Background

The International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD) is intended to serve as a principal standard to promote universal bibliographic control, that is, to make universally and promptly available, in a form that is internationally acceptable, bibliographic data for all published and unpublished bibliographic resources in all countries.

The ISBD is the only freely accessible bibliographic standard that determines the data elements to be recorded as the basis of the description of the resource being catalogued. In addition, it employs prescribed punctuation and a specific sequence for recording information as means of identifying and displaying data elements and making them understandable independently of the language of the description.

Revision Plan

The ISBD Revision was started in August 2018. Equally important and of conflicting nature, the Revision’s tasks were addressed subsequently by a sub-group, the ISBD Editorial Group (IEG) formed in August 2018 and re-formed in May 2019 with a new chairmanship and some changes in membership.

In August 2019, the ISBD RG took the decision to reorganize the work in two parallel tracks to be tackled by two tasks forces, for increased productivity and better focus on the objectives: the ISBD for Manifestation Task Force and the ISBD Content Update Task Force.

ISBD for Manifestation Task Force

Scope

Aligning the ISBD with the overarching conceptual model provided by IFLA, the IFLA Library Reference Model (LRM).

Terms of Reference
1. Complete an alignment of the ISBD to the LRM at the-Manifestation level, working out an element set for that alignment.

2. Analyse the gaps, i.e. the elements of the ISBD Consolidated edition that in the cited alignment have been excluded, and that are considered mandatory, mandatory if the information is available, or optional.

**Deliverables**

- **The ISBD for Manifestation.** That is a document consisting of:
  - the ISBD to LRM Manifestation Elements Set; and,
  - a set of stipulations for describing a manifestation according to LRM

- **Reflection on Transforming the ISBD into a Full Implementation of the LRM,** a working document that will constitute the basis of the future work encompassing all of the LRM elements and other components, and which would entail rethinking the structure of the ISBD.

**Membership**

Members of the ISBD for Manifestation Task Force are:

- Elena Escolano Rodriguez
- Gordon Dunsire (Independent Consultant)
- Mélanie Roche
- Mikael Wetterstrom (ISSN Center Liaison)
- Mirna Willer
- Rehab Ouf
- Renate Behrens (Chair)
- Saeedeh Akbaridaryan

**ISBD Content Update Task Force**

**Scope**

Updating the content of the current ISBD Consolidated Edition 2011 to fulfil the urgent needs of the ISBD communities of users.

**Terms of Reference**

1. Provide an update of the content of the ISBD according to the comments and proposals by communities of interests and the users of the ISBD standard.

2. Extend the coverage of the ISBD to include a larger array of resources, especially unpublished resources.

**Deliverables**

- **Revised ISBD Consolidated Edition 2011,** a Full draft version of the ISBD Standard, last edition tackling three types of modifications:
  - Errata of typos and mistakes in the current text,
Clarifications, of ambiguities concerning some instructions or differentiations between close concepts;

- Augmentations, i.e. adding new types of resources with instructions on how to record them.

- **Update to the ISBD Consolidated Edition 2011**, a document indicating all of the modifications that have taken place.

**Membership**

Members of the Content Update Task Force are:

- Dorothy McGarry
- Elena Escolano Rodriguez (Chair)
- Hollie White
- Judit Fejes
- Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi (Consultant, Music Materials)
- Rehab Ouf
- Ricardo Santos Muñoz
- Adelaida Caro Martín (Rare Books and Special Collections Section Liaison)

**Timeline**

The two task forces are expected to present their drafts during IFLA WLIC 2020. Final drafts are planned for publication early 2021, after inserting all remarks by the Committee on Standards.

**Workflow**

Most of the work of the two Task Forces will be done remotely and discussed via emails, with resources and document centralized in a shared workspace, i.e. ISBD RG wiki, IFLA Basecamp.

Two face to face meetings for each Task Force are planned, one in early Winter 2020 to plan the work and focus on tasks that need to be worked out as a group, and one in late Fall 2020 to finalize the final drafts and organize their official publication.

A post IFLA WLIC 2020 daylong meeting or an extended 2 days Seminar will be organized to present work, collect feedback and plan for the next steps and future work.

**Liaising and Reporting**

Liaisons will be established with interested bodies and communities of users ensuring the work is done in consultation and continued harmonization with concerned partners.

Within this timeline, the Task Forces are expected to report regularly to the ISBD Review Group for comments and approval. The latter will ensure the Committee on Standards is informed/involved as appropriate.

Established in November 2019