

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Kevin Marsh, ACOC Representative

Subject: Representing language of expressions in RDA: discussion paper

ACOC thanks EURIG for this discussion paper, and agrees that the three use cases presented could usefully be addressed.

In response to the questions raised in section 2.1.1 of the paper, ACOC notes that language is not seen as an attribute of Work in FRBR and suggests that the issue should be raised at FRBR level before changes are proposed to RDA.

Our responses to the questions raised in section 2.2.1 of the paper are given below:

1. ACOC agrees that it is useful to record the language in which a work was first expressed. With reference to the example at the end of p. 5, however, we are not comfortable about recording French as the language in which a drawing was originally expressed when the language aspect is only a secondary attribute of the work. In this case the Language in which the Work was Originally Expressed Element does not seem appropriate, while the Language of Expression Statement does seem to remain valid for the caption. This, however, raises the question of how versions of the drawing with captions in different languages might be interrelated. We agree in principle that the "Language of Expression Statement" is a useful concept.
2. We share EURIG's doubts as to whether it is appropriate to call it a "statement", but do not have an alternative term to suggest.
3. We suggest that before putting forward a formal proposal EURIG should further canvas the requirements of relevant constituency groups in this area. We suggest that in the case of an indirect translation it would be useful to be able to record the intermediate language or languages as well as the original language.
4. We have not identified any other sub-elements that should be included.