TO: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

FROM: Deirdre Kiorgaard, Chair, JSC

SUBJECT: Consideration of proposals from the ISBD Review Group

At a meeting held in Washington, D.C. in 2000, representatives of the JSC, ISBD(Serials) Working Group and ISSN Network agreed to harmonize several provisions in their respective standards which relate to the description of serials and integrating resources.

The ISBD Review Group met in August 2008 and discussed issues that had arisen from the world-wide review of the ISBD consolidated edition. Given that harmonization remains a goal for all three communities, the JSC is asked to consider the comments received on three items that affect the AACR/ISBD/ISSN harmonization agreement.

The issues raised and the results of the ISBD Review Group discussion are below:

1. Removal of the following exception at ISBD 1.1.4.1.1 (AACR2 12.1B2): If the title of a serial or integrating resource appears on the source of information for the title proper in full as well as in the form of an acronym or initialism, choose the full form as the title proper.

Result of ISBD Review Group discussion: Tentative agreement within the ISBD Review Group. Final decision by the ISBD Review Group is pending consultation with the ISSN Network and the JSC.

2. Address problem encountered for Chinese, Japanese, Korean titles when applying the rules for when to create a new description for serials based on changes in the title. Specifically, any change in the first five words (the first six words if the first word is an article) of a serial title is considered a major change (AACR2 21.2C2). This is difficult to apply to Chinese, Japanese and Korean titles given the difficulty of counting words in these languages and scripts.

Result of ISBD Review Group discussion: Consult with ISSN Network and JSC regarding whether an additional stipulation is needed

3. Adopt latest entry for serials.

Result of ISBD Review Group discussion: No change as agreement was not reached within the ISBD Review Group. In addition, latest entry would be problematic for the ISSN Network.

The JSC is asked to consider items one and two above. In order to meet the publication timeline required for the ISBD, constituency responses are required by December 1, 2008.