



IFLA Review Group International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD)

ISBD Review Group

ISBD RG 2023 Midyear Meeting –25 April 2023, via Zoom

MINUTES

Attendees:

ISBD RG members and liaisons: Elena Escolano Rodríguez (Chair of the Content Update Task Force), Renate Behrens (Chair of the Manifestation Task Force, RSC liaison), Dorothy McGarry (honorary member), Mikael Wetterstrom (member, ISSN International Centre Liaison), Isabel Garcia-Monge (IFLA RBSCS liaison), Judit Fejes (member), Gordon Dunsire (member), Saeedeh Akbari-Daryan (member), Ricardo Santos Muñoz (CATS liaison), Jennifer Dimasaca (member), Irena Kavčič (corresponding member), Rehab Ouf (Chair of the ISBD RG)

Apologies: Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi (corresponding member Flavia Bruni (member), Szabina Ilácsa (member), Mirna Willer (corresponding member), Hyejin Kim (member), Flavia Bruni (member), Anders Catos

Invitees & Observers: Joseph Hafner (LIDATEC Chair), Annette Dortmund (OCLC, Bibliography Section candidate), Gordana Mazic (PUC chair, UNIMARC), Priscilla Pun (University of Macau Library, Manifestation TF-Examples), Chris Oliver (Expert advisor to Advisory Committee on Standards, RDA Board member), Felene Cayetano (Belize National Library)

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Agenda

Agenda approved without change. However, items 10 – 12 were not tackled during this meeting, as some items of the agenda had long discussions.

3. Note about past meeting minutes timeframe

Rehab Ouf informed the members that past minutes of meetings will be shared in the next weeks, as some notes from Fall meetings were lost in her crashed previous laptop.

4. IFLA Elections 2023 and ISBD RG membership, update and timeline

Rehab presented updates on the 2023 Elections, the status of ISBD RG membership, and shared information on the timeline and the next steps. The calls for nominations for IFLA 2023 Elections were closed on 24 February 2023. Per the timeline, all results will be announced on 1 May 2023 and successful and unsuccessful candidates will be notified.

The ISBD RG had 7 vacancies and got 13 candidates, new and re-nominated for a second term. This shows a great interest in the ISBD RG's work, as well as successful publicizing of the call for nominations and the targeted invitations that were sent out. Four new members were selected, constituting the best of very good candidates as joining for the first time members. The new selections and the renewals were approved by the Advisory Committee on Standards without amendments.

Rehab addressed warm thanks to IFLA HQ for having supported her in finding nominators for some of the candidates who approached her, as well as for supporting her and the candidates until the last minutes of the deadline of closing of the nominations. Rehab will communicate the list of new and continuing members couple of days after candidates are notified by IFLA HQ. As for expert advisors' type of membership, IFLA HQ advised that information will come in due course, but that it will have the same timeline as other IFLA's units.

Update: The results of the elections of IFLA RGs and Advisory Committees were announced early June 2022, following June's Governing Board meeting, as informed by IFLA HQ after this meeting and conveyed to the members by the Chair via email.

5. Chair's report

The Chair's report will be brief, as all news and updates have been communicated instantly via email or Basecamp.

1. The Chair has contributed an article in the December issue of the IFLA Metadata Newsletter, accounting for the ISBD RG news and ISBD revision works for the 4th year in a row.
2. The Chair also contributed a professional article in the first issue of the *IFLA Standards Newsletter*, a newsletter sponsored by the Advisory Committee on Standards.
3. An article about the ISBD Standard to this newsletter was also contributed by Elena Escolano in the "Standard Profile" section of the newsletter, that features each issue an IFLA standard or guideline. Rehab warmly thanked Elena for having provided a text that sets out a benchmark for featuring standards and/or guidelines in this section.
4. : The [Spanish translation](#) of the 2021 Update of the ISBD has been published. A team from the National Library of Spain supervised by Elena Escolano achieved this translation. Also was published the [Full ISBD Examples – Supplement to the 2021 Update to the 2011 Consolidated edition of the ISBD](#).
5. The Chair published the recording and materials of the ISBDM webinar (Item no. 6).

6. ISBDM webinar, 26 January 2023

6.1. Webinar materials

The Chair published, on 13 February 2023, the recording and slides of the webinar titled "*From ISBD to ISBDM: a bibliographic standard in transformation*", held on 26 January 2023. [News with links to the materials](#) were published on the ISBD RG website and publicized on IFLA-L and relevant IFLA mailing lists. Webinar materials can be accessed as follows:

- Link to the recording of the webinar and slides by the presenters on [IFLA Repository](#)
- The recording of the webinar on the new ISBD Review Group channel on [YouTube](#)
- The recording can also be accessed through the [IFLA Professional Units Virtual Events playlist](#) on IFLA’s YouTube channel

6.2. Webinar evaluation and statistics

Statistics: Rehab said that the webinar had: 1375 registrants, 645 users joining the webinar, 469 unique attendees with an attendance of 34%, a very normal attendance rate as informed by IFLA HQ before the webinar. The webinar had 33 interactions in the Q&A tool, including 25 questions asked to the speakers or commenting on presentations.

