

PCC, SCS
Task Force on Non-Latin Script Cataloging Documentation
Feb. 13, 2009

Background: Following up on the recommendation 3 of the *Task Force on Non-English Access*. Rev. Mar 16, 2007, (<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alcts/ianda/nonenglish/07marchrpt.pdf>) “to review and update the core level supplement on "Guidelines for Multiple Character Sets" (<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/bibco/coreintro.html#9>),” the PCC Standing Committee on Standards revised the document to bring it up to date with current developments. However, the committee considered that the creation of more comprehensive documentation would be helpful to PCC catalogers dealing with non-Latin materials and would be more in the spirit of the Task Force’s recommendation. A review of current PCC documentation (and some non-PCC documents) on non-Latin script cataloging conducted during the revision of the above document revealed some inconsistencies in practice among current documents on the one hand, and a lack or obsolescence of documentation for some scripts altogether. This leaves catalogers to extrapolate from documentation dealing with scripts other than the ones they are working with and, where there is no documentation for a given script, allows for inconsistencies among PCC bibliographic record practices. Upon recommendations made during the May 2008 BIBCO/CONSER Operations Committee meetings, the PCC has decided to form a task force to produce needed non-Latin cataloging documentation for PCC bibliographic records.

Charge: Identify inconsistencies, missing information, etc. in existing PCC documentation and produce authoritative and comprehensive documentation on providing equivalent fields in non-Latin scripts that provides for consistent application across available scripts.

Tasks:

A. Review existing documentation:

- Identify and review existing documentation and reports such as: *Non-Roman core record task group final report* [JACKPHY] (Jan. 2008); *Non-Latin Script Data in Name Authority Records: General Information* (<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsa/nonLatingeneral.html>); and the SCS internal scan mentioned above, *PCC Standing Committee on Standards, Non-Roman cataloging documentation scan: summary of situation* (06/19/2008) (<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/NonRomanSCSReportDraft.pdf>).

B. Revise/Create PCC documentation that addresses the charge and consolidates guidelines for non-Latin script cataloging into a centralized document

- The document will apply across available languages (currently JACKPHY, Cyrillic, Greek) and provide guidance on descriptive and access fields
- It should indicate which MARC fields are required to indicate a fully non-Latin record.
- It should indicate how those non-Latin fields are recorded**
- It is recommended that the task group build on the current and up to date PCC non-Latin script cataloging documents that have already been produced and which are listed in the last document of the first bullet above.
- Also, in creation of this document, non-Latin cataloging experts in all scripts within the scope of currently available character sets in OCLC MARC (i.e., MARC-8 repertoire of UTF-8: (Japanese, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Persian, Hebrew, Yiddish, Cyrillic, and Greek)) must be utilized or consulted as much as possible to ensure compatibility with each given script.

- The task force may conclude that the document must have separate sections where necessary that focus on a particular script, language or language group, but it is recommended that general instructions that can apply to all scripts should go into a general introductory section and not be repeated unnecessarily in these separate sections.
- The task force should be aware of ongoing developments in this area, such as comments on the non-Latin script references in authority records received by Library of Congress, and incorporate them into the documentation if helpful.
- Any resulting documentation must conform to MARC21 Model A: “vernacular and transliteration: parallel fields (MARC 880 fields) are used when data needs to be duplicated to express it in both the original vernacular script and transliterated in one of more scripts.”***
(<http://www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic/ecbdmulti.html>)
- This document will supersede all sections of PCC documentation concerning non-Latin script cataloging.

Deliverables: The documentation itself mentioned above and a report of the group’s work (including rationale for decisions, etc.).

Timeline: draft interim report by ALA Annual Meeting (July 9-15, 2009); Final report due December 2009.

Approval: The report will be made available to PCC membership and the PCC Policy Committee (PoCo) for comment and recommendations. With the consent of PoCo, the PCC Steering Committee will decide the final disposition of the recommendations in the report.

Membership: several volunteer names passed to chair of SCS; final membership formed after approval of charge.

** In recording headings, normally provide an equivalent to the AACR/RDA heading, however, depending on the language and script, task force members may or may not need to indicate a deviation from the content standard.

****MARC21 format for bibliographic data, App. D. Multiscript records*