To: RDA Steering Committee

From: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary

Subject: Proposal to revise Guidance: Aggregates and Guidance: Diachronic Works following from RSC/TechnicalWG/2024/2/rev/Decisions

The text below sets out decisions taken by the RSC at their meeting in July 2025.

RSC/EOO/2025/1 was submitted on 12 May and published on 22 May 2025. Written responses were received through June and July and RSC/EOO/2025/summary/rev was published on 14 July ahead of discussion in the Public Session of the RSC Meeting on 15 July. Suggestions were made by EURIG (RSC/EOO/2025/1/EURIG) and NARDAC (RSC/EOO/2025/1/NARDAC) and discussed in the meeting(RSC/Minutes/521-537[1] Item 530). The Education and Orientation Officer asked the EURIG and NARDAC representatives if expanding the phrase "well-formed metadata description set" to "well-formed metadata description set of an aggregate". Ahava Cohen and Robert Maxwell agreed that this change would meet their needs.

Voting members of the RSC approved the proposal unanimously, with the text amended per the discussion. The following change will be implemented as soon as practicable.

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Recommendation 1: Revise the section "Describing an aggregate" in the Aggregates Guidance to clarify the requirements in the context of a well-formed metadata description set.

Marked-up version

RDA 88.10.69.84 **Describing an aggregate**

~~It is not necessary to record~~ A well-formed metadata description set of an aggregate does not require all of the expressions or works that are embodied by an aggregate to be recorded.

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[1] Owing to the timeline to the next Toolkit release, this Fast Track document was prepared alongside the Minutes and published slightly ahead of them. You can browse for the Minute at https://www.rdatoolkit.org/rsc/RSCminutes or run a phrase search for RSC/Minutes/521-537 at https://alair.ala.org/home.

~~It is not necessary to record~~ <u>If the aggregating expression or work is recorded, a well-formed metadata description set does not require</u> any of the expressions or works that are aggregated ~~if the aggregating expression or work is~~ <u>to be</u> recorded.

<u>If at least one of the expressions or works that are aggregated is recorded, a well-formed metadata description set of an aggregate does not require</u> ~~It is not necessary to record~~ the aggregating expression or work <u>to be recorded</u> ~~if at least one of the expressions or works that are aggregated is recorded~~.

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of an aggregate, see Guidance: Resource description. Describing a manifestation. [Describing a manifestation that embodies two or more expressions](#).

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of an aggregating expression or an expression that is aggregated, see Guidance: Resource description. Describing an expression. [Describing expressions of aggregating works and expressions that are aggregated](#).

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of an aggregating work or a work that is aggregated, see Guidance: Resource description. Describing a work. [Describing aggregating works and works that are aggregated](#).

<u>For general guidance and instructions on recording a well-formed metadata description set of an aggregate, see Guidance:</u> [Well-formed RDA.](#)

Clean version

Describing an aggregate

A well-formed metadata description set of an aggregate does not require all of the expressions or works that are embodied by an aggregate to be recorded.

If the aggregating expression or work is recorded, a well-formed metadata description set does not require any of the expressions or works that are aggregated to be recorded.

If at least one of the expressions or works that are aggregated is recorded, a well-formed metadata description set of an aggregate does not require the aggregating expression or work to be recorded.

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of an aggregate, see Guidance: Resource description. Describing a manifestation. [Describing a manifestation that embodies two or more expressions](#).

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of an aggregating expression or an expression that is aggregated, see Guidance: Resource description. Describing an expression. Describing expressions of aggregating works and expressions that are aggregated.

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of an aggregating work or a work that is aggregated, see Guidance: Resource description. Describing a work. Describing aggregating works and works that are aggregated.

For general guidance and instructions on recording a well-formed metadata description set of an aggregate, see Guidance: Well-formed RDA.

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of an aggregating expression or an expression that is aggregated, see Guidance: Resource description. Describing an expression. Describing expressions of aggregating works and expressions that are aggregated.

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of an aggregating work or a work that is aggregated, see Guidance: Resource description. Describing a work. Describing aggregating works and works that are aggregated.

For general guidance and instructions on recording a well-formed metadata description set, see Guidance: Well-formed RDA.

Recommendation 2. Add to the end of Guidance: Diachronic works references to existing Guidance: Resource Description sections.

Clean version only

[Add after the current last paragraph, "For guidance and instructions on the criteria that are used to determine that a work is distinct from other works, see Work. Entity boundary."]

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of a specific diachronic work, see:

- Guidance: Resource Description. Describing a work.
  - Describing a diachronic work
  - Describing an integrating work
  - Describing a successive work
  - Describing a successive aggregating work
  - Describing a serial work

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of an expression that realizes a diachronic work, see Guidance: Resource Description. Describing a work. [Describing an expression of a diachronic work](#).

For general guidance and instructions on recording a description of a manifestation that embodies a diachronic work, see Guidance: Resource Description. Describing a manifestation. [Describing a manifestation of a diachronic work](#).