

COMPLIANCE TO PUBLISHING STANDARDS BY PUBLISHERS FOR DEPOSITION OF INFORMATION RESOURCES IN NATIONAL LIBRARY NIGERIA

BY

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Abstract

This study looks at how publishers adhere to the National Library of Nigeria's publishing standards when depositing information resources there. The study's two main goals were to identify the types of published information resources deposited there and to determine how closely publishers adhere to those standards. Ninety-four (94) NLN staff members who worked at the ISBN/ISSN Desk were included in this study, which used a cross-sectional survey research design and quantitative research methodology. During the time of this study, there were officers in 32 branches (States and FCT2 Branch), as well as 1,144 registered publishers from NBN 2019 from the National Library and the worldwide standard and programme department. The complete NLN crew was employed, and the simple random sampling method and census sampling method were used to sample 291 publishers out of the total NLN personnel. Data were gathered using a self-created questionnaire, and presentation and analysis of the results were done using descriptive statistics. The study discovered that books (both local and foreign) and serials were the main forms of published information resources that were stored in NLN and preliminary pages, and that publishers highly conformed with the ISBN and ISSN standards. The study found that if publishers are motivated, compliance levels will be high, and it suggested that the NLN rewrite the legal deposit statute to incentivize publishers to deposit all of their works.

Keywords: Compliance, Information Resources, National Library of Nigeria, Publishers and Publishing Standards

INTRODUCTION

A publisher is a person, company, or establishment in charge of designing, printing, digitally distributing, editing, and other publishing-related tasks. Making knowledge intelligible and available to the wider public is the act of publishing. A nation's level of development can only be tangentially associated with the level of literacy that books promote because books' contributions to the growth of literacy are incalculable. Furthermore, it is morally required to publish human endeavours for future generations (Oyeyinka, 2016). In addition to commercial and private publishers, including individuals, clubs, churches, mosques, groups, societies, organisations, academic institutions, and governmental entities, publishers and authors are also responsible for legally depositing their published works. Publishers, authors, and distributors are obligated to deposit their works with particular libraries in order to construct and maintain an archive of a nation's published works (Oyesiku 2014). This has major advantages for authors, publishers, scholars, and the general public because writings are made accessible to readers through legal deposit, preserved for the benefit of future generations, and contribute to the national legacy. Lariviere (2015) defines legal deposit as a legal mandate that any company, public institution, or individual who creates any kind of information resource in multiple copies must deposit one or more copies with a recognised and acknowledged National Institution.

Any type of library (including NLN) has access to both print and electronic information sources, such as books, journals, indexes, abstracts, newspapers, magazines, reports, CD-ROM databases, the Internet, cassettes, diskettes, computers, and microforms (Mohammed & Alhassan 2018). The 'raw materials' that libraries gather, process, store, and make available to their users are these

informational resources (Popoola & Haliso, 2019). By empowering users to make better decisions based on more accurate information, libraries help society advance. The National Library of Nigeria has a number of objectives for information resource generation, including publishing standards. These objectives include National Bibliography, Commercial Exposure Globally, Global Self-Recognition, and Preservation for Future Generations. Simple access to publications is provided, and free cataloguing of books is offered in an effort to sustain publication standards in Nigeria and safeguard the authors' and publishers' intellectual property there. The ISBN International Centre in London and the ISSN International Centre in Paris of the ISO serve as the basis for the National Library of Nigeria's Standard of Publishing.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA'S PUBLISHING STANDARDS INCLUDES -:

1. INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS BOOK NUMBER (ISBN)

The ISBN is a special 10 or (more recently) 13-digit machine-readable number that identifies publications, a particular edition of a printed, audio, or electronic book, and denotes a certain monographic production in a unique way. The objective is to coordinate and standardise the usage of ISBNs in order to distinguish each book or edition of a publication issued by a certain publisher in a specific format from other publications (NLN, 2018).

2. INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS SERIAL NUMBER (ISSN)

International Standards Serial Number is referred to as ISSN. It is a distinctive eight-digit number that is used globally to identify ongoing resources. Any resource that is continuously published over time without an end in sight is referred to as an ongoing resource. Continuous resources include serial publications and ongoing integrating resources (NLN, 2018).

2. CATALOGUING IN PUBLICATION (CIP)

Cataloguing in Publication (CIP) is a book industry-specific ISBN bibliographic control tool. Publishers and the Nigerian ISBN Agency collaborated on CIP. CIP provides cataloguing data for publishing on copyright pages of future monographs. Anglo American Cataloguing Rules 2nd (AACR2), Dewey Decimal, Library of Congress, and ISBN cataloguing and categorising standards are included in the data (Mom & Aina, in 2020).

4. INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS MUSIC NUMBER (ISMN):

An indicator of standards for all notated music, including tablature, whether it is published in print, online, or through other channels.

5. BARCODE

Data can be represented visually and in a way that is machine-readable using barcodes. At first, parallel lines of varied lengths, spacings, and diameters were used to represent data in barcodes. Barcodes make it considerably quicker and simpler to check out items at a store and keep track of inventory in a warehouse by encoding product information into bars and alphanumeric letters. Accuracy, inventory control, and cost savings are some of bar codes' main commercial advantages in addition to simplicity and speed (Mom & Aina 2020).

6. COPYRIGHT

This legal phrase refers to the permissions given to writers and artists for their literary and creative creations, which can also encompass music, computer software, computer games, paintings, sculptures, and other fine art. A work need not be published or otherwise "made available to the public" in order to be protected (Mom & Aina 2020).

7. PRELIMINARY PAGES

Title page, copyright page, Publishers in print page, Statement of Approval of Thesis or Dissertation, Abstract, Dedication (Optional), Frontispiece (Optional), Epigraph (Optional), Table of Contents, Lists of Tables, Figures, Symbols, and Abbreviations (Necessary Only in Certain Situations), and Acknowledgements (Optional) are the pages that make up the preliminary section. List all potential introductory sections in the correct order, along with whether or not they are necessary (Mom & Aina 2020).

8. CONTENT PRESENTATION:

All types of presentations consist of three basic parts: the introduction, the body, and the conclusion especially in books, the body is the main part of your presentation. This is where you explain your topic and where all your information is presented. The organization of the body is critical because the audience needs to be able to follow what you are saying or doing(Mom & Aina 2020).

9. INDEXING AND ABSTRACTING:

There are two different methods for condensing content into an abridged form: abstracting and indexing. An index serves as a guide to a document, but an abstract serves as a summary of it. A service that offers publications' abstracts, frequently on a subject or group of related subjects, on a subscription basis is known as an abstracting service. According to Mom and Aina (2020), an indexing service is a service that gives access points and other types of descriptors to documents.

10. BIBLIOGRAPHIC AND REFERENCE STYLE:

This finding aid identifies, describes, analyses, and categorises books and other communication materials so that they may be efficiently organised, saved, retrieved, and utilised when necessary. It also offers information about publishers, such as the date and location of production. A referencing style, on the other hand, is a standardised manner to cite your sources both in the body of your writing and in the reference list. Using brackets in the text to indicate the author and the year of publication is one example (Mom & Aina 2020).

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The National Library of Nigeria has the responsibility of making information resources available to the citizens of the country it represents. The library issues International Standard Book Numbers (ISBNs) and International Standard Serial Numbers (ISSNs) for publications that are accepted into the library's legal depositary and is aware of Nigerians' intellectual and scholarly prowess in producing publications in the form of books, serials, and electronic publications. A nation's degree of development can be directly correlated with the amount of literacy that publication of information resources supports since the impacts of publishing standards on society are incalculable.

Based on personal experience and observations of the researcher, it was discovered that publications frequently have discrepancies or inconsistencies in their contents and pages, that classifiers and cataloguers in libraries and other information centres struggle to arrange published materials for easy access by users, that publications frequently use the incorrect ISBN and ISSN, and that publications frequently omit important pages like the title page, the place, date, and ISBN/ISSN. This led the researcher to investigate whether publishers were adhering to publishing standards while depositing information resources in the National Library of Nigeria.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To find out the type of information resources deposited in National Library of Nigeria.
2. To determine the degree to which publishers adhere to publication standards in National Library of Nigeria.

LITERATURE REVIEW

This section provides the review of related literature.

TYPE OF INFORMATION RESOURCES DEPOSITED IN THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL LIBRARY

According to NLN (2020) The NLA Act's section 4 sub-sections (7) outlines the NLN's responsibility as collecting all information resources released in Nigeria by Nigerians and for Nigeria. All literary works such as books, pamphlet, sheet of music, maps, chart etc must be perfect copies.

