The CNR Annual report contains the description and outputs of its research activities. Data are directly collected from the CNR belonging research units, which provide descriptions of projects carried out, information on internal and external funding, personnel and equipment involved, collaboration with other national and international institutions, etc. A subset of this information is available at the main CNR webpage (http://www.cnr.it/istituti), where publications are linked to both the research units and to the projects within which they are produced. Moreover, all publications produced by CNR researchers available since 2002 are organised according to a predefined list of document types that include both conventional and non-conventional literature.

In a previous paper presented at GL10, we have identified this central database of CNR scientific production as a possible starting point of an Institutional Repository (IR) primarily due to the comprehensiveness of the data contained as well as due to involvement of researchers and librarians in the process of proving information. This database has been developed for administrative and evaluation purposes and therefore has the main features of a Current research information system (CRIS) connected with openly accessible research results.

In this paper we will analyse this database, which derives from the traditional Annual report, with the aim of verifying whether it could be a building block for a future CNR IR. Moreover, this analysis can help the development of guidelines for the selection and organisation of its information content, focusing on the identification of bibliographic collections - both conventional and non conventional - able to properly represent the multidisciplinary CNR nature.

The analysis of the information content of this database will consider the following main aspects:

- Procedures and guidelines provided to insert data, ranging from the actors involved in the management of the information content to the analysis of data required;
- Characteristics of content types stored in the actual database (document types, quality of bibliographic descriptions; forms of access and OAI compliance), from a stratified random sample of CNR research units.

Within the sampling universe composed by 107 CNR research units, we selected a stratified random sample of 21 units representing the 20% of the universe. In addition we will interview the person responsible for the management and implementation of this central database, to have a more precise insight of its development as well as of its main purposes (as a means of diffusing information on CNR research activities, making its publications freely available and/or of assessing its scientific production).

Particular attention will be posed on the analysis of GL documents. The central database of CNR scientific production already foresees different categories in which GL documents can be inserted, but does not give specific indications that make it possible to clearly identify and correctly describe these types of documents. Taking these limits into consideration, on the one hand, and the role played by GL documents in IRs in both scientific communication and institutional research assessment exercises, on the other, it is important to develop bibliographic guidelines which make it possible to easily recognise and retrieve homogenous collections of these types of documents.