

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Bill Leonard, Canadian Committee on Cataloguing Representative

Subject: Add instructions to supply terms indicating the function recorded under the optional addition provisions at 2.7.4.4, 2.8.4.4, 2.9.4.4 or 2.10.4.4, in a language and script preferred by the cataloguing agency

Abstract

The optional additions at RDA 2.7.4.4, 2.8.4.4, 2.9.4.4 and 2.10.4.4 say to “add a term indicating the function” but do not specify the language of such terms. The proposed changes will add explicit instructions allowing supplied statements of function to be recorded in a language and script preferred by the cataloguing agency.

Introduction

Instruction 1.4 says that, “when adding data within an element listed at 1.4, [one should] record the added data in a language and script of the other data in the element unless the instructions for a specific element indicate otherwise.” When the optional additions at 2.7.4.4, 2.8.4.4, 2.9.4.4 and 2.10.4.4 are used, information is being supplied but provision is not made for the preference of a language or script by the agency creating the description.

While the third paragraph of RDA instruction 0.11.2 Internationalization, Language and Script, provides a general pattern demonstrating that added English-language terms may be replaced by terms in a language and script preferred by the agency, this paragraph applies to instructions where specific terms are specified or where controlled lists of terms are found in RDA. It is CCC’s opinion that the optional additions to the statement of function instructions are not covered by 0.11.2 as the instructions do not specify the terms that may be used.

CCC suggests that addition of the explicit instructions suggested below would ease the application of RDA.

Choice of language of statement of function

In RDA, the names of producers, publishers, distributors and manufacturers are transcribed elements. The statements of function associated with those names are recorded as they appear on the source of information. When the function is not explicit or clear, the optional additions at instructions 2.7.4.4, 2.8.4.4, 2.9.4.4 and 2.10.4.4 provide for supplying a term

indicating the function but there is no indication of which language such terms should be recorded in.

RDA itself provides a precedent for the choice of language of supplied additions. Instruction 2.4.1.5 Statement naming more than one person, etc., Optional Omission, instructs to “indicate the omission by summarizing what has been omitted in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description.”

This proposal is intended to add accommodation to the above-mentioned instructions permitting recording the supplied term or phrase indicating the function in a language and script preferred by the cataloguing agency. Agencies that chose to apply the optional addition could then decide to add term or phrase indicating the function in the language of the source of information or in the language of description or in another language according to their local policies.

Justification

The goal of internationalization is one driver for this change. When reviewing the examples at 2.9.4.4, the French translation team raised the question of which language supplied additions should be recorded in, since they were not covered by 0.11.2. Making the instructions for the optional additions at 2.7.4.4, 2.8.4.4, 2.9.4.4 and 2.10.4.4 more explicit will relieve future translation teams of confronting this question.

The principle of common practice or usage, RDA 0.4.3.7, guides us toward recording the optional statement of function terms in a language and script preferred by the agency. This will make the objective of identifying the role of the person, family or corporate body represented in the data more efficient. This will be of particular assistance to cataloguers who are more prone to ask “in which language should this be recorded” such as those working with resources in multiple languages, or those working where the agency uses more than one language or script of description. This will also relieve cataloguers of the necessity of determining the equivalents for the statement of function terms in all the languages that they have to deal with, which is consistent with the principle of cost efficiency.

Impact

It is felt there would not be a detrimental impact if the statement of function terms or phrases added under the optional additions at 2.7.4.4, 2.8.4.4, 2.9.4.4 and 2.10.4.4 are recorded in a language or script preferred by the cataloguing agency. The supplied data is identified as coming from a source outside the resource itself, alleviating the possibility of confusion or concern.

CCC realizes that the JSC Technical Working Group is tasked with looking at statements composed of several elements but feels the proposed changes could be made without disrupting future discussions or plans for the elements in these statements.

Summary of Changes

The following changes are proposed at instructions where information is supplied. The indefinite article “a language and script” is preferred to conform with established usage in RDA. This wording allows agencies to make their own policy decisions regarding using the language of the description or the language of the other data on the source of information.

