
From:
Standards Committee Z39  
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QUARTERLY REPORTS  
(April – June 1971)

The quarterly reports of the Z39 subcommittees follow:

**SC/1 - Program** – Chairman, James L. Wood, Chemical Abstracts Service Library.

No activity was reported for this subcommittee this quarter.


Mrs. Henriette D. Avram, Chairman of SC/2, attended a meeting of the International Standards Organization Technical Committee 46 Working Party 4 held in Lisbon, Portugal in April. The ISO draft proposal for a Format for the Communication of Bibliographical Information on Magnetic Tape based on the ANSI standard received a substantial majority vote of approval prior to the session. Minor revisions were made to the terminology and the document will be resubmitted to TC 46 for another vote. The following resolutions were made as tasks for TC 46 Working Party 5: 1) definition of a character set for bibliographical information; 2) definition of a subset of the character set for current input devices; 3) liaison with the relevant committees of TC 97, TC 95 and TC 46; and 4) initial investigation into standards of file arrangement for catalogs and other bibliographic listings; 5) investigation into the standardization of content designators for various forms of material; and 6) liaison with IFLA and other organizations dealing with cataloging rules.

**SC/3 - Periodical Title Abbreviations** – Chairman, James L. Wood, Chemical Abstracts Service Library.

The NCPTWA Word Abbreviation List, 1971 edition, has been published and is available for $6.00 from the National Clearinghouse for Periodical Title Word Abbreviations, c/o Chemical Abstracts Service, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210. Subscriptions to the semi-annual supplements to the List are also available from the same address; the 1971 subscription price is $2.00.
SC/4 - Bibliographic References - Chairman, Ben H. Weil, Esso Research and Engineering Company.

The new Subcommittee on Bibliographic References held its first meeting on June 3, 1971 in New York City. Purposes and problems were thoroughly discussed, and some preliminary work was done on listing documents that require description and in identifying specific problem areas where decisions will be required. The Subcommittee agreed to develop an "outer ring" of vitally concerned individuals to comment on drafts as they evolve. Three members of the Subcommittee volunteered to join the chairman in preparing a first draft by early Fall. The Subcommittee will meet again after it has had an opportunity to comment in writing on this draft.

SC/5 - Transliteration - Chairman, Jerrold Orne, University of North Carolina Library.

Arabic - The proposed ANSI System for the Romanization of Arabic, Z39.12, was announced by ANSI for a public review of 60 days, beginning June 18, 1971.

Hebrew and Yiddish - The Subcommittee met on May 21 to work out details of the two schemes for the transliteration of Hebrew on which it is currently working. It also aims to develop a special purpose scheme which will be completely reversible and at the same time capable of use with machines. The group will meet again on August 16-17 to complete the Hebrew part of their work and to begin the work on Yiddish.

Japanese - A public review of 60 days, beginning June 18, 1971, was announced by ANSI for the proposed ANSI System for the Romanization of Japanese.

Slavic Cyrillic - The proposed ANSI System for the Transliteration of Slavic Cyrillic Characters was recirculated with a letter ballot on April 26, 1971.

SC/6 - Abstracts - Chairman, Ben H. Weil, Esso Research and Engineering Company.

We have no word from ANSI regarding the publication date of the ANSI for Writing Abstracts, which was approved early this year by ANSI. Reprints of the 1970 JASIS paper based on the standard continue to be available from the SC/6 Chairman.

SC/8 - Proof Corrections - Chairman, Bruce C. Young, University of Chicago Press.

The Subcommittee has obtained the approval of the Chairman of Z39 and the Director of Publications of ANSI to have the final draft of its Standard for Proof Corrections set in type before submitting it to a vote in Z39. This will probably be done before the end of August. The reason for this unusual procedure is the difficulty of exemplifying the uses of proofreaders' marks on typewriter composition.

At a meeting held May 19th, Ben Weil reported to the group that the preliminary draft of the subcommittee was generally well received at the Lisbon TC 46 meeting. However, some of the terms included were felt to be more appropriate to other sections of the vocabulary (being prepared by other countries) and it was suggested that they be deleted from this section which deals specifically with Information Dissemination. The Subcommittee will revise their work accordingly, indicating those terms which they feel belong in other sections and supplying appropriate cross references. The primary objective of the group now is to complete a revised draft by October 15th, with the next meeting of SC/9 provisionally scheduled for mid-November.

Joseph F. Caponio, Associate Director of the National Agricultural Library, recently joined the subcommittee as a full member and Ben Weil has been appointed as a Consultant to the group.

