

TO: Françoise Pellé, Director, ISSN International Centre

FROM: Barbara B. Tillett, JSC Chair

SUBJECT: Serials and changes in mode of issuance – is a new description always needed?

The JSC thanks the ISSN Network for submitting this discussion paper and encourage you to submit a proposal.

Most JSC constituencies agree with the ACOC response that a change in mode of issuance for a serial/integrating resource should not result in a new description, and we would support such a proposal. The ALA response identifies a few issues that should be taken into account. The British Library response reminds about the need for harmonization with the ISBD Review Group, and agrees with the Canadian Committee for Cataloguing regarding concerns about the impact on 'basis of description' and the sources of information of the various data elements. CILIP agrees with the focus of your discussion paper and looks forward to future discussion. The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek agrees and encourages you to make a proposal. The Library of Congress, likewise encourages a proposal with 'before' and 'after' examples relevant to appropriate elements and the impact on the basis of description as the mode of issuance changes – this may reveal that other changes to RDA would be necessary to accomplish the desired goal. They also would like the ISSN Centre to consider whether all mode of issuance changes should be the same, or are you only interested in some changes? It is hoped your proposal would reflect the concerns and situations raised in the constituent responses.

We also would like to point out a possible mis-understanding with regard to FRBR and the "mode of issuance". Indeed it is not explicitly in FRBR, but then FRBR is not exhaustive. RDA 's instructions for "mode of issuance" are currently in chapter 2 (RDA 2.13), which is where we describe manifestations and items. Also the RDA element analysis table shows "mode of issuance" being an attribute of the manifestation. The RDA/ONIX Framework, does not explicitly reference "mode of issuance". However, the JSC has already noted that similar attributes, such as Extensibility of Expression, Revisability of Expression, Expected Regularity of Issue (Serial), and Expected Frequency of Issue (Serial) are in FRBR as expression attributes.

For more detail, please see the responses from our constituents, available on our JSC Web site <http://www.rda-jsc.org/working2.html#community-issn-3> .

[NOTE: The original ISSN document was mis-numbered as 6JSC/ISSN/3, and should have been in the 6JSC/ISSN/Discussion series.]