1. Add the wording “in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description” to the optional addition at 2.7.4.4.

MARKED UP

2.7.4 Producer’s Name

2.7.4.4 Statement of Function

Record words or phrases indicating the function performed by a person, family, or corporate body as they appear on the source of information.

Optional Addition

If the function of a person, family, or corporate body recorded in the producer's name sub-element is not explicit or clear, add a term indicating the function in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description. Indicate that the information was taken from a source outside the resource itself (see 2.2.4).

CLEAN

2.7.4 Producer’s Name

2.7.4.4 Statement of Function

Record words or phrases indicating the function performed by a person, family, or corporate body as they appear on the source of information.

Optional Addition

If the function of a person, family, or corporate body recorded in the producer's name sub-element is not explicit or clear, add a term indicating the function in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description. Indicate that the information was taken from a source outside the resource itself (see 2.2.4).

2. Add the wording “in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description” to the optional addition at 2.8.4.4.

MARKED UP

2.8.4 Publisher’s Name

2.8.4.4 Statement of Function

Record words or phrases indicating the function (other than solely publishing) performed by a person, family, or corporate body as they appear on the source of information.

[examples omitted]

Optional Addition

If the function of a person, family, or corporate body recorded in the publisher’s name sub-element is not explicit or clear, add a term indicating the function in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description. Indicate that the information was taken from a source outside the resource itself (see 2.2.4).

CLEAN

2.8.4 Publisher’s Name

2.8.4.4 Statement of Function

Record words or phrases indicating the function (other than solely publishing) performed by a person, family, or corporate body as they appear on the source of information.

[examples omitted]

Optional Addition

If the function of a person, family, or corporate body recorded in the publisher’s name sub-element is not explicit or clear, add a term indicating the function in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description. Indicate that the information was taken from a source outside the resource itself (see 2.2.4).

3. Add the wording “in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description” to the optional addition at 2.9.4.4. Add an example to demonstrate that an agency may wish to add a term in a language other than the language of the other data in the statement.

MARKED UP

2.9.4 Distributor’s Name

2.9.4.4 Statement of Function

Record words or phrases indicating the function performed by a person, family, or corporate body as they appear on the source of information.

[examples omitted]

Optional Addition

If the function of a person, family, or corporate body recorded in the distributor's name sub-element is not explicit or clear, add a term indicating the function in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description. Indicate that the information was taken from a source outside the resource itself (see 2.2.4).

EXAMPLE

Guild Sound and Vision [distributor]

Voluntary Committee on Overseas Aid & Development [distributor]

Fondation canadienne Rêves d'enfants [distributor]

CLEAN

2.9.4 Distributor's Name

2.9.4.4 Statement of Function

Record words or phrases indicating the function performed by a person, family, or corporate body as they appear on the source of information.

[examples omitted]

Optional Addition

If the function of a person, family, or corporate body recorded in the distributor's name sub-element is not explicit or clear, add a term indicating the function in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description. Indicate that the information was taken from a source outside the resource itself (see 2.2.4).

EXAMPLE

Guild Sound and Vision [distributor]

Voluntary Committee on Overseas Aid & Development [distributor]

Fondation canadienne Rêves d'enfants [distributor]

4. Add the wording "in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description" to the optional addition at 2.10.4.4.

MARKED UP

2.10.4 Manufacturer's Name

2.10.4.4 Statement of Function

Record words or phrases indicating the function performed by a person, family, or corporate body as they appear on the source of information.

[examples omitted]

Optional Addition

If the function of a person, family, or corporate body recorded in the manufacturer's name sub-element is not explicit or clear, add a term indicating the function in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description. Indicate that the information was taken from a source outside the resource itself (see 2.2.4).

CLEAN**2.10.4 Manufacturer's Name****2.10.4.4 Statement of Function**

Record words or phrases indicating the function performed by a person, family, or corporate body as they appear on the source of information.

[examples omitted]

Optional Addition

If the function of a person, family, or corporate body recorded in the manufacturer's name sub-element is not explicit or clear, add a term indicating the function in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description. Indicate that the information was taken from a source outside the resource itself (see 2.2.4).