To: RDA Steering Committee

From: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary

Subject: Proposal to revise definitions of *aggregate, aggregating work* and Aggregates Guidance

The text below sets out decisions taken by the RSC in their meeting in November 2024.

RSC/TechnicalWG/2024/2/rev was submitted and published on 29 August. It was a revision to the rejected FT2024-08. Responses from voting members of the RSC were received through October and RSC/TechnicalWG/2024/2/rev/summary was prepared on 10 November and published on 12 November.

After extensive discussion as Item 485 in the November Meeting (RSC/Minutes/483-499), the proposal was approved with amendments as documented in RSC/Minutes/483-499 485.1.3.1-4).

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Recommendation 1: Revise the Glossary definition of aggregate

Voting members of the RSC voted unanimously to accept the recommendations in the wording of the original proposal (RSC/Minutes/483-499 Item 485.1.1).

Marked-up version

aggregate

A manifestation that embodies ~~an aggregating expression and one or more expressions that are aggregated~~ multiple expressions.

Clean

aggregate

A manifestation that embodies multiple expressions.

Recommendation 2: Revise the Glossary definition of aggregating work

Voting members of the RSC voted unanimously to accept the recommendations in the wording of the original proposal (RSC/Minutes/483-499 Item 485.1.2).

Marked-up version

aggregating work

A work that is a plan to select and arrange ~~one or more~~ expressions of one or more works~~,~~ and embody them in an aggregate.

Clean version

aggregating work

A work that is a plan to select and arrange expressions of one or more works and embody them in an aggregate.

Recommendation 3: Revise the Guidance for Aggregates to reflect the revised definitions

Several RSC members expressed a preference to retain WEMI order. Damian Iseminger and Elisa Sze said they are happy to retain the WEMI order (RSC/Minutes/483-499 Item 485.1.3.1).

The text here includes the agreed addition at the start of the second paragraph under 'Aggregate manifestations' suggested by the Examples Editor (RSC/Minutes/483-499 Item 485.1.3.2)

Marked-up version

Aggregate manifestations

An *aggregate* is a manifestation that embodies ~~an aggregating expression and one or more expressions that are aggregated~~ multiple expressions. The distinct expressions that are aggregated may realize one or more works.

In addition to the distinct expressions that are aggregated, ~~A~~an aggregate also embodies one and only one *aggregating expression* that realizes one and only one *aggregating work* that is the plan for selecting and arranging the expressions that are embodied in an aggregate.

An aggregate may be issued in one or more units.

There are three kinds of aggregate:

- *collection aggregate*
- *augmentation aggregate*
- *parallel aggregate*

An aggregate may manifest characteristics of more than one kind of aggregate.

Collection aggregate

A *collection aggregate* is a manifestation that embodies two or more expressions of two or more independent works.

Examples of a collection aggregate are a compilation of short stories by a single author, an album of folk songs sung by different performers, an anthology of poems from a specific region or time period, a periodical with multiple issues, and an issue of a periodical with multiple articles.

Augmentation aggregate

An *augmentation aggregate* is a manifestation that embodies two or more expressions of two or more works, where one work is supplemented by one or more other works.

Each expression of an *augmenting work* supplements the expression of the *augmented work* without affecting its integrity or changing its content.

Examples include a volume that embodies a novel and a foreword, illustrations, an index, etc., a CD that embodies a software program and an accompanying book with instructions on using the software, a DVD that embodies a motion picture and bonus material about the making of the motion picture.

Parallel aggregate

A *parallel aggregate* is a manifestation that embodies two or more expressions of a single work.

Examples include a volume that embodies bilingual government documents, a CD that embodies a multilingual product manual, a website with text in all of the languages of an international institution.

Aggregating expressions

An *aggregating expression* realizes the plan of an aggregating work to select and arrange expressions that are embodied by an aggregate.

An aggregating expression is embodied by an aggregate that also embodies the expressions that are aggregated.

An aggregating expression does not incorporate or accumulate the expressions that are aggregated or any of their characteristics.

~~The content of an aggregating expression is what is embodied by an aggregate that excludes the content of the expressions that are aggregated. For example, a title page and page headings and numbering in a printed volume aggregate may be treated as the content of the aggregating expression.~~

~~An *aggregating expression* is embodied by an *aggregate* that also embodies the expressions that are aggregated.~~

~~An expression that is aggregated is not a part of an aggregating expression.~~

~~An aggregating expression and the expressions that are aggregated may be embodied by more than one manifestation.~~

~~An aggregating expression realizes one and only one aggregating work.~~

~~An aggregating expression that selects a set of expressions that is different from another aggregating expression must realize a different aggregating work.~~

Indirect relationships between an aggregating expression and one or more of the expressions that are aggregated may be recorded using the shortcut elements Expression: **aggregates** and Expression: **aggregated by**. See Guidance: Data elements. RDA relationship data. **Relationship shortcuts**.

