To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Susanne Oehlschläger, DNB Representative
Subject: Revision to 6.2.2.10 (Recording the Preferred Title for a Compilation of Works of One Person, Family, or Corporate Body) and 6.2.2.4 (Works created after 1500)

DNB thanks the National Library of New Zealand for this proposal. We agree with the proposal in principle and we have the following recommendations:

We very much appreciate the proposal that the preferred title of the work for a new compilation of one person, family, or corporate body with a collective title should be the title appearing on the resource!

But we prefer a limitation. Conventional collective titles should be assigned to works of a single author if there is no collective title appearing on the manifestation (as proposed by NLNZ) and for complete works and complete works in a single form of a single author!

We fully agree that the title appearing on the resource is the title which people would know and would search for, when they exactly know that a certain compilation exists.

But if someone searches for any compilation of the complete works or complete works in a single form of one person, family, or corporate body he or she often does not know the several titles proper. In this case, we consider a conventional collective title the much better choice.

On the other hand the cataloguer would have to choose between a number of more or less similar titles to record the preferred title for The work consisting of the complete works or The work consisting of the complete works in a single form of one person, family, or corporate body!

The titles appearing on those resources are often similar. Most of these "complete" compilations have titles proper that say "this is a complete compilation of..." as a sales argument.

Example A: Several fictional compilations of the complete works of one person (e.g. Lewis Carroll)

Compilation #1:
Title proper: All works / of Lewis Carroll
Preferred title for the work now: Works
Preferred title for the work (Proposal NL New Zealand): All works or one of the other titles proper?

Compilation #2:
Title proper: All the works / of Lewis Carroll
Preferred title for the work now: Works
Preferred title for the work (Proposal NL New Zealand): All the works or one of the other titles proper?
Compilation #3:
Title proper: Every single work / of Lewis Carroll
Preferred title for the work now: Works
Preferred title for the work (Proposal NL New Zealand): Every single work or one of the other titles proper?

Compilation #4:
Title proper: Make my day ... : the works of Lewis Carroll in one edition
Preferred title for the work now: Works
Preferred title for the work (Proposal NL New Zealand): Make my day ... or one of the other titles proper?

Compilation #5:
Title proper: Compilation of the complete works / of Lewis Carroll
Preferred title for the work now: Works
Preferred title for the work (Proposal NL New Zealand): Compilation of the complete work or one of the other titles proper?

So we would like to accept the NLNZ proposal with the following changes:

... 

Assessment of the impact and survey of related instructions

A conventional collective title would only be assigned to works of a single author if there is no collective title appearing on the manifestation or if it is a compilation of works that consists of the complete works of a person, family, or corporate body or a compilation of works that consists of the complete works of a person, family, or corporate body, in one particular form.

...

Proposed revisions

1. Revision to 6.2.2.10

Marked-up version

6.2.2.10 Recording the Preferred Title for a Compilation of Works of One Person, Family, or Corporate Body

If a compilation of works is known by has a collective title that is used in one or more resources embodying that compilation or in reference sources, apply the instructions at 6.2.2.4-6.2.2.5.

For other compilations of the complete works, compilations of the complete works in one particular form and compilations that lack a collective title, apply the instructions at 6.2.2.10.1-6.2.2.10.3 as applicable.

...

To conclude, we would like to point out that the subject of conventional collective titles has been discussed in the German-speaking community controversially. It was difficult to find a compromise here. At any rate, we will use generic terms from our Integrated Authority file (GND) as the conventional collective titles.