1. General overview of recent major developments at the library.

Recent major event was celebrating 5th anniversary of the National Academic Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan (NABRK). In honor of jubilee, on April 23, 2009, a Day of Open Doors was conducted. There was organized an exhibition “New Library Format – 2009” devoted to history of NABRK creation and achievements. 700 000th visitor of NABRK was mentioned and awarded with certificate. On that day, library’s readers and guests were presented a collection of poems of prominent Kazakh poet Magzhan Zhumabayev “Sen Sulu”. His poems are the main topic of the Action “One Country – One Book” which will be held for the third time this autumn in Kazakhstan. At the Day of Open Doors, there were conducted Loud Readings of M. Zhumabayev’s poems for disadvantaged persons.

Other major event was organization and conducting of the Action “One Country – One Book”. All the country was reading a book of famous Kazakh writer Mukhtar Auezov “Hard Times”. NABRK held the action “Support Libraries with Books!” During that action, fellows of international scholarship “Bolashak” of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan donated one thousand and five hundred books to the library. NABRK and Association of Fellows of International Scholarship “Bolashak” signed a Memorandum on opening depository library of research works of “Bolashak” programme graduates. Last year, depository library of NATO was formed in NABRK. Opening ceremony was visited by the Special Representative of NATO General Secretary for Central Asia. Besides, NABRK is a depository for Assembly of Kazakhstan people, depository for doctoral and kandidat dissertations defended in Kazakhstan, preserved in electronic way. Creation of depositories indicates broadening of NABRK functions as powerful information resource of society from one side, and as keeper of scientific and cultural achievements.

For the first time since its foundation, NABRK became a site for training under the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions which includes ALP programme. In November-December 2008, a lecturer from India had a successful training course on automation of library processes, digital resources, the latest technological achievements in library and information service.
There was organized Republican seminar “Copyright in the Context of Electronic Libraries Development: Initiatives and Challenges of Electronic Information Environment”. The seminar was aimed to define ways of solving issues of copyright adherence, work out recommendations according to international experience, widen legal knowledge of librarians on copyright adherence issues.

2. Library’s relationship to government.

Contemporary library is more than just storage of books. Contemporary library is assistant for realizing state’s policy in education, culture, science, and informatization of society. Contemporary library is permanently updating complex of diverse information services supply for population, source and accumulator of knowledge.

In February 2009, at the session of Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan (RK), there was made a proposal on amendment introduction in acting Law of RK “On Culture” concerning development of library sphere. An obligatory book copy in printed or electronic format should be given to the National Academic Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan by its producer.

According to a new Budget Code, libraries are permitted to keep all money earned by paid services. By new “Law on Mass Media”, all the newspapers are presented in compulsory way.

3. New developments in creating and building collections.

Issue on creating collection became a key one in determining strategy of library development. Reason was that a new library was established on a new place, as well as the idea of collection changed. New technologies, new information possibilities led to making relevant decision. The National Academic Library’s collection is formed in different languages as universal by content, various by types and kinds of documents. Collection is completed both on traditional printed and new information carriers. The library develops collections with special items: Braille publications, sound books, video documents with sign language translation and subtitle for disadvantaged persons.

Main selection criterion of acquisitions is full acquisitions with local publications and selective acquisitions with foreign publications. NABRK collects all the books published under the state programme “Cultural Heritage”. This programme is directed on preserving and increasing cultural achievements of Kazakhstan. Access to treasures of cultural heritage by Internet became a new level of promoting programme “Cultural Heritage”. For this purpose, an electronic library has been established on NABRK ground. Books of scientific and art value are subject to digitization and transfer to electronic storage for online view by portal “Kazakhstan National Electronic Library” (http://www.kazneb.kz).


A new document on managing NABRK collections is being developed.

5. New developments in providing access to collections.

Since the very beginning, the library has formed a strategy of collections stocking where together with using classical library mechanisms of holding information sources, also there are used mechanisms of access to external sources. It became a new approach in the library. A contemporary library doesn’t need to collect all the newspapers, magazines, and books. It is enough to provide access for readers to formed reliable electronic information sources. There
were made licensed accesses to remote full-text data bases and electronic catalogues of the biggest foreign information holders.

6. **Collaboration between the library and other national collecting institutions.**

An agreement with Book Chamber has been signed on presenting all its publications, as well as agreements with all regional (oblast) libraries and universities on presenting their collections for digitization for Kazakhstan National Electronic Library.

NABRK collaborates with foreign national libraries for stocking of collections. In reporting period, first leaders of the National Academic Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the National Parliament Library of Ukraine met and decided to create and put electronic collections in Internet for free access. These collections reflect cultural-historical ties between Kazakhstan and Ukraine nations.