

**To:** Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR  
**From:** Deirdre Kiorgaard, ACOC representative to JSC  
**Subject:** **Accessible formats used by visually impaired people**

**General comments**

ACOC welcomes this proposal to improve the coverage of accessible formats in RDA.

As noted in ACOC's responses to other proposals which affect Chapter 3, ACOC requests that the JSC to release a draft of the whole of Chapter 3 for constituency review to enable proper evaluation of what is proposed.

Both the existing instructions in 5JSC/RDA/Part I/Chapter 3, and in CILIP's proposal, give examples in parentheses in the instruction, and also repeat these in the examples which follow. ACOC suggests that the Editor adopt a consistent approach which minimises the repetition.

ACOC notes that 5JSC/RDA/Part A/Categorization provides ways of categorising content and carrier which might have an impact in our thinking on the placement of these instructions. ACOC would like JSC to discuss whether some of these instructions might be appropriately placed under 4.4 Language, script, etc of the content, which covers the use of symbols. This might result in different treatment of large print compared to tactile and Braille.

**3.6.1.3. Recording characteristics such as large print or braille**

ACOC supports the intent of these revisions.

*new 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet:*

A statement to the effect that the font size should be given 'if known' should be added.

*original 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet:*

ACOC agrees with CILIP's proposal to include specific instructions on the grade and type of Braille along with the general instruction on recording Braille and tactile, in preference to treating it at 3.6.13 Notes on other technical details.

The instruction might be clearer if the parenthetical examples were removed, e.g. "For resources using a tactile system of notation, record sufficient detail to identify the coding type and grade level if known."

**3.6.2. Layout**

Given the overlap between the special instructions, both existing and proposed, ACOC would prefer to see a strengthened general instruction.

**3.6.2.6 Layout of tactile format**

ACOC has no specific comments.

### ***3.6.2.7 Layout of tactile music scores***

ACOC would prefer that the text of the instruction be made more general, and the reference to MARC21 be given in a footnote.

### ***3.6.2.8 Layout of tactile maps and diagrams***

ACOC questions whether either of the two examples given fit properly within the concept of layout, and whether a separate instruction is required.

The first example has a parallel in non-tactile materials. The symbols used to represent cartographic features were recorded in notes on the nature and scope of the item in AACR2. In the current RDA draft, an example is now given in 4.17.0.4. Noting other features of cartographic content, i.e. "Relief shown by contours, hachures, and spot heights." As noted in our general comments, perhaps this information is best given under 4.4 Language, script, etc of the content, which covers the use of symbols.

The second of the two examples given could be covered under 3.6.1.3.

### **3.6.3 Production method**

ACOC supports the inclusion of these types of production method, but questions whether a separate instruction is required.

We note that a wide variety of possible terms could also be included here for graphic materials, but that they are covered by the general instruction. If necessary, additional guidance could be provided to the effect that the use of specific terms should always be considered important for tactile materials.

### **3.6.13.4 Other technical details of tactile resources**

ACOC considers that situations covered by the revised instruction might be better covered elsewhere.

The first example of alternate leaves might be given under layout.

The second example appears to be very similar to the first example given under the revised 3.6.2.8.

In the third example ACOC notes that Word has capitalised "wooden" in the clean copy of this instruction. This example also overlaps with 3.6.9. Physical material.