To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Alan Danskin, United Kingdom Representative
Subject: Additional instructions in Chapter 27 for Structured Descriptions of the “Contained in” and “Container of” Relationships. UK Response

The British Library and CILIP thank ALA for the proposed revisions to Chapter 27 which were discussed by the CILIP/BL Committee on RDA. We agree with the intention of providing guidance on how to record the contained in/contained of relationship, but we disagree with the proposal as it currently stands. Recommendations in 6JSC/TechnicalWG/6 should be taken into consideration with this proposal and, in accordance with JSC’s Working Principle, it may be necessary to defer action pending more substantive revision of relationships.

General Comment
The addition of guidance to chapter 27 would be welcome. As the group notes, the examples will require substantive revision. We do not believe the changes can be approved without updated examples.

We need clarity about what is meant by “a full or partial description” in this context. Our understanding is that a full description would be limited to all of the attributes of the related entity that are present in the resource being described. A partial description would be a selection of those attributes.

Change #1 Chapter 24.4
Agree with the proposed changes in principle, but we note that if 6JSC/TechnicalWG/6 Recommendation 4 is approved, instructions for AAPs will be conflated with those for structured descriptions. This will also affect each of the subsequent changes.

Change #2 Revisions to Chapter 25.1
Agree, but we note that the examples for structured and unstructured descriptions are “unchanged”. This will not be tenable because they clearly use attributes belonging to the manifestation.

Change #3 Revisions to 26.1
Agree, but we note that the examples for structured and unstructured descriptions are “unchanged”. This will not be tenable because they clearly use attributes belonging to the manifestation.

Change #4 Revisions to 27.1
The instructions require the addition of attributes that are not attributes of the manifestation “if required for identification or selection”. This is not acceptable.

Change #5 Revision to 28.1
Agree, but we note that the examples for structured and unstructured descriptions are “unchanged”. This will not be tenable because they clearly use attributes belonging to the manifestation.