ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL 2009

Name of country: **Latvia**

Name of library or equivalent national-level organization: **National Library of Latvia (NLL)**

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Headings:

1. **General overview of recent major developments at the National Library of Latvia.**

   - 90 anniversary of the National Library of Latvia. The celebration of the anniversary was planned during the whole year. The central event took place during the celebration of Rīgas svētki 2009 – the annual Riga City Festival with participation of other major national culture, education and economic institutions – National Opera, National Theatre, National Archives, University of Latvia, Art Academy, Music Academy, Latvijas Dzelzceļš (Latvian Railroad) and others.
   - Since July 9, 2009 the National Library of Latvia has started to realize the project DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL LIBRARY – STAGE 2 financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the government of the Republic of Latvia. Project implementation period – 09.07.2009 – 08.07.2012.
   - Another Project financed by ERDF and the Government of the Republic of Latvia DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES OF DIGITAL LIBRARY was approved on May 27, 2009. The realization of the project will start in the second half of 2010.
   - Due to the economic recession the funding for the National Library of Latvia has decreased by 60% in year 2009 jeopardizing operation and activities of the library.

2. **The National Library of Latvia relationship to government, citation of legislation which sets out the library's mandate, and any other legislation which directly or indirectly affects the library's operations.**

   - National Library of Latvia is a state financed direct administration institution under supervision of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia. Budgetary means allocated for its operation are assigned by the Ministry of Culture according to the annual law on state budget. State budget consists of subsidies from general income, paid services and other income.

- NLL represents Latvia in library operation related international organizations, participates in development and implementation of sector specific international programs, and cooperates with foreign libraries in accordance with inter-governmental and direct agreements.

3. Key facts and figures (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc)

Key facts given by 01.01.2010.

- Number of registered users: 43070
- Number of visits: 717859
- Number of loans: 1125944
- Collection (total number of units): 4078877
    - Books: 1976301
    - Serials: 838154
    - audiovisual materials: 66119
    - sheet music: 219219
    - graphic documents: 221895
- Number of personnel: 344
    - Including 243 librarians
- Size of premises used by NLL: 15694,35 m^2
- Number of places for readers: 320
- Total budget year 2009: 3709104 LVL (5277609 EUR)

  Including:
    - Financing from state budget: 3596247 LVL (5117027 EUR)
    - Other financing 112857 LVL (160581 EUR)
- Expenses – salaries: 2147420 LVL (3055521 EUR)
- Expenses – social insurance, allowances, compensations: 646033 LVL (919227 EUR)
- Expenses – building of collection: 179864 LVL (255925 EUR)
- Expenses – services: 383309 LVL (545403 EUR)
- Expenses - IT services: 219553 LVL (312397 EUR)

4. New developments in creating and building collections

- Three year donation project in collaboration with the Foundation of the National Library of Latvia was launched in 2009 (in 2008 there was SWEDBANK donation for the development of the collection of NLL);
- In collaboration with the University of Latvia the project ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LIBRARY OF EAST ASIAN RESEARCH CENTRE in the premises of the Castle of Light – the new building of the NLL was started in 2009 (first negotiations were already by the end of 2008). The initiator of the project is the University of Latvia. The project aims to provide sources of information, publications and other materials on history, culture, society and economics of East Asia. In 2009 the first contribution proposals for NLL was developed;

- The collaboration with organizations of Latvians abroad especially in USA has been more active in 2009 (the Association of Latvians in America, Culture Society Tilts, Association of Latvians in Chicago, Centre of Latvians in Toronto). In 2009 several donations of Latvian publications abroad has been received.

New developments in creating and building digital collections.

- In 2009 the National Library of Latvia has started to realize the project DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL LIBRARY – STAGE 2 financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the government of the Republic of Latvia. Within the framework of the project the following activities will be realized:
    - 3500000 pages of books and newspapers processed by developing digital copies and ensuring remote public access to the digital collections via electronic communications channels;
    - Single architecture and the public access ensured to the archives of Latvian cultural and historical internet sites (approx. 3000 sites);
    - Records of national editions digitized and published in the National Electronic Database (600000 records).
- The work continues on developing digital collections for projects Europeana Local and Europeana Travel.
- PRESERVATION OF GRAPHIC ISSUES FROM THE NONCONFORMIST ART DURING THE SOVIET PERIOD IN LATVIA AND PROVISION OF THE REQUIRED MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT is the project in the priority of preservation of culture heritage and sub-priority of documentation and preservation of nonconformist heritage under the EFTA States Financial Mechanism. The overall objective of the project is to preserve culture heritage of Latvia and to enlarge accessibility through electronic resources. The project aims to make conservation and digitizing of the collection of nonconformist art during the Soviet Period (1800 units) and to encourage purchase of materials and equipment.
- In collaboration with ABBYY a version of Finereader program has been developed for the recognition of Latvian fracture fonts (Gothic).
- An agreement has been signed with the Library of Congress providing collaboration regarding content creation for the World Digital Library (WDL).

5. New developments in managing collections

- The systematic building of the collection is based on principles developed 10 years ago – the major part of the collection is in humanitarian and social sciences.

New developments in managing digital collections.

- In collaboration with Microsoft Corporation Digital Object Management system (DOM) has been developed and put into operation. System's compatibility for data delivery for TEL and Europeana has been ensured.

6. New developments in providing access to collections

- Each month a newsletter with a list of new acquisitions is sent to a group of selected recipients and also published in the web page of the library www.lnb.lv. The service was launched in 2008.
- In 2009 the blog of the National Library of Latvia has been launched and it has received wide audience. Many activities have been carried out in social media. The library is active user and has its account in twitter, facebook, draugiem.lv, slideshare, flickr, picasa web and others.
- Online project Donate to the Collection of the National Library of Latvia has been launched in 2009 http://www.lnb.lv/lv/visparigi/atbalsti-lnb-krajumu)

New developments in providing access to digital collections.

- In collaboration with Microsoft Corporation interface for the Digital Object Management system (DOM) has been developed and put into operation.
- The pilot project has been realized testing the georeferencing and multilayered representation of historic topographic maps.

7. Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions (libraries, archives and museums)

- Within the project ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LIBRARY OF EAST ASIAN RESEARCH CENTRE collaboration agreement has been signed with the National Central Library of the Republic of China and exchange of documents has been launched.