

TO: Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR

FROM: Sally Strutt, British Library representative

SUBJECT: RDA Part I Internationalization

The British Library thanks LC for tackling this concern.

We suggest that continued discussions with other cataloguing communities might build on the work to open RDA use beyond “Anglo-America”. We note that some non-AACR communities approach cataloguing in an entirely different way. For instance, the Chinese cataloguing community organise material into hierarchical collections, where title is very important and author is not. The British Library’s own Chinese collections are catalogued according to the Chinese cataloguing model, using an external database. For these collections, and also our Japanese and Korean collections, AACR2 (and we assume in future RDA) is used only for the cataloguing of non-CJK works in these collections. Given this reality, it may be necessary for RDA to continue to express some limits in terms of internationalization. We are hopeful that an international approach encompassing all cataloguing models may be possible via the International Meeting of Experts for an International Cataloguing Code.