

IFLA Namespaces Technical Group

Update – 15 June 2013

WLIC 2013

The Group will meet during WLIC 2013 in Singapore:

Wednesday 21 August

07.30-09.30

Room 309

This is **provisional**, so please check in advance. I will email the Group if I am informed of any change.

The very early start is because the conference venue cannot accommodate all of the requests made for meeting rooms.

Funding for 2013 and beyond

The IFLA Professional Committee decided to continue to discuss longer-term funding of standards-related activities during 2013, so the Namespaces Technical Committee remains a project of the Classification and Indexing Section. The status of the strategic plan requested from G. Dunsire is unknown.

The Professional Committee approved the funding of projects submitted by the FRBR Review Group and ISBD Review Group at its December 2012 meeting, but did not approve the funding of the overall Namespaces project submitted by the Classification and Indexing Section, which included coordination of FRBR and ISBD namespace activity, until March 2013. As a result, timescales for all namespace-related projects in 2013 have been delayed by three months.

The Professional Committee was not able to fund the UNIMARC namespaces project proposed by the Permanent UNIMARC Committee. However, the PUC was able to initiate the project using internal funds.

IFLA Namespace Development, Co-ordination, and Training project

G. Dunsire met with the Namespaces project consultants, D. Hillmann and J. Phipps, on 12 April 2013 in Jacksonville, New York, USA to discuss the development of OMR functionality for the maintenance of multilingual vocabularies and training materials for maintaining IFLA vocabularies in the OMR.

Multilingual vocabulary maintenance

The registration of a vocabulary maintainer will include the language to which the account is restricted. Labels, definitions, and other literals in that language will be editable, while other languages will be display only. The consultants raised the issue of language variants, for example UK English and US English, and will investigate it further. It is hoped to have a preliminary version of the system available by WLIC in Singapore.

Training materials

Training materials will fall into two groups:

1. A set of presentations with animated slides, screenshots and notes.
2. A set of web pages with screenshots and longer notes.

Content of the screenshots will be based on real examples taken from the UNIMARC and other IFLA namespaces. Draft versions of the materials will be tested with appropriate IFLA groups, and will be available for discussion in Singapore.

Other actions for 2013

Guidelines on using and extending IFLA namespaces

It is hoped to have preliminary guidelines available for discussion in Singapore. They will be based on various discussions involving the relevant IFLA groups, the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA (JSC), and the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI).

Issues of constrained and unconstrained namespaces

Several issues have been identified during the collaboration of the ISBD Review Group and JSC on developing alignments and mappings between ISBD and RDA. Similar issues of context, semantic mapping, and synchronization have also emerged from the UNIMARC namespaces project. It is hoped to have a report available for discussion in Singapore.

IFLA namespace metadata

IFLA namespaces were included in a small project to test the [Asset Description Metadata Schema \(ADMS\)](http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/adms/description) [http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/adms/description] using the Open Metadata Registry (OMR). The project was carried out between January and April 2013, and included the following IFLA namespaces:

- FRBR entity-relationship element set
- ISBD element set
- ISBD Media Type value vocabulary
- MulDiCat value vocabulary

[More information](http://wiki.dublincore.org/index.php/ADMS/OMR_Project) [http://wiki.dublincore.org/index.php/ADMS/OMR_Project] about the project can be found on the DCMI Vocabulary Management Community wiki.

Subsequent to the test, the project was able to add over 80 vocabularies from the OMR to the semantic assets of the European Commission's [Joinup portal](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/catalogue/repository/open-metadata-registry) [https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/catalogue/repository/open-metadata-registry]. These include the 13 published IFLA vocabularies, which can be found using an [advanced search with IFLA as the publisher](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/search/apachesolr_search?filters=im_publisher%3A64934) [https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/search/apachesolr_search?filters=im_publisher%3A64934].

The project is still analysing the mappings between the current OMR namespace-level metadata and the ADMS, and a report will be issued to the Namespaces Technical Group in due course.

