To: RDA Steering Committee

From: Gordon Dunsire, Chair, RSC

Subject: Terms of reference for the RSC Translations Working Group

Related documents

This RSC document is a minor revision of its counterpart JSC document (6JSC/Chair/23); only minimal updating of names has occurred.

RSC/Policy/6 (Translation Policy for RDA and RDA Toolkit)

General terms of reference

The RSC Translations Working Group will conduct its business within the general terms of reference for RSC Working Groups (see RSC/Policy/4).

Background

The RSC develops *RDA: Resource Description and Access* for international use with the range of encoding schemes typically employed in library and related applications. RDA uses controlled vocabularies to support resource discovery and is intended to cover all types of content and media. The RDA guidelines and instructions are published in RDA Toolkit.

The original language of RDA is English. The whole text of RDA has been translated into several languages, and there are additional translations in development. Complete translations are often incorporated into RDA Toolkit to provide a choice of languages for users.

Sometimes a full translation is not distributed in RDA Toolkit because other distribution methods are used.

Partial translations of RDA are also made. They are usually confined to translations of the RDA controlled vocabularies, including the Glossary. Partial translations are not added to RDA Toolkit.

The RDA Registry contains linked open data representations of the RDA vocabularies. It is being developed to accommodate translations of RDA Reference: the RDA labels, descriptions, and scope notes of RDA elements and value vocabularies. The RSC and RDA Development Team wish to include as many translations as possible in the RDA Registry, whether they come from whole or partial translations of RDA.

The RSC wishes to establish a standing working group to provide expertise and to assist with the development of RDA and its translations.

Charge (duties and responsibilities)

The Group is charged to:

- Support and advise the RSC in the development of RDA for non-Anglophone communities.

Standing membership and tasks

The standing membership and tasks of the Group are:

Chair

- Representative of ALA Publishing

Membership

- Representative for each full translation of RDA
- General representative(s) for partial translations of RDA
- RSC Chair
- RSC Secretary
- RDA Examples Editor

Tasks

1. Advise the RSC on issues involving translations of RDA.
2. Produce recommendations for developing and refining processes for the translation of RDA.
3. Identify areas of the RDA English text which can be developed to improve clarity for international users.
4. Test the functionality of the RDA Registry for managing multi-lingual vocabularies.
5. Liaise with the RDA Development Team on translations of RDA Reference and the RDA Registry.
6. Identify sources of new partial or complete RDA translations.