SC/10 - Periodicals: Format and Arrangement - Chairman, Anne J. Richter.

At the ISO/TC 46 meeting in Lisbon in April, three drafts on proposed international standards in this field were presented: from France, 978 E on Layout of Periodicals; from Germany, 985 E on Contents Pages in Serials and Other Collected Works and 990 E on Presentation of Scientific and Technical Periodicals. TC 46 accepted the fundamental principles of 985 E and the German member body will submit a draft proposal which will be distributed among the members of TC 46.

SC/13 - Trade Catalogs and Directories - Chairman, Karl Baer, National Housing Center Library.

Publication by ANSI of the ANS for Directories of Libraries and Information Centers, approved by ANSI last year, is pending.


No action on the development of the national standard was reported.


During April ANSI approved the proposed ANS for the Advertising of Books as Z39.13-1971, and copies are expected to be printed during the summer of 1971. In the meantime publicity releases have been prepared by the SC Chairman and submitted to Publishers' Weekly and Special Libraries. It is hoped that some major group in the publishing field, such as the Association of American Publishers, can be interested in buying copies of the printed standard for distribution within the publishing world.

The ANS Identification Number for Serial Publications, Z39.9-1971, was published by ANSI in mid April. Complimentary copies of the standard have been distributed to all committee members and alternates, who have been asked to publicize the standard within their respective organizations. Copies of the standard are available from ANSI (1430 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10018) at $2.25 each.

SC/21 - Title Leaves of a Book, Chairman, Mrs. Anne J. Richter.

Notification of the approval of this standard was received from ANSI in April; it is officially designated as Z39.15-1971. It is now being printed and should be available soon.

A news article describing the standard has been prepared for Publishers' Weekly and will appear during the summer.


Subcommittee 22 met on March 19th at the Library of Congress to review the draft prepared in January. The draft encompasses five price index components: hard cover books, paperback books, periodicals, serial services, and a microfilm rate index. Work on all but the paperback index is advanced. The meeting covered a number of issues, including a reading of the entire text (except for the paperback component) and also brought out the strong desirability of adopting UNESCO standards wherever possible.

During the April-June quarter the section on paperbacks will be completed, the UNESCO definition incorporated and a revised draft sent to all subcommittee members for discussion at the ALA conference in Dallas. A draft for circulation outside the Subcommittee will be ready in the near future.

Frederick Fico of Publishers' Weekly recently joined in the work of the subcommittee.

SC/24 - Report Literature Format - Chairman, Parmely C. Daniels.

Consensus of contributions resulting from the distribution for comment and final comments of all subcommittee members have been incorporated in a final Draft Standard, Scientific and Technical Reports--Format and Production, which has been forwarded to Standards Committee Z39 with recommendation for approval. Based upon a substantial contribution by the Committee on Scientific and Technical Information (COSATI) of the President's Federal Council for Science and Technology, the proposed draft standard incorporates adjustments to changing technology such as microform and automatic retrieval, and intervening experience with the COSATI Guidelines. The draft has been furnished to the COSATI group currently engaged in updating the Federal guidelines.

At a meeting in April, the subcommittee reviewed some twenty detailed comments received in response to the draft for comment distributed March 1. Based on the comments and discussion at the meeting, a revised draft to be prepared by the chairman will be circulated to the respondents and the subcommittee. A consensus will be sought authorizing a recommendation for Z39 ballot.

SC/26 - Preparation of Scientific Papers - Chairman, F. Peter Woodford, Rockefeller University.

The SC Chairman is currently considering comment on the proposed ANSI for the Preparation of Scientific Papers for Written or Oral Presentation resulting from the ANSI concurrent public review. Although the standard was approved by the Z39 membership during the recent voting period, it has not yet been forwarded to CNLA and ANSI because of the possibility of some revisions, notably the inclusion of references to the ANSI Y1, Y10, Y15 and Y32 standards (Abbreviations, Letter Symbols, Charts and Graphs and Graphic Symbols) which are pertinent.


Subcommittee 27 prepared a package of its working papers on the Country of Publication Code and sent it to the TC 46 meeting in Lisbon. As a result of that meeting, SC 27 is modifying its entity list to make it compatible with the UN Country Code entity list (Statistical Papers, Series M, no. 49, 1970). The modified package will be sent to TC 46 to be considered among others in the preparation of a composite Country Code draft to be presented to ISO at a meeting in Geneva in October. SC 27 will not meet again until it receives the results of the ISO meeting in Geneva.