FRBRO namespace

Version 2.0 of the FRBRO Model was released by the International Working Group on FRBR/CIDOC CRM Harmonisation in May 2013. It is currently available as an [RDFS/XML file](http://www.cidoc-crm.org/rdfs/FRBR2.0-draft-B.rdfs) [http://www.cidoc-crm.org/rdfs/FRBR2.0-draft-B.rdfs] from the CIDOC CRM website.

ISBD namespaces

Work is ongoing to develop a map between the ISBD element set and the RDA element set, based on the alignment table under discussion by the ISBD Review Group and JSC.

An alignment between the ISBD value vocabularies for content and media types and the RDA/ONIX Framework for Resource Categorization is complete, and waiting for a namespace for the Framework to be developed. A representative of the ISBD Review Group has been invited to join a working group for the development of the Framework.

UNIMARC namespaces

The first year of a planned two-year project to represent the UNIMARC formats as RDF element sets and value vocabularies has been funded by the PUC.

Project meeting, 8 May 2013

G. Dunsire met with the other project consultants, M. Willer and P. Perožić, on 8 May 2013 in Zadar, Croatia.

The meeting confirmed that the development of a namespace for the UNIMARC Bibliographic format (UNIMARC/B) would be the initial focus. Preliminary tests of spread-sheets for transcribing data from the Manual were agreed to be successful; the data will be used to generate URIs, labels, definitions, and scope notes for the RDF element sets. The order of blocks to be transcribed was decided. A categorization of transcription issues arising from the tests was discussed, and the project agreed that significant manual intervention was required to ensure that definitions and scope notes were clear and unambiguous. It was agreed to report errors found in the documentation to the PUC, but to correct them where possible in the namespace data.

Project meeting, 14 May 2013

G. Dunsire met with M. Willer on 14 May 2013 in Zagreb, Croatia.

The meeting discussed issues concerning the alignment of UNIMARC/B with ISBD, and the relationship between UNIMARC/B and UNIMARC Authorities format (UNIMARC/A). Specific cases include the use of UNIMARC encoding for non-ISBD content, the misalignment caused by the removal of ISBD's general material designation element and its retention in UNIMARC/B, and the use of identical codes and captions in relevant areas of UNIMARC/A and UNIMARC/B.

Subsequent investigation into the last case shows that different contexts require separate namespaces for UNIMARC/A and UNIMARC/B, but that the spread-sheets used for UNIMARC/B can be re-used to speed up the development of the UNIMARC/A element sets.

The meeting also discussed the use of embedded non-filing indicator markers in subfield content.

Progress to date

Draft spread-sheets for most of the UNIMARC/B blocks have been completed. Subfield definitions and scope notes are being manually edited. Spread-sheet formulas for constructing the URIs from the tag, indicator, and subfield codes will be finalized, with the aim of uploading the data into the OMR by July 2013.

Some value vocabularies from the coded information block of UNIMARC/B have been entered into the OMR directly, as part of the development of training materials for the Namespaces project. They have also been used to develop mappings between UNIMARC and other vocabularies. The value vocabularies published in the OMR are:

- UNIMARC: Continuing resources: Frequency of issue
[<http://metadataregistry.org/vocabulary/show/id/324.html>]
- UNIMARC: Graphics: Functional designation
[<http://metadataregistry.org/vocabulary/show/id/323.html>]
- UNIMARC: Graphics: Primary support material
[<http://metadataregistry.org/vocabulary/show/id/321.html>]
- UNIMARC: Graphics: Specific material designation
[<http://metadataregistry.org/vocabulary/show/id/320.html>]
- UNIMARC: Target Audience Code
[<http://metadataregistry.org/vocabulary/show/id/322.html>]

These vocabularies also include Italian and Portuguese translations of the labels.

The vocabulary for frequency of issue of continuing resources has been mapped to similar vocabularies in DCMI, MARC 21, and RDA for discussion by the DCMI Bibliographic Metadata Task Group; the map is available in terse triple language format [http://wiki.dublincore.org/index.php/Map_of_value_vocabularies_for_frequency_of_issue_of_continuing_resources].

