry out anything like its current range of activities on behalf of the worldwide library and information community.

Finally the Board asked me to thank you and your team for the CDNL report on the review of our core activities. It believes that it has now to concentrate on the remaining programmes and to find solutions to their funding needs. Some of this review will be carried out in conjunction with CDNL members or groups of members. We would like to report progress at the next meeting of CDNL. However, the Board believes that a revised edition of the report by the CDNL review group is not necessary at this stage.

With many thanks again and very best wishes,

SIGNED

Ross Shimmon Secretary General
Cc: CDNL Chair IFLA
President IFLA Treasurer