

To: RDA Steering Committee

From: Charlotte Christensen, ORDAC representative

Subject: Formal response to RSC/LanguagesWG/2023/1 - Jurisdictions, Governments, and Courts in RDA

Overall ORDAC agrees with the changes recommended by the Official Languages Working Group, with one minor exception to recommendation 4c.

Separately, ORDAC is conscious of a related language issue that could potentially be resolved at the same time. If these related changes are deemed out of scope, ORDAC will present them in a formal proposal for the October RSC meeting agenda.

Dual-naming

In New Zealand it is common for corporate bodies to have a dual language name. This is not a situation of parallel names in separate languages where one is to be preferred by users of a given language, but instead a situation where the dual language name forms a single string to represent the corporate body entity.

examples:

Oranga Tamariki Ministry for Children

Kāinga Ora Homes and Communities

Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

While the corporate body is recognisable if only part of the name is given (e.g. Oranga Tamariki), it is commonly formally presented as a single string. This is quite different from an equally common situation where a single corporate body may have an English and a Māori version of their name but consistently prefers one over the other (e.g. Te Taura Whiri is The Māori Language Commission but almost never referred to by its English name even by English speakers).

The same issue arises for [placenames](#), and this is noted to occur [in other countries](#) as well. The official languages notwithstanding, there are times when a dual name is given preference.

examples:

Uluru / Ayers Rock (Australia)

Aoraki / Mount Cook (New Zealand)

Again, the location is recognisable if only one part of the name is used (e.g. Uluru) but the officially recognised form is the dual language form.

There are other examples where there are widely understood alternatives (e.g. Ōtautahi vs Christchurch) which are used to describe the same place but are used intentionally as language equivalents of each other. These are quite different. I would say "Aotearoa New Zealand" as a common phrase but much more rarely "Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland" because I would usually choose to use one or the other, regardless of which language I was speaking. This latter situation is already adequately covered by options to select a language form of a name of place.

We see potential in these being resolved by the addition of options reflecting dual-language names.

Suggestion 1: The addition of a final Condition Option to the Condition being discussed for Corporate Body: preferred name of corporate body

CONDITION

A value of a name appears in two or more languages in manifestations

... other options ...

CONDITION OPTION

Record a value that is a single string incorporating two or more language versions of the name that appear together on sources of information.

Suggestion 2: The addition of a new Condition for Place: preferred name of place

CONDITION

A name of place is in two or more languages.

Two or more values of a name that are in different languages appear together as a single string on sources of information.

CONDITION OPTION

Record a value that is a single string incorporating two or more language versions of the name that appear together on sources of information.

Recommendation 1

ORDAC approves of this recommendation.

Recommendation 2

ORDAC approves of this recommendation.

Recommendation 3

ORDAC approves of this recommendation.

Recommendation 4a

ORDAC approves of this recommendation.

Recommendation 4b

ORDAC approves of this recommendation.

Recommendation 4c

It is not clear why the existing condition wording at [43.16.35.02](#) is problematic since as the [RDA introduction](#) tells us "*All of the conditions specified in a Condition box must be satisfied to apply to any of the Condition Option instructions*", therefore the "and" is implicitly present already in the condition. The change here does not seem justified.

ORDAC approves of this recommendation other than for this condition.

Recommendation 4d

ORDAC approves of this recommendation.