

# Memorandum

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TO: Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR                      DATE: Feb. 10, 2006

FROM: Barbara B. Tillett, LC Representative

SUBJECT: *RDA* Part I Internationalization

## Background

One of the concerns expressed at the 1997 International Conference on the Principles and Future Development of AACR in Toronto was that the focus of AACR2 on the Anglo-American community caused problems when implementing it in an international context.

LC was asked, as the result of its comments related to internationalization for the November 2005 pre-draft of *RDA* Part I, to propose possible changes to the text of the December 2005 part I draft.

## Goal of proposal

The context of AACR2 is English language, latin script, Western-style arabic numerals, and Gregorian/Julian calendar. The goal is to make *RDA* open to use by any community with a context other than English language, other than latin script, other than Western-style arabic numerals, and/or other than Gregorian/Julian calendar.

## Status of progress toward goal in December 2005 *RDA* Part I draft

The December 2005 draft addresses these aspects in varying degrees of completeness:

- (1) English language. Instruction 0.1.8 needs no further revision:  
“Agencies preparing description for use in a different language context should modify such guidelines ... to reflect their own language preferences and replace the English-language terms ... Authorized translations of *RDA* will do likewise.”
- (2) Language and script of the description. Instruction 1.5 accommodates transcription of specific data elements in the found language/script. However, the option puts conditions on recording a transliterated form. The instruction on interpolations doesn't include supplying the complete data element. See II. below for the proposal for 1.5 and related instructions.
- (3) Numerals/dates. Instructions 1.6.2.1 (Roman numerals), 1.6.2.2 (Numbers expressed as words), and 1.6.2.3 (Oriental numerals) only provide for arabic numerals and do not specify Western-style numerals. Although the second paragraph of 1.6.2 includes several elements where the guidelines in 1.6.2.1-1.6.2.5 apply, 2.9.0.3 (date of publication, distribution, etc.) is the only specific instruction to mention method of giving numerals. See I.A.-I.D., I.F. below for proposals related to numerals/dates.
- (4) Calendar. Instruction 1.6 lacks an instruction on the calendar in which a date is expressed. Instructions 2.6.0.3 (chronological designation for a serial) and 2.9.0.3 (date of publication, distribution, etc.) are the only instructions dealing with calendar. See I.E.-I.F. below for proposals related to calendar.

I. Proposed revisions, etc. of 1.6 instructions and related rules in chapter 2

A. Proposed revision of 1.6.2

1.6.2. ~~Numerals and n~~Numbers expressed as words and numerals

- When transcribing any titles (~~title proper, parallel title, other title information, variant title, etc.~~) and any statements of responsibility (~~including statements of responsibility relating to an edition statement, etc., or to a series, etc.~~), and any statement relating to edition, transcribe ~~numerals and~~ numbers expressed as words and numerals in the form in which they appear on the source of information.
- Follow the guidelines in 1.6.2.1-~~1.6.2.6~~ 1.6.2.5 below when recording ~~transcribing~~ numerals and numbers expressed as words and numerals in the following elements:

~~Edition statement  
Statement relating to a named revision of an edition  
Numeric and/or alphabetic designation  
Chronological designation  
Date of publication, distribution, etc.  
Numbering within series~~

- ◇ Optionally, add or substitute numerals in the script preferred by the agency preparing the description.
- ◇ *Optionally*, for early printed resources [remainder of option as given]

[example]

Note: LC will recommend the deletion of “Edition statement” and “Statement relating to a named revision of an edition” from the list in the second paragraph above (and the addition to the first paragraph) in our response to the Draft of *RDA* Part I. We continue to support “take what you see” transcription of “statements.”

Note: To allow the most flexibility in the option being proposed for addition to this instruction and in sub-instructions of 1.6.2, both “add” and “substitute” are included. LC acknowledges that the impact of replacing substituted information when doing copy cataloging may indicate that the option should be only to add information; however, we wish to allow institutions to either add or substitute. Instruction 1.6.2.3 in the current draft has “substitute” but not “add.”

Note: LC reminds JSC that 1.6.2 will need to display with all the 1.6.2 sub-instructions in the Web version to indicate to which elements the sub-instructions apply. The alternative would be to add wording to each 1.6.2 sub-instruction referring to 1.6.2: for example, “1.6.2.2. Substitute Western-style arabic numerals for numbers expressed as words in the data elements listed in 1.6.2, second paragraph.”

B. Proposed revision of 1.6.2.1

#### 1.6.2.1. Roman numerals

- Substitute Western-style arabic numerals for roman numerals unless the substitution ~~of arabic numerals~~ makes the statement less clear (e.g., when roman and Western-style arabic numerals are used in conjunction to distinguish the volume from the number in the series numbering).

[example]

- ◇ Optionally, add or substitute numerals in the script preferred by the agency preparing the description.
- ~~When using roman numerals, give them in capitals except those used in paging or page references and those appearing in lowercase in the source of information or in quoted notes.~~ Use lowercase roman numerals in paging or page references when uppercase roman numerals ~~capitals~~ appear in the resource.

