To: Robert Rendall, Chair
ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS/Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA)

From: Gayle Porter, Chair
ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS/CC:DA/Task Force for the Review of *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* (2015)

Subject: Report of the Task Force for the Review of *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* (2015)

As charged on May, 4, 2015, the Task Force has reviewed the draft text of the *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* (2015) and prepared the following response for CC:DA's approval.

The Committee on Cataloguing: Description and Access (CC:DA), the unit of the American Library Association responsible for considering international cataloging standards, appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft of the *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles*.

General comments:

After a careful review, we approve the *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* (2015) as a useful and important resource for catalogers of all types of materials. We have identified a number of general and specific comments and concerns to consider.

We think that the revision does some valuable work updating the original ICP to reflect changes in the cataloging world that include moving from a world of bibliographic and authority records to a web of statements of bibliographic and authority data in the form of linked data, as well as incorporating insights from FRAD and FRSAD.

0 Introduction

There needs to be a bibliographic citation of the print 2009 edition of the ICP, not just the URL, as URLs tend to be unstable, including IFLA's.

1 Scope

The scope needs to be clarified, i.e. we wondered if the scope of "dataset creation" has been limited to libraries, as the earlier version included "archives, museums, and other communities." If the said scope has been limited to libraries, that concept needs to be clearer; if not, the text needs to be changed. We wanted to point out that it is those "other communities" that create many of the datasets that we use, however.

2 General Principles

While "convenience of the user" is the most important principle, the 2015 version makes "interoperability" more important in cases of conflict between principles 2-13.

We suggest that the first paragraph begin with the wording as follows: "The following principles direct the construction…" instead of: "Several principles…" We also suggest a rewrite of the first part of the second sentence ("Whereas" seems inappropriate here) with the following: "Of these, the convenience of the user is most important, while principles…"

2.8. Consistency and standardization. While both the 2009 and 2015 versions assert that the purpose of standardization is to create consistency, the 2015 draft is inferior because it makes consistency a goal in and of itself. The 2009 draft refers to "greater consistency, which in turn increases the ability to share bibliographic and authority data." This should be retained; otherwise, we recommend that "enable consistency" be enhanced to read: "enable consistency and to support interoperability."

2.10. Interoperability. If the last sentence in 2.8 is enhanced as suggested above, we recommend that the word "ensure" be replaced with the word "enable" which would convey a more realistic goal and to align with wording in 2.8.

Openness. We recommend that a footnote be added to IFLA Statement (http://www.ifla.org/node/8890)

2.13. Rationality. We considered recommending that this principle be omitted; however, if it is retained, we recommend replacing the word "explained" with "justifiable."

3. Entities, Attributes and Relationships

We suggest that the parenthetical statement after "Thema" be moved to a footnote.

4. Bibliographic Description

Section 4.3 includes an inconsistent use of Italics in reference to the "International Standard Bibliographic Description."

5. Access Points

We recommend that the second paragraph in section 5.2.1, starting with the phrase: "A corporate body should be considered…" would fit better in 5.3.4.4.

We recommend that the two paragraphs numbered as: 5.3.3.1.1.1 and 5.3.3.1.1.2 be listed using the letters (a), (b) instead of being numbered separately. Likewise for the two paragraphs numbered: 5.3.3.2.1 and 5.3.3.2.2. These are not separate statements but lists of choices that complete the statement above.

6. Objectives and Functions of the Catalogue

We suggest that there is no need for numbering paragraphs 6.1.1 and 6.1.2; further, we suggest merging the two phrases to read "to find a single resource or sets of resources representing:" This change is needed because single resources also represent the WEMI concepts.

Section 6.1.2 introduced a different term for the "subject" - <u>thema,</u> and includes the replacement of "content type" by "content form." The latter change was most likely made to align terminology with the area 0 "Content Form and Media Type" of the ISBD Consolidated edition 2011, which uses the term "Content form."

8. Glossary—same location. More cannot be said because there is no text for the Glossary of ICP 2015. We recommend that the ICP document include a completed glossary before said document is distributed for review.

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