

To: Robert Maxwell and Adam Schiff, ALA Representatives to NARDAC
From: Kathy Glennan, Chair, ALA/Core/Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access
Subject: CC:DA Response to RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/1: Proposal to Revise Name of Corporate Body

Background

CC:DA was asked by its NARDAC representatives to respond to the RSC Religions Working Group's proposed changes to the instructions for the element [Preferred name of corporate body](#). The proposal eliminates some conditions, condition options, and options that are specific to Christian denominations from base RDA, and generalizes the condition for religious institutions. Given the timing of this request with both the ALA Annual Conference and the RSC's July meeting, committee members submitted only a few comments.

Response

Overall, CC:DA supports these changes, although concerns were raised about removing specificity from the instructions and the potential for creating confusion with the greater abstraction in the description of these entities.

In light of that concern, the following was proposed as an alternative wording for

Recommendation 1 (mark up based on existing RDA text):

Examples of ancient or international bodies include religious bodies (including church councils), fraternal and knightly orders, ~~church councils~~, and diplomatic conferences.

In **Recommendation 3**, one occurrence of "local" remains in the first condition. Was this intentional?

The addition of a final condition option in **Recommendation 4** is confusing in relation to the existing condition options. When/why should the conventional name, which the RDA Glossary defines as "A name, other than the real or official name, by which a corporate body has come to be known", not be the basis of the preferred name? How does the inclusion of this new condition option enhance the coverage of non-Christian religions in RDA?

CC:DA Recommendation

The Committee generally supports this proposal, and recommends that NARDAC include the above suggestions and comments in its response to the RSC.