

# 11<sup>th</sup> CIDOC CRM Special Interest Group Meeting

During CIDOC 2005 at Zagreb, a CIDOC CRM SIG Meeting took place on 25th and 27th of May, 2005

## Present

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## 1. Comments of the ISO committee on CRM

Nick Crofts, convenor of the respective ISO working group, reports the status of the ISO process, now finishing with the last step, the publication phase.

He reminds that the ISO procedure was chosen, because the CIDOC board decided finally, that the development of standard is not one of the main purposes of work within CIDOC. Furthermore ISO guarantees stability of procedure and institutional backup for further development. This institutional backup gives an easy access to the standards – not regarding the prices. The procedure of acceptance is very time consuming, because the members of the responsible committee – in this case 19 - have to revise the whole text. Regarding the CRM finally there could be realized an abbreviated procedure as the Draft version (ISO/DIS 21127) has been approved unanimously (thus there is no need for a FDIS Final Draft ballot).

With the approval there were given a lot of comments: Most of them were purely editorial or comments on the layout, because many more or less reasonable ISO rules have to be respected in that regard.

### Changes for the ISO version:

(beside the editorial detail changes)

- a. Diagrams that did not fit the ISO standard for diagrams were removed.
- b. The section of examples in the introduction and the amendments were removed in order to lower the price of the standardization as it depends partly on the length of the text.
- c. As the English and the French version have to be translated word by word the following changes of class names were adopted – remark that all these are changes on purely terminological and not structural level:
  - Stuff has been renamed in Thing, thus
    - E18 Physical Stuff is now E18 Physical Thing
    - E24 Physical Man-Made Thing
    - E70 Stuff is now E70 Thing
    - E71 Man-Made Thing
  - From compounds with Event the word Event has been removed, thus
    - E8 Acquisition Event is now E8 Acquisition
    - E11 Modification Event is now E11 Modification
    - E12 Production Event becomes E12 Production
    - E16 Measurement Event becomes E16 Measurement
    - E65 Creation Event becomes E65 Creation
    - E66 Formation Event becomes E66 Formation

**Decision:**

**The Naming as in ISO will be introduced into CIOC CRM version 4.2 to avoid diverging versions. The reason for the change of naming were difficulties when trying to make an as literal as possible translation to French, and other languages as well.**

**Decision:**

**All changes of class names in the ISO version will be adopted for the CRM-SIG version available on the CRM website.**

Regarding the evolution of the standard further changes are to be adopted within the procedure of evaluation, which takes place every five years. Rapid changes in technology could be transformed into technical amendments even outside the five year cycle. A maintenance body seems not appropriate for CRM purposes.

**Copyright issues:**

ISO has copyright on all texts and their derivatives published by the institution. Insofar translations could be a problem regarding the copyright and the distribution of such texts without fee. There might be three solutions:

- a. ISO can avoid the official statement, that the parallel version maintained on the CRM website is part of the copyright text. The SIG version could then be translated and distributed without copyright problems. E.g. the Dublin Core standard is treated in that way by ISO.
- b. The national bodies of standardization can take charge of the translation and hence decide on distribution issues for themselves.
- c. Definition of the standard as so-called core standards through ISO – core standards are published for free on the ISO website. ISO will define a standard as core standard if it is referenced by other ISO documents. If e.g. the Standardisation Proposal for Thesauri of Historical Periods (see conference speech on this topic by Martin Doerr) would be adopted as ISO standard, CRM could be labelled as core standard.

**Decision:**

**The approval of the CRM as core standard is to be envisaged.**

As this can be time consuming pragmatic procedures should be found in every country. There is good chance that ISO will treat the CRM as described in a.

The final publication of the CRM standard through ISO is planned for June/July, but depends on the final revising and editorial procedure undertaken through ISO.

## 2. Current issues

### - Harmonization of FRBR and CRM

Martin Doerr reports about the last FRBR-CRM harmonization meeting. Methodological issues of both groups were discussed. Although conclusions have not been taken, the object oriented approach of the CRM seemed more appropriate to capture the semantics. Furthermore it could be shown, that the FRBR produces logical inconsistencies. The meeting has been a breakthrough in discussion with the FRBR community. Next FRBR-CRM harmonization meeting: July 4-6 in Crete.

### - Collaboration with CCO

CCO provides guidelines for selecting, ordering, and formatting data used to populate catalog records. (<http://www.vraweb.org/CCOweb/>). The organisation asks for comments on the latest draft. The work was presented at the CIDOC Conference and seems to be highly relevant and thorough. At some points, there seem to exist possible conflicts with the CIDOC CRM (the recommendations to document related places), which will be further investigated by CRM SIG and the Documentation Standards Working Group. There will be a collaboration with Richard Light and the Institute of Museology (Berlin) on this topic.

### - Collaboration with TEI

Christian-Emil Ore reports that within TEI (Text Encoding Initiative) a Special Interest Group on Ontologies has been established. The aim is to identify ontological elements in TEI and to develop a module to describe these elements in a CRM-like way. The next meeting will be hold during the annual meeting of the TEI in october. CRM SIG members are invited to contribute.

#### - **CRM-like data structure**

Within a digitalisation project of the Ministry of Culture in Greece there has been developed a CRM-like data structure that seems covering all needs for tangible heritage. The respective DTD is divided into four sections:

- a. Metadata about the document itself
- b. Object ID data fields (obligatory elements)
- c. Scientific description (a. How it appears, b. History, c. Other relationships)
- d. Administration

Discussions regarding the needs for intangible heritage have begun with ethnological museums. So far the DTD is only available in Greek language, translation into English would be appreciated.

#### - **how to apply the CRM:**

One has to distinguish a) the data acquisition level, that typically includes the primary repository, b) the integration level, which may be achieved by global mediators or data warehouse style integration and harvesting, and c) the interpretation level which includes story telling, teaching, web presentations etc.

At data acquisition level, CRM compatible, rich data formats are recommended, optimized in form and language to the specific task. In order to solve the problem of shared notions of identity, federations of local (i.e. within the primary repositories) and global authorities are recommended that will maintain once established equivalences.

At integration level, a minimal global finding aids model for access was discussed that still preserves CRM semantics:

A "CRM Core" of about 15 fields was drafted (attached). This is not a proposed documentation structure!

#### - **CRM core**

Martin Doerr presents a first draft of a CRM core that could serve as a minimum standard for data integration / data exchange covering CRM purposes. Possible elements are:

- a. Category (= CRM Class)
- b. Classification (= CRM Type)
- c. Identification
- d. Description
- e. Event (to be specialised in specific events)
- f. Relation

The proposal is estimated to be very helpful for the promotion of the CRM standard as it reduces the complexity of the CRM without losing it. The proposal will be dispatched on the mailing list for comments. Stephen Stead will deliver a description of the fields. The numbering of core fields should follow the existing number of the CRM. In case, that there is no respective E-number, it could be used as a supplementary C-number.

#### - **Future CRM SIG meetings**

Next meeting: Within the FRBR-CRM harmonization meeting in July a CRM SIG meeting will be held.

The next full CRM Workshop is envisaged winter, early 2006. There will be a local CRM workshop in Sweden in October/November 2005.

Joern Sieglerschmidt / Regine Stein/Martin Doerr