

## TASK GROUP ON THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE AUTHORITY FILES

### Background:

With a view towards forging a bold new direction for PCC, a new model for internationalization of authority files could expand PCC to encompass national or regional branches that follow common standards for rule interpretations, subject headings, classification, romanization/transliteration. Those following AACR2, LCRIs, LCSH, LCC/DDC, MARC21, and ALA/LC romanization would be part of one branch. Other branches could center around other national or regional standards with focus on a particular language/script but following a basic PCC model. PCC then would become an international consortium of branches that preserve the local standards that best suit their local users. With the development of RDA, it may be that PCC could require at least the shared use of that international cataloguing standard along with MARC21 as a commonly agreed basis. PCC authority record contributions could be made to a virtual international authority file (VIAF), and records shared freely throughout such a system.

### Charge:

- Investigate the feasibility of designing a model for international participation in a global authority file
- Assess and document the implications for such an endeavor, including costs and PCC governance policies

### Tasks:

1. Review the final report of the Joint Task Group on International Participation in the PCC, including the cited IFLA MLAR and FSCH reports that explain a new view of Universal Bibliographic Control
2. Review the PCC Policy Committee's discussion of the report of the Joint Task Group on International Participation in the PCC to identify the implications and barriers to the internationalization of the authority file
3. Review PCC governance documents and recommend changes where appropriate to enable international participation

### Deliverable:

A report listing the pros and cons of implementing a model of international participation in a global authority file not limited to the model described above.

- PCC Standing Committees will review the report and make recommendations for appropriate actions.
- The PCC Policy Committee will review the report and recommendations to determine a final action.

### Timeline:

Start Date: February 2008  
Report Due Date: Final report posted August 2009

### Final Report:

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/scs/IAFReport.pdf>

Membership:

The task group should include a representative from an international PCC member institution, the PCC SCS, LC/Policy and Standards Division, and OCLC.

*Added later:*

The November 2008 SCS Report to PoCo lists these members:

Eric Childress, OCLC

Peter Fletcher, SCS member

Joe Kiegel, SCS member

Bill Leonard, Library and Archives Canada

Joan Schuitema, SCS (co-chair)

Barbara Tillett, LC (co-chair)