

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Alan Danskin, British Library Representative
Subject: Field of Activity of the Corporate Body (Revision of RDA 11.10.1.3)

Abstract

To clarify that Field of Activity of the Corporate Body is recorded using a term indicating the field, rather than an explanatory note.

Introduction

While 9.15.1.3 says Field of Activity should be recorded “by recording a term indicating the field”, 11.10.1.3 does not, and includes examples of lengthy notes, which are really part of the Corporate History (11.11). This proposal aligns 11.10.1.3 with 9.15.1.3 in this regard.

Justification

Both Field of Activity of the Person (9.15) and Field of Activity of the Corporate Body (11.10) have in practice been recorded using terms, rather than lengthy explanatory notes. Linked data (and DCM:Z1) prefers the use of controlled vocabulary terms.

Impact

The impact on RDA users is anticipated to be positive, and not problematic. The change reflects existing practice in recording authority data. It also enables collocation of persons and corporate bodies engaged in the same fields of activity, and will facilitate linked data.

Summary of Changes

The following changes are proposed

1. Add text to 11.10.1.3 and replace examples with examples consistent with 9.15.1.3

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11.10.1.3 Recording the Fields of Activity of the Corporate Body

Record the field or fields of activity of the corporate body, by recording a term indicating the field.

Record a field of activity of the corporate body as a separate element. Field of activity is not recorded as part of the access point.

EXAMPLE

~~The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a political and military alliance of 26 countries from North America and Europe committed to fulfilling the goals of the North Atlantic Treaty signed on 4 April 1949~~

~~Note describing the field of activity of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization~~

~~CSA Group consists of 3 divisions: Canadian Standards Association, which develops and aids in the application of standards; CSA International, which provides testing and certification services; and Quality Management Institute (QMI), which delivers management system registration and training services~~

~~Note describing the fields of activity of CSA Group and its subordinate bodies, Canadian Standards Association, CSA International, and Quality Management Institute~~

Defence

Preferred name recorded as: North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Broadcasting

Preferred name recorded as: BBC Radio Humberside

Indicate the source of information by applying the instructions at [8.12.1.3 RDA](#).

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