UNIFORM TITLES IN "RUSSIAN CATALOGUING RULES"

Working group 5 – Uniform titles – Proposals for GMD's and expression-level citations.

Uniform title.

Russian cataloguing rules (RCR) consider any headings (including uniform titles) as optional.
RCR have a goal to identify and collocate works through the use of uniform titles for the names of works / expressions.
According our rules the uniform title has following structure : heading (title or jurisdiction), subheadings (title of part), identifying characteristics.
Russian cataloguing rules consider uniform titles for work beyond anonymous classics, sacred scriptures, liturgical works and certain types of works (laws, constitutions etc.).
To uniquely identify works and expressions our cataloguing rules prescribe to use the "best known" or most frequently used title of the work.

General material designation.

Russian cataloguing rules consider the GMD useful and very helpful addition to the bibliographic record. We found GMD to be useful for choosing of the records finding by a catalogue users.
Looking at a title a catalogue user knows immediately which titles are not wanted.
Russian cataloguing rules prescribe the use of GMD in area 1 of the ISBD area description after the title proper in square brackets.
So Russian cataloguing rules consider GMD as an element of the area of the bibliographic record which accumulated the information about intellectual and artistic content of a work (and its expressions) either the information about an intellectual responsibility for its creation.
Therefore the GMD must express the attributes which inherent in a work.
For the present we follow the list of terms which coincide with the List 1 of the AACR-2.
There are 13 terms : braille, cartographic material, electronic resource, graphic, manuscript, microform, motion picture, multimedia, music, object, sound recording, text. videorecording.
Russian cataloguing rules use also the term "kit" to differ a set of materials cataloguing without a computer from "multimedia" which need a computer for access.
A detailed analysis of our list of GMD terms and the comparison of the use of GMD terms in other libraries made it clear that the GMD terms are unequal and represent a mix of physical format, class of material, form of carrier and notation. To put in another way a mix of terms for mode of expression and format of the manifestation.
In our opinion the terms as a mode of expression are : cartographic material, electronic resource, graphic, manuscript, motion picture (there is a question), music, sound recording, text, videorecording.
The terms : braille, microform, multimedia, object, kit are directly relevant to the physical description area as a manifestation-level indicator.
The choice of GMD in our cataloguing practice is made in accordance with ISBD. The document having several carriers of the different classes of materials, the predominant GMD (primary

component) is choosed. Others statements (terms) for physical formats and forms of the carrier could be cited in the area of the specific material designation or in notes.
If it's impossible to choose the predominant GMD the terms "multimedia" or "kit" are used.
But I would draw your attention to the survey made by Jean Weihs about GMD which shows that GMD are useful, but the present list of GMD's terms needs to be modified or rethought. It was underlined there are the terms least understood from both library users and cataloguers.
In the survey J. Weihs stressed that the particular attention should be given to reconcile differences and eliminate any possible ambiguity. The GMD's terms must be the same for all libraries.
In the survey it was also underlined, that it would be extremely difficult to establish a consistent list of GMD (it's recommended to replace the term GMD with "officially-sanctioned specific terms"), because international agreements take time and the development of new media and format is rapid. So it was proposed to make the consistent list of terms to be applied universally.

Summary.

1. According ISBD Russian cataloguing rules prescribe the use of GMDs after the title proper in square brackets. There is difference in capitalization of GMD in AACR-2 and ISBD.
AACR, App. A, n. A 4G1 Do not capitalize the word(s) in general material designation.
ISBD (G), n. 08 : The first word of the following elements should also be capitalized.
Our proposal is to harmonize the using of capitalization of GMD.
2. Because there is a mix of terms of GND representing the mode of expression and formats of manifestation, it may be preferable to elaborate the consistent list of GMDs terms for general use by all libraries.
3. Perhaps it may be necessary to create a specific area for the mode of expression to be placed before the bibliographic description proper.

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