The project consultants will present a paper based on the project accepted for the UNIMARC session in Singapore. The consultants will also present a paper on the project accepted for the DC-2013 conference.

DCMI Bibliographic Metadata Task Group

Recent Bibliographic Metadata Task Group email discussion threads relevant to IFLA namespaces include ISBD and RDA issues [<https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A1=ind1301&L=DC-RDA#2>]

The Task Group has collaborated with the DCMI Vocabulary Management Community to sponsor a one-day workshop to follow the DC-2013 conference in Lisbon, Portugal. ***VocDay 2013: Managing Vocabularies*** [<http://dcevents.dublincore.org/IntConf/index/pages/view/vocDay>] will take place on 7 September 2013. Sessions will cover vocabulary sustainability, multilingual vocabulary development and extension, extension of element and value vocabularies, and making mapping real; these are all themes of interest to the Namespaces Technical Group.

The Task Group will have a formal meeting on 5 September 2013 during the DC-2013 conference [<http://dcevents.dublincore.org/index.php/IntConf/index/pages/view/program-2013>].

DCMI Vocabulary Management Community

Recent Vocabulary Management Community email discussion threads relevant to IFLA namespaces include the DCMI Vocabulary Management System Task Group Report [<https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A1=ind1302&L=DC-VOCABULARY#3>].

The Community will also have a formal meeting on 5 September 2013 during the DC-2013 conference.

Best Practices for Multilingual Linked (Open) Data (BP-MLOD) community Group

This W3C community group was an outcome of the breakout session at the W3C Multilingual Web Workshop, 12-13 March 2013, Rome, Italy. The purpose of the group is to gather input from the multilingual web community regarding the creation of Linked (open) data sets in multiple languages, or linking existing multilingual data sets with the aim to publish a set of common best practices, with the remit of linking multilingual linked (open) data sets. G. Dunsire is a member of the group, representing IFLA's interests in multilingual namespaces, but membership is open to all. Further information is available on the BP-MLOD website [<http://www.w3.org/community/bpmlod/>].

Forthcoming book

Bibliographic information organization in the Semantic Web

[<http://www.woodheadpublishing.com/en/book.aspx?bookID=2876>] discusses the role of IFLA standards and universal bibliographic control in the linked data environment, using examples from IFLA namespaces.

Presentations and meetings

G. Dunsire gave invited presentations about IFLA namespaces and the work of the Technical Group to several meetings between January and May 2013:

- Mapping FRBR, ISBD, RDA, and other namespaces to DC for interoperability [<http://www.gordondunsire.com/pubs/pres/MappingToDC.pptx>]. Presented at Kunnskapsorganisasjonsdagene 2013, 7-8 February 2013, Oslo, Norway.
- Granularity in Library Linked Open Data [<http://www.gordondunsire.com/pubs/pres/GranularityLOD.pptx>]. Presented at Code4Lib 2013, 12-14 Feb 2013, Chicago, USA.
- Multilingual Issues in the Representation of International Bibliographic Standards for the Semantic Web [<http://www.gordondunsire.com/pubs/pres/MultilingualBibStan.pptx>]. Presented at W3C Multilingual Web Workshop, 12-13 March 2013, Rome, Italy.
 - Multilingual bibliographic standards in RDF: the IFLA experience [<http://www.gordondunsire.com/pubs/pres/MultilingualBibStanLight.pptx>]. Lightning presentation at breakout session Requirements Gathering: Best practices for Multilingual Linked Open Data (BP-MLOD).

- IFLA in RDE (+ RDA) [<http://www.gordondunsire.com/pubs/pres/IFLARDF.pptx>]. Lightning presentation at NISO Bibliographic Roadmap Meeting, 15-16 Apr 2013, Baltimore, USA.

Gordon Dunsire (Chair)
18 June 2013