

**To:** RDA Board  
RDA Steering Committee

**From:** Renate Behrens, RSC Chair  
Christine Oliver, RDA Board Chair

**Subject:** Working Group on Artificial Intelligence, 2026

This document supersedes [RSC/Chair/2025/10](#) and provides a new set of tasks ([Section 4](#)), since the Working Group has completed the tasks set out in RSC/Chair/2025/10. It also provides the first terms of reference for the Working Group since its transition from Task-and-Finish Group to Advisory Group. This transition was approved at the December 2025 meeting of the RDA Board, at the request of RSC Chair Renate Behrens, outgoing RSC Chair Colleen Barbus and Chair of the Working Group, Ahava Cohen.

## 1 Background

Artificial Intelligence is a growth area of interest in cataloguing, librarianship and society in general. It seemed timely for the RDA Board and RDA Steering Committee to investigate potential uses and threats present in the production of RDA. With this in mind, the RDA Board suggested a joint Working Group be established in 2024 and this was agreed by the RSC ([RSC/Minutes/444-455](#) Item 446.5). This initiative aims to explore AI's role in maintaining metadata quality, defining minimum standards for AI-generated RDA datasets, and addressing ethical and technical challenges.

## 2 Membership

Ahava Cohen, Europe Representative to the RSC, Chair

Getaneh Alemu, RSC Wider Community Engagement Officer

Christian Aliverti, National Library of Switzerland<sup>1</sup>

Colleen Barbus, RDA Board

Renate Behrens, RSC Chair

Charlene Chou, New York University<sup>2</sup>

Hui Ling Ng, RDA Board

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<sup>1</sup> Christian volunteered for this Working Group when he was a member of the RDA Board and was asked to stay on the Group when his term as a National Institution Representative came to an end.

<sup>2</sup> Charlene volunteered for this Working Group when she was a member of the RDA Steering Committee and was asked to stay on the Group when her term as Wider Community Engagement Officer came to an end.

Ángela Quiroz Ubierna, RDA Board

James Hennelly, ALA Digital Reference *ex officio*

It is usual for members who joined the Working Group during their tenure as members of the RDA Board or RDA Steering Committee to be invited to remain on the Working Group when their official term ends, but this is not always the case.

### 3 Terms of Reference

The Working Group operates within [RSC/Operations/3](#), the general terms of reference for RSC Working Groups. Having started as a task-and-finish group, the RDA Board agreed in its December 2025 to being an Advisory Working Group. Although Advisory Working Groups do not have an end date, their work is reviewed each year, and their terms agreed.

The Artificial Intelligence (AI) Working Group focuses on practical applications of AI to enhance metadata quality and RDA implementation.

Having completed the tasks set in its original Terms of Reference with the publication of its White Paper, [Considering AI in the Growth of RDA \(RSC/Papers/2025/1\)](#), the RDA Board and RSC re-tasked it with new Terms of Reference in [RSC/Chair/2025/10](#). The current document sets out extended Terms of Reference agreed by the Board in December 2025 and the RSC in January 2026.

### 4 Tasks

#### 1. Research and Review

- Draft guidelines for creating and using AI to help users navigate the RDA Toolkit.

#### 2. Define Standards for AI-Generated Metadata

- Develop a minimal set of entities and elements that, if present, a dataset must include to be RDA compliant, even if the metadata is automatically generated.
- Establish quality criteria for RDA compliant metadata (including AI-generated metadata) to endure reliability, accuracy, and consistency.

#### 3. Recording and Documentation

- Provide recommendations for transparency in the AI-assisted metadata creation process. [Continued from [RSC/Chair/2025/10](#) Section 4]
- Propose methods for documenting the AI-generated nature of RDA data in metadata records. [Continued from [RSC/Chair/2025/10](#) Section 4]

## 5 Deliverables

- Recommendations for standards and quality requirements for RDA compliant AI-generated metadata. [Continued from [RSC/Chair/2025/10](#) Section 5]
- Guidelines for documenting AI-generated metadata and creating an AI Toolkit Guide. [Continued from [RSC/Chair/2025/10](#) Section 5]
- Provide brief progress reports to the RDA Board and the RSC for each meeting. [Continued from [RSC/Chair/2025/10](#) Section 5]
- An interim written report each year summarising findings, recommendations, and next steps. The usual expectation is for this to be agreed by the Board in its final meeting each year and by the RSC in its first meeting of the following year [Replaces the final report task in [RSC/Chair/2025/10](#) Section 5, since the Working Group is now Advisory].

## 6 Reference sources

- [Considering AI in the Growth of RDA \(RSC/Papers/2025/1\)](#)
- [United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/78/L.49 Seizing the Opportunities of Safe, Secure and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence Systems for Sustainable Development, 11 March 2024](#)
- [IFLA Statement on Libraries and Artificial Intelligence, Agreed by the IFLA Governing Board, 17 September 2020](#)
- [Draft PCC Guiding Principles for Use of AI and Machine Learning Technologies in Cataloging and Metadata Work, March 13 2025](#)
- [PCC Task Group on Strategic Planning for AI and Machine Learning for Cataloging and Metadata: Final Report, 15 April 2024](#)
- [IFLA Artificial Intelligence Special Interest Group. 23 Resources to Get Up to Speed on AI in 2023](#)
- [Andrew M. Cox. \*The Impact of AI, Machine Learning, Automation and Robotics on the Information Professions: A report for CILIP\*, May 2021](#)

- [Saccucci, Caroline and Potter, Abigail. "16 Assessing Machine Learning for Cataloging at the Library of Congress" In New Horizons in Artificial Intelligence in Libraries edited by Edmund Balnaves, Leda Bultrini, Andrew Cox and Raymond Uzwyshyn, 227-238. Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter Saur, 2025.](#)