IFLA

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
Fédération Internationale des Associations de Bibliothécaires et des Bibliothèques
Internationaler Verband der bibliothekarischen Vereine und Institutionen
Международная Федерация Библиотечных Ассоциаций и Учреждений
Federación Internacional de Asociaciones de Bibliotecarios y Bibliotecas
国际图书馆协会与机构联合会
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات ومؤسسات المكتبات

About IFLA **www.ifla.org**

IFLA (The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession.

IFLA provides information specialists throughout the world with a forum for exchanging ideas and promoting international cooperation, research, and development in all fields of library activity and information service. IFLA is one of the means through which libraries, information centres, and information professionals worldwide can formulate their goals, exert their influence as a group, protect their interests, and find solutions to global problems.

IFLA's aims, objectives, and professional programme can only be fulfilled with the cooperation and active involvement of its members and affiliates. Currently, approximately 1,600 associations, institutions and individuals, from widely divergent cultural backgrounds, are working together to further the goals of the Federation and to promote librarianship on a global level. Through its formal membership, IFLA directly or indirectly represents some 500,000 library and information professionals worldwide.

IFLA pursues its aims through a variety of channels, including the publication of a major journal, as well as guidelines, reports and monographs on a wide range of topics. IFLA organizes workshops and seminars around the world to enhance professional practice and increase awareness of the growing importance of libraries in the digital age. All this is done in collaboration with a number of other non-governmental organizations, funding bodies and international agencies such as UNESCO and WIPO. IFLANET, the Federation's website, is a prime source of information about IFLA, its policies and activities: www.ifla.org

Library and information professionals gather annually at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress, held in August each year in cities around the world.

IFLA was founded in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1927 at an international conference of national library directors. IFLA was registered in the Netherlands in 1971. The Koninklijke Bibliotheek (Royal Library), the national library of the Netherlands, in The Hague, generously provides the facilities for our headquarters. Regional offices are located in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Pretoria, South Africa; and Singapore.

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Functional Requirements for Authority Data

A Conceptual Model

Edited by Glenn E. Patton

IFLA Working Group on
Functional Requirements and Numbering
of Authority Records (FRANAR)

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Introduction

The Working Group on Functional Requirements and Numbering of Authority Records (FRANAR) was established in April 1999 by the IFLA Division of Bibliographic Control and the IFLA Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC Programme (UBCIM). Following the end of the UBCIM Programme in 2003, the IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards (ICABS) took over joint responsibility for the FRANAR Working Group with the British Library as the responsible body.

The Working Group has three terms of reference:

1) To define functional requirements of authority records, continuing the work that the "Functional requirements of bibliographic records" for bibliographic systems initiated;

2) To study the feasibility of an International Standard Authority Data Number (ISADN), to define possible use and users, to determine for what types of authority records such an ISADN is necessary, to examine the possible structure of the number and the type of management that would be necessary;

3) To serve as the official IFLA liaison to and work with other interested groups concerning authority files: <in*d*ecs> (Interoperability of Data in E-Commerce Systems), ICA/CDS (International Council on Archives Committee on Descriptive Standards; later, International Council on Archives Committee on Best Practices and Professional Standards), ISO/TC46 for international numbering and descriptive standards, CERL (Consortium of European Research Libraries), etc.

This document fulfills the first of these terms of reference and represents one portion of the extension and expansion of the *Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records* model that was envisioned by the IFLA Study Group on the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records. The second term of reference, dealing with numbering, was dealt with by the Working Group in a separate document. The third of the terms of reference represents an ongoing task that has

produced many valuable contacts, which have enriched this document and other aspects of this group's work and have provided the opportunity for the group to review a number of other documents about authority data that have been produced during the time of the group's work.

Because the *Functional Requirements for Authority Data* is indeed an extension and expansion of the FRBR model, the Working Group has identified potential improvements to the FRBR model itself as well as to definitions, etc. These will be proposed to the IFLA FRBR Review Group for their consideration. In addition, the group has identified other IFLA publications relating to authority data that may require revisions. Those potential revisions will also be submitted to the relevant groups for consideration.

The IFLA FRBR Study Group noted the need for further analysis of the "entities that are the centre of focus for subject authorities, thesauri, and classification schemes, and of the relationships between those entities." While the Working Group has included some aspects of subject authorities in the authorities model, it has not undertaken the full analysis that the FRBR Study Group envisioned. Since the FRANAR Working Group began its work, a new working group, Working Group on Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Records (FRSAR),[1] has been charged with that task.

March 2009

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Functional Requirements for Authority Data