- i. Dramatic works
- ii. Collective works, such as encyclopedia, yearbooks, dictionaries or similar works.
- iii. Newspapers, magazines and periodicals

- iv. All form in which documentary or oral records are published. This means that legal deposit includes non-book and electronic materials.
- v. Official Publications (Gazette, reports & National Assembly Proceedings).
- vi. Reference Resources (Encyclopaedias, Dictionaries & Bibliographies etc) .
- vii. Gifts and Exchanges (foreign Monographs and Nigerian Materials)

All written resources (books, serials, pamphlets, maps, etc.), the majority of audio-visual resources (discs, films, videos, multimedia kits, etc.), broadcast resources, and electronic publications (diskettes, CD-ROMs, on-line resources, etc.) can be considered information resources. Government publications are included in the legal deposit collection held by government ministries, parastatals, agencies, and/or their authority in depository libraries, according to Aina and Mamman (2020). They may be published as books, audiovisuals, atlases, reference materials, or serial publications, among other formats. According to his opinion, there are three types of government publications, including: These include all documents produced by the legislative branch of the federal, state, or local governments, including bills, decrees, constitutions, debates, and parliamentary discussions. Law reports and the Laws of the Federation are two examples of these publications that come through court proceedings. Executive publications are those that come from government ministries, agencies, the president, and research centres. They consist of gazetteers, instructions, commissions of inquiry, yearly reports, news announcements, technical reports, and development plans, among other things.

EXTENT OF PUBLISHERS' COMPLIANCE TO PUBLISHING STANDARDS

Recently, the National Library of Nigeria launched a national awareness campaign to encourage publishers, academics, researchers, librarians, printers, authors, book sellers, and government publishers to adhere to legal deposit and international publication standards. This is done to make sure that everything published in Nigeria will be properly compiled and accessible to researchers and the general public through the NLN. The level of compliance with the publishing standard, according to Charles (2019), is to comply each time I

publish a book, deposit the required amount of legal deposits, comply only when the task force is present, comply with the legal deposits requirements at book fairs, comply when I publish books for sale, and deposit typically after receiving claim and demand letters. This study reveals that, despite the fact that certain senior scholars who make decisions about higher education are not aware of the requirement, a lack of understanding of publication standards has permeated the system of managing and producing intellectual property. The demographic characteristics of authors have little impact on their compliance. Even while publishers with national coverage are more knowledgeable and compliant than those with other types of coverage, knowledge and compliance are unrelated to the length of time a publisher has been creating intellectual property. Publishers who had been lifelong members of the Nigeria Publishers Associations (NPA) were more knowledgeable than the others, despite the fact that non-compliance afflicted the entire sector. These findings are in line with Ike's (2004) claim that the indigenization of publishing in Nigeria in 1978 led to a decrease in the size of publishing houses' operations and that the subsequent rise of small publishing enterprises may not be inevitable.

The correlation between compliance and awareness showed that many authors who did not comply were unaware; however, the percentage of those who were aware but did not deposit was significant enough to suggest that there are probably other factors besides awareness that discourage compliance. The fact that only 50% of the knowledgeable publishers reported compliance, indicating that publisher awareness may not fully account for compliance level, strengthens this theory.

This finding is supported by a review of the records of deposit held at the library from 1990 to 2007. Despite the fact that non-compliance afflicted the entire company. These findings support those of Ike (2004), who found that indigenization in Nigeria in 1978 caused a reduction in the number of operating publishing firms, and that succeeding tiny publishing companies may not have been members of the organisation. Justifications were provided by a very small percentage of the publishers who reported non-compliance. Some respondents linked the drop in author and publisher awareness and compliance to the weakening economy and the lack of enforcement of compliance. One of these answers claimed that "prevailing customised publishing practise in Nigeria" was to blame for non-compliance, which we interpreted to suggest that publishers create and distribute materials to authors who then sell them. Another respondent questioned, "Does the law still apply in Nigeria?" The National Library's collection hasn't been mentioned in a while. Other

respondents expressed concerns about the deposit's price, the depositories' locations, their ignorance of the choice, and a general lack of understanding about the advantages of legal deposit (Ike 2004).

METHODOLOGY

This study used a survey research design and a quantitative research approach. The study included two groups of people: registered publishers in the National Library of Nigeria (NBN 2019) and NLN staff from two divisions of the Public Service Department (ISBN/ISSN and Legal Deposit). The former group had a total of 94 participants, while the latter had 1,144. All of the NLN staff's ISBN/ISSN Desk officers were used, and 291 publishers were included in the study. Simple random sampling and census methods were employed. A self-made questionnaire was employed as the data collection tool. Using descriptive statistics (frequency distribution and percentages), the mean and standard deviation were used to analyse and report the data.

FINDINGS & DISCUSSION

Types of Information Resources Deposited in National Library of Nigeria

This section presented the types of Information resources deposited in National Library of Nigeria; Table 1 provided the details.

