CR 1.10 SNA add format attributes to mdRef and file elements.

Recently a project has started in Sweden to define common guidelines and standards for electronic archiving. The project is led by the Swedish National Archives but it is a joint effort with participants from several other Swedish agencies and also from county councils and municipalities. One of the tasks of this project is to define a common format for submission information packages (SIP:s) to enable agencies to transfer information from their various record management and business systems to archival repositories. These archival respositories can either be intermediate repostories managed by agencies or the long term archival repository at the National Archives.

We are evaluating if the METS-format can be used as the top level format for SIP:s within the Swedish agencies. Currently METS is used as a format for SIP:s and AIP:s by the National Archives and the National Library. We are now working together with the National Library to define a format that can be used by all agencies.

Summary of change request:

In the <mdRef> and <file> elements there are an attribute MIMETYPE. This is the only attribute that can be used to record information about the technical characteristics of a file or a resource. It would be very useful if the elements <mdRef> and <file> also could include four new attributes: FORMAT, FORMATVERSION, FORMATREGISTRY and FORMATREGISTRYKEY. It would be very convenient to be able to provide information about fileformat and formatversion directly in the METS-file. We are fully aware of the fact that these information elements are defined in the PREMIS-format but it would simplify things greatly if this information could be coded directly in METS and thereby avoiding having to include a PREMIS-object for every file and URL referenced in the METS-file. For simpler SIP:s it would then be sufficient to have only a METS-file to describe the content of the SIP. For more complex SIP:s there will still be a need for several different metadata formats but the simple ones could be kept very simple! There is already some redundancy between METS and PREMIS. Perhaps it would be acceptable to increase that redundancy just a little more.

Use case:

- 1. The file is in geoTIFF format.
- 2. The file is in MSWord 6.0 format.
- 3. An EAG in pdf format is called as a mdref in a dmdSec.

CREATED="2005-03-29T12:34:00" USE="Textfile"

3.

<mdRef LOCTYPE="URL" xlink:type="simple" MDTYPE="OTHER"
MIMETYPE="application/pdf" SIZE="2345"
CREATED="2011-10-20T16:00:00"
CHECKSUM="BFA0F9DD9077B62A978412265F7EC403"
CHECKSUMTYPE="MD5" OTHERMDTYPE="EAG"
xlink:href="http://www.riksarkivet.se/EAG.pdf"
FORMAT="Acrobat PDF/A - Portable Document Format" FORMATVERSION="1b"
FORMATREGISTRY="PRONOM" FORMATREGISTRYKEY="fmt/354"/>

Contact:

Karin Bredenberg, The Swedish National Archives, karin.bredenberg@riksarkivet.se