

2011 CDNL MEETING 15 August 2011, National Library of Puerto Rico, San Juan

Agenda item on Group Discussion

Topic - Digitisation of Different Formats for Preservation and Access

Scope Notes for participants

Background

Many national libraries (NL) have begun to digitise valuable heritage materials for digital preservation and public access. This includes rare books, manuscripts, newspapers, maps, photographs, audio history, videos, and other formats.

In support of the CDNL's vision for the Global Digital Library to develop a global distributed digital library, giving ready access to library materials in the collections of all the national libraries of the world, it is important that libraries digitise their materials in standards that make it easy for access from anywhere in the world.

Like many NLS of the world, the National Library of Singapore has been digitising its rare books collection, current and public domain newspapers, and had learnt many valuable lessons in the way materials need to be digitised for easy access from anywhere. The NLS is currently struggling with finding the best way to digitise audio history from the National Archives, and videos from the local TV company.

It is proposed that at this CDNL discussion, participants share the lessons they learnt in their own digitisation programme, and if agreeable, a survey could be conducted following the IFLA meeting to capture the key lessons learnt, and the recommended standards to use to digitise different formats such as audio tapes, videos, for the purpose of digital preservation and for search and find.

The Discussion Group could discuss the following :

- experience and specific lessons learnt in digitising materials in the different formats
- share with participants standards used in digitisation (this can be gathered offline after session also)
- what to look out for in digitisation to enable easy search and find
- other areas that the group would like CDNL to address and support in.

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