Table 1: Types of Information Resources Deposited in the Nigerian National Library

S/N	Type of Information Resource Deposited	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Books (Nigeriana and Foreign)	80	97.6
2.	Newspaper	77	93.9
3.	Magazines	66	80.5
4.	Journals	77	93.9
5.	Bibliographies	51	62.2

6.	Dictionaries	44	53.7
7.	Encyclopaedias	53	64.6
8.	Reports	15	18.3
9.	Conference Proceedings	58	70.7
10.	Gifts and Exchanges (Nigeriana Materials and Foreign Monographs)	66	80.5
11.	Official Publications	64	78.0

Source: Field Survey, 2021

Table 1 showed the different kinds of published information resources that were deposited in NLN. Books (both Nigerian and foreign) had the highest frequency and percentage, with 80 (97.6%), followed by newspapers and journals with 77 (93.9%) each, magazines and gifts and exchange (monographs and Nigerian materials) with 66 (80.5%), official publications with 64 (78.0%), conference proceedings with 58 (70.7%), encyclopaedias with 53 (64.6%), and bibliographies with 51(62.2%) dictionaries with 44(53.7%) and lastly reports with 15(18.3%).

It can be inferred that books (Nigeriana and Foreign) were the major published information resources deposited in NLN by publishers and reports as the least among the published information resources deposited. This finding is in line with that of Essharenana (2009) who said that textbooks form the major part of information resources in National Libraries.

This suggested that the legislation or culture governing the deposit of published information resources (books) had been followed, and that a respectable amount of published books could be found in the NLN for use and preservation

THE DEGREE TO WHICH PUBLISHERS ADHERE TO PUBLICATION STANDARDS

The information in Table 2 of this section was used to present the National Library of Nigeria's publication criteria.

Table 2: The degree to which publishers adhere to publication standards

Key: Highly Comply (HC), Comply (C), Rarely Comply (RC), Undecided (UND)

S/N	Publishing Standards	HC	C	RC	UND	TOTAL	
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		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	M	SD
1	International Standard Book Number (ISBN)	247	94.6	14	5.4	0	0	0	0	261	100	3.9	0.6
2	International Standards Serial Number (ISSN)	98	37.5	52	19.9	90	34.5	21	8.1	261	100	2.9	0.8
3	International Standard Music Number (ISMN)	54	20.7	72	27.6	126	48.3	9	3.4	261	100	2.7	0.8
4	Barcoding	50	19.2	44	16.9	152	58.2	15	5.7	261	100	2.5	0.7
5	Cataloguing in Publication (CIP)	68	20.1	90	34.5	98	37.5	5	1.9	261	100	2.8	0.8
6	Copyrights Authority	130	49.8	64	24.5	62	23.8	5	1.9	261	100	3.2	0.5
7	Preliminary Pages	252	96.6	9	3.4	0	0	0	0	261	100	4.0	0.7
8	Content Presentation	87	33.3	100	38.3	71	27.2	3	1.2	261	100	3.0	0.6
9	Abstracting indexing	68	20.1	90	34.5	98	37.5	5	1.9	261	100	2.5	0.5
10	Bibliographic and reference style	50	19.2	44	16.9	152	58.2	15	5.7	261	100	2.4	0.5

Source: Field Survey, 2021

Table 2 revealed the extent of publishers' compliance with publishing standards and it shows that, the publishing standard that publishers comply with was preliminary pages with a mean value of 4.0, followed by ISBN with a mean value of 3.9, copyright authority, content presentation with 3.0, ISSN with 2.9, Cataloguing in publication with 2.8, ISMN with 2.7, bar-coding with 2.5. All these standards were on the positive side because they have a mean value above the benchmark of 2.5.

This result deviates from Ike's (2014) conclusion that publishers exclusively adhere to the International Standard Number as a publication standard. This suggested that the released information resources would undoubtedly comply with international best practise when these publishing requirements were properly followed.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. The sorts of published information resources that are deposited in the National Library of Nigeria include books (both indigenous and imported), journals, newspapers, and magazines.
2. The publishers adhere to the National Library of Nigeria's publication guidelines; they pay particular attention to the preliminary pages, ISBN, ISSN, CIP, and barcode regulations.

CONCLUSION

The National Library of Nigeria should engage more in sensitization programmes to carry the publishers along across all of Nigeria's states, give incentives to publishers annually for compliance with legal deposit, and give the best published books of the year to deserving publishers. It can be concluded that publishers are only vaguely aware of publishing standards, which are limited to preliminary pages, ISBN, and ISSN. The National Library of Nigeria should also focus more on driving legal deposit, attend book launches, and increase media exposure for the significance of publishing standards and legal deposit. If these are taken into account, Nigerian publications will improve while also following international best practises for book production.

RECOMMENDATIONS

On the basis of the study's findings, the following suggestions were made:

1. The National Library of Nigeria should rewrite its policy and legal deposit statute to encourage and incentivize publishers to donate all other forms of published information resources to the library.
2. Before assigning any standard number to any published information resource, the National Library of Nigeria shall introduce/create or reinforce a unit that will assure complete compliance with publication standards.

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