[example]

#### C. Proposed revision of 1.6.2.2

#### 1.6.2.2. Numbers expressed as words

- Substitute Western-style arabic numerals for numbers expressed as words. For chronograms, see 2.9.0.4.
- ◇ Optionally, add or substitute numerals in the script preferred by the agency preparing the description.

#### D. Proposed revision of 1.6.2.3

#### 1.6.2.3. ~~Oriental~~ Script of numerals

- Transcribe numerals in the script in which they appear on the source of information.
- ◇ Optionally, ~~w~~When describing Arabic alphabet, Far Eastern, Greek, Hebrew, Indic, etc., resources that present numerals in a script not used by the agency preparing the description, add or substitute the numerals in the vernacular script preferred by the agency preparing the description.

Note: The terms “oriental” and “vernacular” are sensitive terms to some communities, so we hope we’ve found a way to avoid them. As noted earlier, 2.9.0.3 is the only specific instruction with an option related to script of numerals. Rather than adding such options to the other instructions (2.6.1.3, 2.6.2.3, 2.10.6.3), LC recommends deleting the option in 2.9.0.3. Either these instructions or an earlier instruction for the category of information already has wording “... following the general guidelines on transcription given under 1.6.” See the proposed revision of 2.9.0.3 as given below under I.E.

E. Proposed addition of 1.6.2.6 and revisions of 2.6.2.3 and 2.9.0.3

1.6.2.6. Calendar

➤ Transcribe dates as in 1.6.2.

- ◇ Optionally, when describing resources that present dates in a calendar not used by the agency preparing the description, add or substitute the dates in the calendar preferred by the agency preparing the description.

Note: As noted earlier, 2.6.2.3 and 2.9.0.3 are the only two specific instructions with an option related to calendar. Rather than adding such an option to the other instruction (2.10.6.3) where it would be appropriate (not appropriate for 2.6.1.3), LC recommends deleting the options in 2.6.2.3 and 2.9.0.3 as shown below. Either these instructions or an earlier instruction for the category of information already has wording "... following the general guidelines on transcription given under 1.6," as noted above.

2.6.2.3. Recording chronological designations

- If the first and/or last issue or part of a serial is identified by a chronological designation, record it following the basic instructions on recording numbering (see 2.6.0.3). If the description is based on an issue or part other than the first and/or last, do not record the chronological designation.

- ◇ ~~Optionally, if the chronological designation includes dates not of the Gregorian or Julian calendar, add the corresponding dates of the Gregorian or Julian calendar in square brackets.~~

[remainder of instruction as given]

...

2.9.0.3. Transcription

- Transcribe the date of publication, distribution, etc., in the form in which it appears on the source of information, following the general guidelines on transcription given under 1.6.

[examples]

- ◇ Optionally, if the date as it appears in the resource is known to be fictitious, follow it with the actual date. Supply a clarification of the date, enclosed in square brackets, as follows:

~~a) if the date as it appears in the resource is known to be fictitious, follow it with the actual date~~

~~1798 [i.e. 1883]~~

~~b) if the date as it appears in the resource is not in Western-style arabic numerals, follow it with the date in Western-style arabic~~

numerals

~~e) if the date as it appears in the resource is not of the Gregorian or Julian calendar, follow it with the date(s) of the Gregorian or Julian calendar.~~

~~[examples]~~

F. Proposed revision of 2.9.0.4

2.9.0.4. Chronograms

- ~~If the date of publication, distribution, etc., as it appears on the source of information is in the form of a chronogram, transcribe the chronogram as it appears. and follow it with the date in Western style arabic numerals in square brackets.~~

~~[example]~~

- ◇ Optionally, add or substitute the numerals represented by the chronogram in the script and calendar preferred by the agency preparing the description.
- ◇ Optionally, omit the chronogram from the date of publication, distribution, etc., element, recording only the supplied date in the script and calendar preferred by the agency preparing the description. ~~Western style arabic numerals in square brackets.~~ Record the chronogram in a note if it is considered to be important for identification (see 2.9.6).

II. Proposed revisions of 1.5 and related rules in chapter 2

LC notes that the switch in context from areas in AACR2 to data elements in RDA creates a gap when addressing adding a missing data element as opposed to adding information to a data element. To address that gap and to remove the term “interpolations” which has been confusing for many catalogers, LC recommends the suggested wording for the third paragraph in 1.5 below in addition to the revisions related to internationalization for that instruction. LC also recommends the deletion of the paragraphs as shown because they could be read to be in conflict with each other and they are covered by the paragraph on notes.

Proposed revisions for specific instructions related to the addition of information to a data element are given in II.B. below; the revision of 2.6.3 (adding a missing date) is given in II.C. below.

