

ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEW DIRECTIONS
CONCLUSIONS OF THE DLM FORUM CONFERENCE 2008 IN TOULOUSE
adopted by the conference participants

- The successful DLM Forum conference in Toulouse in December 2008, organised in the framework of the French EU presidency, re-affirmed the leading role of the DLM Forum as a platform for multi-disciplinary co-operation on electronic records and archives management in Europe. Since its creation in 1996, the DLM Forum has fostered cooperation between public administration, research, records and information management managers and the ICT industry. In recent years it has successfully developed into a partnership bringing together organisations from all sectors that have an interest in electronic records and archives management.
- The Council Recommendation of November 2005 on closer co-operation between archives in the EU¹ asked for an update and extension of the Model Requirements for the management of electronic records as one of five priority measures for cooperation between archives in Europe. The DLM Forum adopted an extensive scoping report for the development of MoReq2 and, with support from the European Commission, oversaw the development of MoReq2 as a testable specification for electronic records management systems.
- In its progress report to the Council of the European Union of August 2008², the European Archives Group (EAG) encourages the DLM Forum to pursue its work in the field of electronic records and archives management. In particular the EAG recommends that the DLM Forum:
 - maintains a viable governance regime for MoReq2, including notably the monitoring of the translation of MoReq2 into the official languages of the EU and the addition of national chapters zero to take account of the national traditions and legislative framework, as was done in France during the French presidency of the EU;
 - sets up and monitors a European conformance testing and certification regime for MoReq2;
 - continues to promote interdisciplinary co-operation in the area of electronic records and archives management and to hold a members meeting during each EU presidency;
 - continues to organise large DLM Forum conferences once every three years.

The participants at the 5th DLM Forum conference in Toulouse call on the DLM Forum to implement these recommendations and to regularly report on its activities to the European Archives Group. The DLM Forum conference 2008 calls on the European Commission to continue to support the DLM Forum in the accomplishment of these objectives.

- The DLM Forum welcomes the active participation of the new member states of the EU in the activities of the forum. It takes note of the use of MoReq2 beyond the

¹ Council Recommendation of 14 November 2005 on priority actions to increase cooperation in the field of archives in Europe (2005/835/EC), OJ, L312 of 29.11.2005

² COM(2008)500; SEC(2008)2364.

boundaries of the EU, resulting in translations³ and increased interest from abroad, and of the already initiated projects using MoReq2 for electronic records management solutions. The participants of the DLM Forum conference 2008 ask that the DLM Forum continues to broaden its appeal to all interested communities, and that it promotes the use of MoReq2 across Europe and elsewhere in the world.

- The conference encourages the DLM Forum to look in new directions and notably to:
 - consider issues surrounding the transfer of records from the originating bodies to archival services, in particular by encouraging the use of the MoReq2 XML schema in joint pilot projects for interoperability between records management and archive applications;
 - evaluate the impact of new software technologies on records management and archives systems in practice;
 - provide guidance for developing electronic records management skills and competencies within user communities across Europe;
 - establish strategies for influencing decision-makers to implement ERDMS, notably by carrying out cost-benefit analyses.
 - provide the DLM members a set of practical case studies and concrete solutions.

- The 2008 DLM Forum conference has brought forth new practical approaches and solutions as well as strategies for the future. The DLM Forum should continue to set the agenda and provide guidance for user oriented solutions and models for best practice with a view to maintaining the trustworthiness and authenticity of the digital knowledge of our society for now and for the future.

³ Into Russian and Korean.