

To: Renate Behrens, Chair, RDA Steering Committee
CC: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary
From: Jack Ennis Butler, ORDAC representative
Subject: Formal response to RSC/TechnicalWG/2026/6, Soft-deprecated parallel elements

ORDAC thanks the Technical Working Group for preparing this proposal.

We note this proposal received strong feedback from the Oceania community both in favour of and against accepting the recommendations. While some institutions do not currently use the soft-deprecated parallel elements, others have them as core to their current practice. Parallel title proper was the most cited cause of concern.

ORDAC believes the recommendation to move the elements to the Community Resources section of the Toolkit represents a viable solution. This will allow communities to continue recording values in their description outside of RDA but with reference to familiar older instructions.

We also note the solution successfully implemented by the National Library of New Zealand that avoids soft deprecated elements within the constraints of a MARC cataloguing environment.

In addition, the possibilities of defining string encoding schemes as discussed in [RSC/TechnicalWG/2025/1](#) represent another alternative for communities to continue using current practices for recording Manifestation: title proper.

Given the possibilities to support current practice across the sector and resolve the issues inherent in these soft-deprecated elements, ORDAC approves the recommendations.

Recommendation 1.1

ORDAC approves of this recommendation.

Recommendation 1.2

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Recommendation 1.3

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Recommendation 1.4

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ORDAC approves of this recommendation.

Recommendation 1.28

ORDAC approves of this recommendation.

Recommendation 2

ORDAC approves of this recommendation.