Also note that we suggest using “transliteration” in place of “romanization” as some countries may be going to another script than Latin. We acknowledge it is not technically encompassing (for example for Chinese characters) but could perhaps be explained as a shortcut term that is more neutral and more universal than “romanization.”

A. Proposed revision of 1.5

1.5. Language and script of the description

- Record the following elements in the language and script in which they appear on the sources from which they are taken:

Title proper  
Parallel title  
Other title information  
Parallel other title information  
Variant title  
Earlier/later title  
Key title  
Statement of responsibility  
Parallel statement of responsibility  
Edition statement  
Statement of responsibility relating to the edition  
Statement relating to a named revision of an edition  
Statement of responsibility relating to a named revision of an edition  
Numeric and/or alphabetic designation  
Chronological designation  
Publisher, distributor, etc.  
Place of publication, distribution, etc.  
Date of publication, distribution, etc.  
Title proper of series  
Parallel title of series  
Other title information of series  
Statement of responsibility relating to series  
Numbering within series  
Subseries

- ◇ Optionally, add or substitute the data element(s) if any of the elements listed above cannot be recorded in the script used on the source from which it is taken, record it in a transliterated form.
- When adding to an element in the list Record interpolations into the elements listed above, record the addition in the language and script of the other data in the element unless the instructions for a specific element indicate otherwise. When supplying a missing data element, record the addition in the most appropriate language and script.
- ◇ Optionally, record the additions in the language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description.
- Record all other elements (including notes) in the language(s) and script(s) preferred by the agency preparing the description.
- ~~When recording within a note a name or title originally in nonroman scripts, use the original script whenever possible rather than a romanization.~~

**Exception:**

~~Record a title or quotation incorporated into notes in the language and script in which it appears on the source from which it is taken.~~

B. Proposed revisions of chapter 2 instructions for adding information to a data element

1. Proposed revision of 2.5.1.3

2.5.1.3 Recording edition statements

- Record the edition statement following the basic instructions on recording edition information (see 2.5.0).

[examples]

- If an edition statement consists of a letter or letters and/or a number or numbers without accompanying words, add an appropriate word or abbreviation in the language and script of the title proper.

[examples]

2. Proposed revision of 2.6.5

2.6.5. New sequence of numbering

[first/second paragraphs with examples]

- If a new sequence with the same system as before is not accompanied by wording such as *new series*, supply [*new ser.*] or another appropriate term ~~(or its equivalent in the language of the title proper)~~ in the language and script of the new sequence of numbering. If this criterion does not apply, supply the term in the language and script of the title proper.

Note: The current third paragraph of 2.6.5 refers to supplying a term in the language of the title proper. However, applying 2.6.1.4 for a numeric designation in more than one language or script can result in numbering not matching the language or script of the title proper. (Instruction 2.6.1.4 says to “record the designation that appears first” if there is not a designation matching the language and script of the title proper.) If so, the result of then applying the third paragraph of 2.6.5 could be a mixture of different languages and scripts (first sequence not matching the language/script of title proper and supplied term in language of title proper).

3. Proposed addition of new 2.10.6.4 and proposed revision of current 2.10.6.5 (as 2.10.6.6)

Instruction 2.10.6.5 addresses new sequences of numbering for series. It refers to supplying a term in the language of the title proper of the series. It is the same situation as addressed in 2.6.5 above except that 2.10.6 lacks the counterpart provision to 2.6.1.4 (numeric designation is in more than one language or script). Below is the proposed 2.10.6.4 counterpart to 2.6.1.4 and then the proposed revision of current 2.10.6.5 (renumbered as 2.10.6.6). The additional instruction will require renumbering of current 2.10.6.4-2.10.6.7.

2.10.6.4. Numeric and/or alphabetic designation in more than one language or script

- If the numbering appears on the source of information in more than one language or script, record the numbering that is in the language or script of the title proper of the series. If this criterion does not apply, record the numbering that appears first.

...

2.10.6.6. New sequence of numbering

- If a new sequence of numbering is accompanied by wording to differentiate the sequence, such as *new series*, include this wording. If a new sequence of numbering with the same system as before is not accompanied by wording such as *new series*, supply [*new ser.*] or another appropriate term (or its equivalent in the language of the title proper) in the language and script of the new sequence of numbering. If this criterion does not apply, supply the term in the language and script of the title proper of the series. See also 2.6.5.

[examples]

C. Proposed revision of 2.6.3 for adding a missing data element

2.6.3 No designation on first issue or part

- If the first issue or part of a serial lacks any numbering, but subsequent issues or parts define a designation pattern, supply numbering for the first issue or part based on that pattern. If information about designations of subsequent issues or parts is not available, record [*No. 1*]- (or its equivalent in the language and script of the title proper) or a chronological designation for the first issue or part, as appropriate.

[examples]

Note: In its response to the Draft of *RDA* Part I, LC will include a general comment, for purposes of consistency, that “language or script” as found in some instructions (e.g., 2.6.2.4) should be changed to “language and script.”