

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Ebe Kartus, ACOC Representative

Subject: Add instructions to supply terms indicating the function recorded under the optional addition provisions at 2.7.4.4, 2.8.4.4, 2.9.4.4 or 2.10.4.4, in a language and script preferred by the cataloguing agency

ACOC thanks CCC for this proposal. While we support the principle of the proposal ACOC feels it would be better to reword 0.11.2 to cover not only the statement of function instructions but other optional additions and data elements where information is supplied by the agency preparing the description.

ACOC also notes that 1.4 has TWO instructions - one about "adding" data, and one about "supplying" data. ACOC is not sure that most cataloguers would find it easy to determine the difference between "when adding data within an element" and "when information is supplied in an element" and then which of these to apply to a particular optional addition. ACOC would welcome further discussion on these instructions.

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0.11.2 Language and Script

When the instructions for an element specify transcription, data are transcribed in the language and script in which they appear on the source of information from which the data are taken. However, allowance is made for recording the data in a transliterated form if they cannot be recorded in the script used on the source from which they are taken. Allowance is also made for recording the data in a transliterated form in addition to the form in the original script.

Other elements are generally recorded in a language and script preferred by the agency creating the data. If data needs to be supplied to an element as part of an optional addition (e.g. statement of function for a publisher's name) record it in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description.

However, there are a number of instructions that specify the use of an English-language term (e.g., publisher not identified) or provide a controlled list of terms in English (e.g., the terms used for media type, carrier type, base material). Agencies creating data for use in a different language or script context will modify such instructions to reflect their own language or script preferences and replace the English-language terms specified in RDA with terms appropriate for use in their context. Authorized translations of RDA will do likewise.

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