Evaluation: Renate Behrens said that the webinar was very effective, not only for participants, but also for the members of the Manifestation Task Force to get some feedback. Mikael Watterstrom observed that the time was used very well. Rehab commented that the statistics and the feedbacks make it one of the most attended and most successful IFLA webinars.

7. Development of the Standard: ISBD Revision

7.1. ISBD for LRM-Manifestation (ISBDM) and activities of Manifestation TF

Renate said that the work of the 2 subgroups set up in the Manifestation Task Force for Examples and for Granularity and Prescriptiveness are at a good level. The task force hopes that it will be able to present in Summer this year a first draft of the ISBDM for the review of the ISBD Review Group, followed by a review phase by experts outside the ISBD RG. Rehab thanked everyone who is involved in these deployment works of the ISBDM. She noted that the subgroups cross over to each other work, which is beneficial and mutually informing. All these are crucial steps in shaping the ISBDM.

8. ISBD vocabularies and namespaces

Joseph Hafner, LIDATEC’s Chair, said that the “policy document” that was worked out over the past year, is now at the review stage in the Advisory Committee on Standards. When endorsed it can be implemented. The document helps the review groups to understand what IFLA tries to accomplish for its Namespaces and how they can be updated.

9. ISBDM publication format plan

Rehab and Renate kicked off the discussions, reporting about the steps took by the ISBD Review Group and its Manifestation Task Force to push in the direction of having an online publishing solution for the ISBD for Manifestation (ISBDM). The following actions were involved:

1. Reaching out to the Advisory Committee on Standards (CoS) with a couple of documents: a) basic functional requirements for publishing ISBDM as an online tool of and a b) cover note describing the purpose and the urgency.
2. The matter had extended discussions in CoS meeting of 30 March 2023, where it was concluded that a “Position paper for GB for infrastructure for publication of standards/guidelines” has to be developed if the Governing Board to be approached with a request for funds.

3. Rehab and Renate had a Zoom with Megan Price, the IFLA Professional Support Officer, on 19 April 2023 (last week). In this meeting, Megan confirmed that IFLA HQ does not have tools other than DSpace, WordPress and the Namespace. Articulating the need for something new is required. Megan pointed out the “Position paper” to approach the GB requires more simplification than the documents submitted to CoS. The brief documentation to bring up to the GB has to focus more on the benefits of this to IFLA as institution and the possible financial costs involved, and less on the technical requirements, for the GB members are from different backgrounds. This paper shall be delivered to CoS Chair by late May at latest in order for her to bring the matter up to the GB for their meeting of early June.

Asked by Rehab to mention the concerns raised when discussing this at CoS meeting, Chris Oliver said that despite the presence of technical requirements, the documents lacks information about the following: what exactly this platform is going to entail, the financial commitments, would this need an outside assistance with a new contract or is it something that can be done with the capabilities within IFLA, what will be the requirements in the future years. Chris stressed that CoS members are not questioning the concept of having an online platform for bibliographic standards, but the practical way to bring this up to the Governing Board for an action.

Joseph Hafner said that one of the option the ISBD RG can consider for publishing ISBDM is to use the MMA technical capabilities (the IFLA Namespaces technical team) and the GitHub infrastructure to publish ISBDM. The technical team has also offered to draft a technical document for the future online publishing of IFLA standards connecting and integrating them with the IFLA Namespaces; offering also a space behind the scene enabling control for work and updates. IFLA would not need to pay an extra cost, as this could be included in the Namespaces support contract. LIDATEC is willing to work with the ISBD RG and the ISBDM team to see what is possible and in which direction to go.

In conclusion, Rehab said that, in completion of the items needed for the “Position paper” to the GB, she will be exploring with LIDATEC’s Chair, the technical options and their potential costs if any shall this be done through MMA, the firm hosting and managing IFLA Vocabularies Namespaces.

Updates:

1. The ISBD RG has taken a course of action to publish ISBDM in this phase as a *demonstrator*. This was achieved through a formal request on 9 May 2023 by the ISBD RG Chair to LIDATEC, backed up with technical specs that were studied and made possible through their facilitation. The specs were drafted by Gordon Dunsire, and the arrangements for implementation were done between LIDATEC and MMA. Gordon imported all file trees and structure from his personal website to the demonstrator website on GitHub.
2. Rehab was constantly updating The ISBD RG members during all the phases from the first contact with LIDATEC's Chair until the Demonstrator went live on 22 May 2023 (Link to the ISBDDemonstrator: <https://www.iflstandards.info/ISBDM/>.)

3. Rehab updated CoS Chair and IFLA HQ, on 30 May 2023, about this alternative temporary solution, indicating that the ISBD RG has dismissed their request for approaching the GB at this stage.

The ISBDM Demonstrator is sought to provide a quick solution to catch up with the timeline of getting the ISBDM ready for the review phase, until a full-fledged integrated permanent online publishing platform is developed.

The meeting was adjourned.