SC/29 - Publicity and Promotion - Chairman, Harold Oatfield.

SC 29 is currently reorganizing with Harold Oatfield as the new Chairman. Those who have agreed to serve as SC members to date are: Stella Keenan, NFSAIS; William R. Eshelman, Wilson Library Bulletin; M. Ann Heidbreder, Grosset & Dunlap; Donald Hammer, Purdue University Libraries; Anne Richter and Linda Schneider. Plans are underway for an organizational meeting of the group to be held most likely in August.


The efforts to get uniform adoption of the ISBN resulted in the National Association of College Stores notifying the publishers listed as not using the numbers that the Board of Trustees of NACS had recommended that R. R. Bowker refuse to list books without ISBNs. Several publishers cried "foul, illegal conspiracy" but most understood that NACS was merely trying to impress them with the importance of immediate action to a normal request.
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A draft of the proposed ANSI is now being completed and will be circulated by July 2nd to all subcommittee members. Donald L. Leavitt of the Recorded Sound Section, Music Division, of the Library of Congress has recently joined in the work of the subcommittee.


The subcommittee is now in the process of exchanging a first round of letters concerning each person's thoughts on what a standard technical report numbering system should be. When all have responded, the chairman will set up the agenda and call the first meeting of the group.


The subcommittee has recently been formed and is made up of Mrs. Elizabeth Tate (National Bureau of Standards), Walter A. Kee (Atomic Energy Commission), Hugh Sauter (National Technical Information Service), and Joseph H. Howard (The Library of Congress), Chairman. No work was done during the quarter. The first meeting will be held July 12, 1971.

NEW OFFICERS APPOINTED

Two new Z39 officers were recently appointed by the Z39 Sponsor, the Council of National Library Associations, for three year terms beginning July 1, 1971. Harold Oatfield will serve as the new Vice Chairman and Linda Schneider will serve as the new Secretary-Treasurer.

NEW CNLA CHAIRMAN

Robert Gibson, Librarian at the General Motors Research Laboratories in Warren, Michigan, assumed the duties of the Chairman of CNLA on July 1, replacing Mrs. Beatrice M. James. As CNLA Chairman, he will serve as Z39's liaison with ANSI and will represent CNLA on the Z39 Committee.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

The following have been named recently as Representatives or Alternates to Standards Committee Z39:

Hugh Y. Bernard, American Association of Law Libraries
Charles P. Bourne, American Society for Information Science
Theodore C. Hines, American Association of Library Schools
James Henderson, Information Industry Association
Robert Tannehill, Jr., American Chemical Society (Alternate)
Alfred Pietrzyk, Center for Applied Linguistics
Delegates from 16 countries and observers from eight international organizations attended the 13th Plenary Meeting of ISO TC 46 in Lisbon from 27 April to 7 May 1971. The Secretariat noted that TC 46 had entered a new phase of work and needed to examine its work and published standards in terms of the requirements of automation. It was felt that the scope of TC 46 should be broadened and the phrase "and related information handling" was added to the scope statement, which now reads as follows: Standardization in the field of documentation, libraries and related information handling, including information systems and interchange networks as applied to documentation.

Brief reports on the actions of some of the various subcommittees and working groups follow:

Subcommittee 2: Conversion of Written Languages

Chinese. The subcommittee thought that some system based on Peking pronunciation was probably desirable, but felt that the present situation in China, the question of the possible introduction of alphabetical Chinese and documentation usage as between Wade-Giles and Pinyin was too fluid to warrant a final decision being taken at this meeting.

Hebrew. The subcommittee felt that there should not be revisions of existing ISO transliteration systems unless they were faulty or unsatisfactory in practice; there was no evidence that ISO R259-1962 (Transliteration of Hebrew) met either of these conditions for revision. Careful consideration was given to documents submitted by the US and Denmark; however, the variants in the system did not seem to be superior to the existing standard and it was decided that a revision of ISO R259 should not be undertaken. In order to encourage other countries to adopt this ISO standard as a national standard, the subcommittee agreed to widen some of the optional variants of the system.

Yiddish. The subcommittee agreed that the YIVO Institute system which involves a number of Greek and non-Roman symbols was not suitable for library purposes and recommended that the Danish document, amended at the Stockholm meeting (October, 1969) be circulated as a draft proposal.