An aggregating expression has no attributes relating to *content* that may be recorded. See Guidance: Resource description. Describing an expression. **Describing expressions of aggregating works and expressions that are aggregated**.

Aggregating works

An *aggregating work* is a plan to select and arrange ~~two or more~~ expressions of one or more works and embody them in ~~a single manifestation~~ an aggregate. The plan might be to aggregate expressions of entire works, of parts of works, or of extracts of works.

An aggregating work is realized by one and only one *aggregating expression*.

The work that is realized by an expression that is aggregated is not a part of the aggregating work.

The common attributes of the expressions that are aggregated may be recorded as *representative expression* attributes of the aggregating work. See Guidance: Representative expressions of an aggregating work.

An aggregating work differs from another aggregating work if the selection and sequence of expressions that are aggregated in one aggregate differ from another selection and sequence of expressions that are aggregated in another aggregate.

Describing an aggregate

It is not necessary to record all of the expressions or works that are embodied by an aggregate.

It is not necessary to record any of the expressions or works that are aggregated if the aggregating expression or work is recorded.

It is not necessary to record the aggregating expression or work 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**.

Clean version

Aggregate manifestations

An *aggregate* is a manifestation that embodies multiple expressions. The distinct expressions that are aggregated may realize one or more works.

In addition to the distinct expressions that are aggregated, an aggregate also embodies one and only one *aggregating expression* that realizes one and only one *aggregating work* that is the plan for selecting and arranging the expressions that are embodied in an aggregate.

An aggregate may be issued in one or more units.

There are three kinds of aggregate:

- *collection aggregate*
- *augmentation aggregate*
- *parallel aggregate*

An aggregate may manifest characteristics of more than one kind of aggregate.

Collection aggregate

A *collection aggregate* is a manifestation that embodies two or more expressions of two or more independent works.

Examples of a collection aggregate are a compilation of short stories by a single author, an album of folk songs sung by different performers, an anthology of poems from a specific region or time period, a periodical with multiple issues, and an issue of a periodical with multiple articles.

Augmentation aggregate

An *augmentation aggregate* is a manifestation that embodies two or more expressions of two or more works, where one work is supplemented by one or more other works.

Each expression of an *augmenting work* supplements the expression of the *augmented work* without affecting its integrity or changing its content.

Examples include a volume that embodies a novel and a foreword, illustrations, an index, etc., a CD that embodies a software program and an accompanying book with instructions on using the software, a DVD that embodies a motion picture and bonus material about the making of the motion picture.

Parallel aggregate

A *parallel aggregate* is a manifestation that embodies two or more expressions of a single work.

Examples include a volume that embodies bilingual government documents, a CD that embodies a multilingual product manual, a website with text in all of the languages of an international institution.

Aggregating expressions

An *aggregating expression* realizes the plan of an aggregating work to select and arrange expressions that are embodied by an aggregate.

An aggregating expression is embodied by an aggregate that also embodies the expressions that are aggregated.

An aggregating expression does not incorporate or accumulate the expressions that are aggregated or any of their characteristics.

Indirect relationships between an aggregating expression and one or more of the expressions that are aggregated may be recorded using the shortcut elements Expression: **aggregates** and Expression: **aggregated by**. See Guidance: Data elements. RDA relationship data. **Relationship shortcuts**.

An aggregating expression has no attributes relating to *content* that may be recorded. See Guidance: Resource description. Describing an expression. **Describing expressions of aggregating works and expressions that are aggregated**.

Aggregating works

An *aggregating work* is a plan to select and arrange expressions of one or more works and embody them in an aggregate. The plan might be to aggregate expressions of entire works, of parts of works, or of extracts of works.

An aggregating work is realized by one and only one *aggregating expression*.

The work that is realized by an expression that is aggregated is not a part of the aggregating work.

The common attributes of the expressions that are aggregated may be recorded as *representative expression* attributes of the aggregating work. See Guidance: Representative expressions of an aggregating work.

An aggregating work differs from another aggregating work if the selection and sequence of expressions that are aggregated in one aggregate differ from another selection and sequence of expressions that are aggregated in another aggregate.

Describing an aggregate

It is not necessary to record all of the expressions or works that are embodied by an aggregate.

It is not necessary to record any of the expressions or works that are aggregated if the aggregating expression or work is recorded.

It is not necessary to record the aggregating expression or work 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**.

Future work

Elisa Sze and Damian Iseminger took on board NARDAC's suggestion to review the existing paragraphs beginning "It is not necessary" as a separate future proposal (RSC/Minutes/483-499 Item 485.1.3.3).

Elisa Sze and Damian Iseminger agreed to find a place elsewhere in the Toolkit to include the edge case of an aggregate that embodies a single expression (RSC/Minutes/483-499 Item 485.1.3.4).