

Seminar
**Sharing information and resources: cooperation of museums, archives
and libraries in the field of standardization**
April 20, 2007, Riga

**Discussion „Advantages and disadvantages of the ALM work
standardization”**

Conclusions

The seminar pointed out the fields where archives, libraries and museums (ALM) have forwarded and reached some common goals and highlighted the areas for more efficient cooperation in future.

The participants noticed a certain exclusion of museums from common concern. There still exists some “mental inoperability” among ALM professionals. They should learn more from each other; determine the areas of common interest and distinguish the activities being completely their own individual domain. There is also a need to formalize the cooperation.

Standardization stands as a strong instrument for reaching common goals. Information access and data preservation were indicated the key issues for cooperation and standardization. Concerning information access it was concluded that standardization should focus not solely on the content of ALM collections but also on information architecture and tools. Preservation is another area where joint efforts should be applied because of the similar qualities of ALM materials. This applies not only to common standards but also to sharing resources and equipment.

Participants agreed that for promoting cooperation and knowledge on each other there is a need to strengthen the links with universities and to establish ALM competence centres.