Arabic. The subcommittee agreed that the existing standard, ISO R233, was generally in accordance with international practice and that the US national standard, being based purely on English orthographic conventions, was not suitable for circulation as a proposed revision of R233.

Non Slavic Cyrillic. Draft proposal 955E, circulated earlier this year, received 14 votes in favor and one against. After approving several amendments, the subcommittee recommended that it be circulated by ISO as a Draft Recommendation.

Japanese. In view of the fact that the subcommittee could come to no clear agreement on the basic system (i.e., Hepburn or Kunrei) ISO should follow and in the absence of any comment from many P members to whom an earlier document had been circulated, the subcommittee felt that it could take no action in this area.
Working Group 1: ISBN and ISSN

ISBN. Delegates reported on the present position regarding ISBN in their respective countries. The system is well established in Germany, the Netherlands, the UK and the US and is currently being adopted by Austria, German-speaking Switzerland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden. With regard to a permanent International Agency for ISBN, the Working Group agreed that the German offer should be accepted and that arrangements be made to move the agency from its present temporary location in London to Germany.

ISSN. The assignment of an International Agency for ISSN was the subject of some discussion. At the previous meeting of the Working Group, it had been resolved that the Library of Congress be asked to administer the International Agency. In the meantime, however, an alternative proposal had been made, namely that the agency be run jointly by the French government and Unesco. The matter was not resolved. As the need for the ISSN system was becoming urgent, the WG agreed to appoint an Ad Hoc committee to assign blocks of ISSNs to local (i.e., national) agencies until such time as an established International Agency could take over. Mr. Borgli of Norway and Dr. Orne were named as the committee and it was agreed that they should attend the UNISIST meeting in Paris on 14 June for further consideration of this matter.

The Working Group confirmed that the Oslo working paper, which says that the American version of the SSN should become the International SSN, was still the basic document for ISSN. The WG also agreed to undertake consideration of the Music Industry Code and will meet later in the year to discuss this work.

Working Group 2: Representation and Coding of Country Names

The Working Group recommended the preparation of a working list, the basis of which would be the United Nations Standard Country Code with due consideration given to other lists of country names. This document will be submitted as a working document to the Coordinating Meeting of International Agencies concerned with this topic, to be called by the ISO Central Secretariat in the Fall of 1971.

Working Group 3: Terminology

The following main items were discussed during the meetings:

1. A document on general terms of information and documentation from the fields of linguistics, terminology, communication science and data processing was altered and approved.
2. A document on basic terms of information and documentation and of basic terms from communication science and philosophy was discussed.
3. A classification of terms for different types of documents, prepared in connection with UDC revision was discussed.
4. A document on the field of literary and artistic copyright, prepared by AFNOR, was discussed, with a call for comment from national member bodies of the WG.

5. A document on the field of acquisition of documents and collecting data, prepared by AFNOR, was discussed, with a call for comment.

6. A first draft of a specialized terminology of information dissemination, compiled by Z39 for ANSI, was discussed as a basis for future work on their field.

The Working Group asked the national members for comments on the papers still under discussion. The panels, constituted at the meeting in Stockholm (October 1969) were asked to prepare revised proposals. The next meeting of the WG will be held in conjunction with the next meeting of TC 46.

Working Group 4: Automation in Documentation

(See SC/2 Quarterly Report.)

Ad Hoc Groups

Abstracts. Three documents (from the US, Italy and Unesco) were accepted as suitable for consideration for the revision of ISO R214, Abstracts and Synopses. The American National Standard was selected as the basis for discussion, but frequent reference was made to the Italian document. The group completed an ISO Draft Recommendation for Abstracts for submission to the members of TC 46 for voting as soon as examples of abstracts of relevant documents from a variety of countries can be prepared. The US delegate was appointed to complete this work and national member bodies were requested to supply relevant abstracts and original documents. AFNOR (France) was appointed to prepare the French version.

Guidelines for the establishment of thesauri. TC 46 established a new Working Group to deal with this subject. The scope of the WG will be: a) to prepare guidelines for the establishment and development of thesauri; b) to conduct liaison with other agencies working on the same problem.

Resolutions and/or brief reports of Ad Hoc activity in the following subject areas may be obtained from the Z39 Office: Patents and Like Documents--Bibliographical References; Library Statistics; Presentation of Periodicals; Alphabetical Arrangement and Abbreviation of Periodical Titles.

The US delegation consisted of Jerrold Orne, Mrs. Henriette Avram, Ben H. Weil, Emery Koltay and Lawrence Livingston.