INTRODUCTION ON AUTHORIZED PRESERVATION PRACTICE OF THE NATIONAL DIGITAL PRESERVATION PROGRAM IN CHINA

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Abstract –This work will introduce the structure of the National Digital Preservation Program in China, and why do we establish the form of authorized preservation.

Keywords – Digital Preservation, Authorized Preservation, National Program, China

Conference Topics –Collaboration: a Necessity

I. INTRODUCTION

Supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as MoST) of China, the National Science and Technology Library Consortium (hereinafter referred to as NSTL) has been implementing the National Digital Preservation Program (hereinafter referred to as NDPP) since 2013, aiming to promote systematic, comprehensive and reliable preservation of major databases of scientific literature published inside and outside of China.

NDPP is a national-level preservation program. As a public service infrastructure, its construction and operation are supported by state funds. At the same time, NDPP is a cooperative preservation network composed of domestic libraries or institutions subscribing digital scientific and technological resources. Several preservation institutions undertake resource preservation tasks.

II. ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

A. Management Institution

As the administration of NDPP, NSTL is a scientific and technological literature service institution established by MoST of China in 2000. Its main responsibilities are to organize national libraries and institutions to issue joint statement on long-term preservation of digital resources, to coordinate and plan for preserving target resources and preservation centers, to support and assist preservation centers conducting long-term preservation negotiations, to organize public certification and auditing for the mechanism and effect of long-term preservation, to supervise and audit public services when necessary, to coordinate necessary backup and inheritance preservation, and to provide stable funding for NDPP.

B. Preservation Centers

NDPP selected a limited number of institutions with mature technical conditions and perfect operation mechanisms to undertake the tasks of preservation. NDPP has gradually constructed three preservation centers: National Science Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as NSL), Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China (hereinafter referred to as ISTIC), and Peking University Library.

Through signing legally long-term preservation agreement with publishers, preservation centers receive and preserve provided data, provide public services for participating institutions when resources cannot be accessed, and accept public certification and auditing.

C. Participating Institutions

Libraries that signed the joint statement of long-term preservation are considered to be the participating institutions of NDPP. As of January 2019, 216 domestic libraries participate in NDPP, including academic libraries, university libraries, public libraries and professional libraries. They all
recognize that the right of long-term preservation is an integral part of library’s rights of purchased knowledge content. They will proactively advocate and maintain the right in negotiations, and authorize NDPP to take the tasks of long-term preservation of subscription resources.

III. WHAT IS AUTHORIZED PRESERVATION

Due to the limited number of preservation centers, plenty of participating institutions of NDPP which want to realize the long-term preservation of subscription resources need to authorize NDPP to take the tasks of preservation.

For NDPP, the number of resources preserved by preservation centers is limited, while the number of resources subscribed by participating institutions is large. The form of authorized preservation will greatly expands the scope of NDPP’s preserved resources. For publishers and participating institutions of NDPP, the program is a completely social service that does not charge any deposit fees and does not impose any additional financial burden. At the same time, as a national-level preservation program, NDPP’s long-term preservation planning, equity management mechanism, technical system, organizational management and economic input, public service policy, and public certification of long-term preservation have reliable management mechanisms, can provide reliable and sustainable long-term preservation service for authorizing preservation institutions.

IV. CASE

NSL, as one of the preservation center of NDPP, was authorized by Medical Library to have long-term preservation of the Primal Pictures database.

V. CONCLUSIONS

Authorized preservation is a more flexible and universe long-term preservation mechanism, compared with preservation centers directly issuing and achieving resources preservation.

Figure 2 Different Preservation models

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