To: Renate Behrens, Chair, RDA Steering Committee
CC: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary
From: Getaneh Alemu, WCEO
Subject: Formal response to RSC/ExtentWG/2025/3 - Proposal for Manifestation: extent of unit and its subtype elements

Recommendation 1: Create the element Manifestation: extent of unit.

I **approve** this set of recommendations because it clearly separates physical units and measurements from content and format, making extent data easier for systems to process and reuse while still supporting clear, human-readable display.

Recommendation #2. Update Manifestation: bibliographic format
Approve
Bibliographic format is best treated as a subtype of extent of unit, as this correctly models it as a physical characteristic while still supporting familiar extent statements for display.

Recommendation 3: Retain this element as a subtype of Manifestation: sound characteristic. Replace the element reference label "tape configuration" with "number of recording tracks". Add Manifestation: number of recording tracks as a subtype of Manifestation: extent of unit.

Approve, with minor revision

I approve this recommendation, as replacing the label "tape configuration" with "number of recording tracks" improves clarity and removes unnecessary format-specific assumptions. The current definition should be broadened to apply not only to audiotapes but also to digital audio files, multitrack recordings, optical media (CD, DVD, Blu-ray), streaming formats and embedded audio tracks in video files, ensuring the element remains format-neutral and future-proof.

Recommendation 4.1: Update the definition of Manifestation: dimensions. Add Manifestation: dimensions as a subtype of Manifestation: extent of unit. Update the Prerecording section to include the language providing the option of using a value of Manifestation: manifestation extent statement.

Approve.
Dimensions are stored as structured data but still displayed in a familiar way. Current practice in MARC21 lumps them together (example vi, 150 pages ; 24 cm) but the new recommendation appears to be structured, fitting a Linked Data application

Recommendation 4.2: Update the current Prerecording Condition Options for still images and cartographic images to refer to the element Manifestation: dimensions of embodied content instead. Retain the three options under Recording.
Approve.

Recommendation 4.3: Move the instructions under Recording an unstructured description to Community Resources. The instructions related to containers will be associated with the element Manifestation: dimensions of container.
Approve.
Unstructured descriptions are permitted but documented as **community guidance**, not core rules. This offers flexibility.

Recommendation 4.4: Under a new structured description section for Manifestation: dimensions, provide options that specify a stipulated order for dimensions of various carriers.
Approve.

Recommendation 5.1: Remove leaf from the RDA Carrier Extent Unit vocabulary encoding scheme. A leaf is not a value for unitary structure but refers to a subunit of a volume and is proposed to be used in values for Manifestation: extent of unit.
Approve, but suggest adding examples, as 'leaf', 'panel', and 'folded leaf' are best understood through examples.

Recommendation 5.2: Update the glossary definition of leaf.
Approve, but add an example in the definition.

 Recommendation 5.3: Update the glossary definition of updating loose-leaf to use the term leaves instead of pages as pages refers to layout of embodied content.
Approve.

Recommendation 5.4: Add panel to the glossary. All panels including blank panels are counted. The term panel can be used in a value for Manifestation: extent of unit.
Approve.
Prevents cataloguers from excluding blank panels and improves consistency.

Recommendation 5.5: Add folded leaf to the glossary. The definition treats a folded leaf like a folded sheet but bound in a volume. The term folded leaf can be used in a value for Manifestation: extent of unit.
Approve.