

European DDC Users' Group (EDUG)  
930 Archaeology Working Group

Minutes of meeting April 27th, 2009, 11:00-13:00  
Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, Vienna, Austria

**Present members of the group:**

Magdalena Svanberg, National Library of Sweden (chair)  
Vera Uhlmann, Schweizerische Nationalbibliothek

**Observers**

Heidrun Alex, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek  
Manal Amin, Bibliotheca Alexandrina  
Karen Nisja Domaas, National Library of Norway  
Christian Lupovici, Bibliothèque nationale de France  
Gina Younis, Bibliotheca Alexandrina

**Absent members of the group:**

Bjørn Bandlien, University of Oslo Library  
Patricia Bellec, Bibliothèque nationale de France  
Brigitte Bernhard, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek  
Ines Castellano-Colmenero, National Museums Scotland (affiliated)  
Astrid Utne, University of Bergen Library

1. The chair wished everyone welcome and the proposed agenda was approved. Everyone introduced themselves.
2. News regarding members and ways of communication.  
The chair announced some new members of the working group and informed everyone that all documents of the group are available on the EDUG website.
3. Report from work 2008-2009.  
The work has been conducted according to the plan. The group made a proposal on geographic expansions to the DDC editors, and the proposal resulted in an EPC Exhibit on geographic expansions of Europe. The group felt that there has been progress in the area of geographic division of 930.
4. Working plan 2009-2010, Future meetings  
Attached document: Working plan 2008-2010

The group agreed to continue the work according to the attached working plan 2009-2010. This means that we should address the theme time until the next EDUG meeting in April 2010 and after that discuss other issues within the 930 schedule. The chair checks how many of the group members that will participate in the preconference in Firenze or in the IFLA conference in Milan and sets up a meeting where most group members will be present.

5. Geographic division of 931-939 / Table 2—3 and EPC Exhibit 131-9.1.  
Attached documents:

EDUG proposals for geographic expansions in 931-939 and Table 2—3 (Version 2009-02-24)

EPC Exhibit 131-9.1 (2 documents)

EPC Exhibit 131-9.1 EDUG comments

The group agreed on the document EDUG comments on the EPC Exhibit in general, but would like to stress the need to get rid of the Roman Empire bias in the 930 schedule even more and strongly question a view of the world where only some areas are considered to have a prehistory and being part of the ancient world.

Vera Uhlmann pointed out the fact that Switzerland does not really fits in with Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg, and that it might be a good idea to list the number for Switzerland explicitly in the schedule to avoid confusion.

Birgitte Bernhard wanted the caption Kurdish Autonomous Region of Iraq to be replaced by the caption Ancient Kurdistan since the term makes no sense when applied to ancient history. The index entry should be changed to Kurdistan - ancient. The group agreed on this.

Magdalena Svanberg will revise the document to include these proposals and resend it to EPC.

#### 6. Time in 930 Archaeology

Attached document:

Discussion paper Time in 930 Archaeology

The group agreed on the following problematic areas concerning time in the 930 schedule.

- There are areas for which the time limit of 930 is too restricted. The period for which archaeological findings is the main source for knowledge about humankind is longer in the north of Europe than the time limit in DDC, A.D. 499. Group members from areas that were part of the Roman Empire pointed out that this mainly is a problem for areas that were not part of the Roman Empire.

Action: the group members reports time limits in 930 that they want changed. This should be done by the end of June.

- Archaeological findings and methods are not restricted to the prehistoric period. They can be used for all times up till today, as a complement to written sources. DDC is organized mainly by discipline and fields of study, and 930 breaks this patterns, since many archaeological works are classed elsewhere. The problem is partly due to the mix of ancient history, with a time limit, and archaeology in the same schedule.

The group strongly feels that the archaeological aspect of works focusing on archaeological methods and findings needs to be expressed. The group discussed different ways of doing this. Magdalena Svanberg suggested that the general scope of archaeology should be broadened. If a work describes or discusses archaeological findings, it should be classed in archaeology regardless from which time period the findings stem. Works using both written sources and archaeological findings, or focusing on the interpretation of the findings should continue to be classed in history

or another relevant field also in the future. Heidrun Alex and Vera Uhlmann found this solution problematic, with works on i.e. medieval period in a country classed in two different DDC numbers. Another solution, with a number for archaeological methods in Table 1, was also discussed. There is a similar solution for historical research, T1--0722. A number like this could be used throughout the schedules and could also solve some of the problems with archaeological works on different artefacts being scattered in many different classes. The group decided to get back to this discussion later on.

- There is a need for more chronological division of many areas in 930. The time periods of 930.11-930.16 are proposed to be used as the general pattern. They are:

930.11 Eolithic Age

930.12 Paleolithic Age (Old Stone Age)

930.13 Mesolithic Age (Middle Stone Age)

930.14 Neolithic Age (New Stone Age)

930.15 Copper and Bronze Age

930.16 Iron Age

Action: the group members check if the time periods of 930.11-930.16 can be used for their countries and other areas of interest of them. If not, they list which other time periods they would like included in the 930 schedule. Literary warrant, to show the need for chronological subdivision, should also be added. The group members should also check if the present chronological divisions of different areas in 930 are appropriate. This should be done by the end of June.

#### 7. Other issues.

The general problem of works on different artefacts being scattered in many different classes were discussed. Using added DDC numbers can help of the situation for retrieval, but the problem remains when it comes for shelving. Manal Amin and Gina Younis reported that Bibliotheca Alexandrina uses a local policy and gathers everything on ancient Egypt in 930.

Giles Martin sent two EPC Exhibits on ancient Mediterranean, Black Sea regions, ancient Asia Minor and present-day Turkey and asked for our comments before May 1<sup>st</sup>. Since the group members did not have the chance to read the documents before the meeting we decided that comments should be send by e-mail to Magdalena Svanberg after the meeting. If possible, the group should try to keep the deadline, but comments could also be sent later.

#### 8. Closing. The chair thanked the group for interesting discussions and closed the meeting.