

To: Renate Behrens, Chair, RDA Steering Committee
CC: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary From: Robert L. Maxwell, NARDAC representative to RDA Steering Committee
Subject: Response to RSC/ORDAC/2024/11rev - Dual-language naming of Corporate Body and Place

NARDAC supports the proposal but has concerns about the wording.

Both Recommendations:

- The suggested new Conditions and Condition Options are lacking final periods.
- ALA raised concerns about using the phrase “consists of words” as it is difficult to identify separate words in scripts that do not put spaces between words. ALA points out that in the title [proper](#), RDA already acknowledges this situation by using the phrase, “word, words, or other component (i.e., a character or group of characters)...” ALA supports using the phrase “appears in two or more languages” instead.

Some NARDAC members don't agree with this suggestion because “appears” could mean that there are TWO values of a name, each one in a different language. The point is that a single name is in two or more languages. By changing the wording to “appears” it could mean that there are two values found on a resource, in different languages. There is a need to emphasize that there is a single name in two or more languages.

This could partly be achieved by clarifying the meaning of the word “value” in the instructions for preferred names. When addressing names that appear in a fuller form and in an abbreviated form, the instructions for preferred name of corporate body use the wording “Two or more values of a name appear in manifestations.” This implies that, for example, “UN” and “United Nations” represent two values of the same name. However, when discussing names in different languages, RDA uses the wording “A value of a name appears in two or more languages in manifestations.” This seems to imply that “Canada Post” and “Postes Canada”, for example, represent only one value, but in different languages. This is inconsistent and confusing. To be consistent, forms of a name in different languages should be considered as two different values of the same name. If the boilerplate text was revised to read, for example, as “Two or more values of a name appear in two or more languages in manifestations”, the terminology would be clearer; it would be less problematic to say “A value of a name appears in two or more languages in manifestations” because “value” would more clearly refer to a single form of a name. Or to be absolutely clear, the wording could be “A single value of a name includes two or more languages in manifestations”.

Another option could be to keep the verb “consists” but to use the phrase “words, phrases or components” which is used in instructions for access point elements, in addition to revising the boilerplate text to “Two or more values of a name appear in two or more languages in manifestations.”

- NARDAC recommends using “in manifestations” at the end of the condition for the corporate body instruction, to parallel the usage in the other Condition/Condition Option sets under the same heading in the element page. We also suggest that the same phrase should also be added under the proposed change to preferred name of place.
- NARDAC would welcome more examples for corporate bodies and places that are outside of New Zealand and will supply some suggestions to the Examples Editor. (These suggestions are also given in an appendix to this response paper.)

Recommendation 1:

- Approve. NARDAC recommends the following wording:
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Names of corporate body in two or more languages

CONDITION

A single value of a name consists of words includes in two or more languages in manifestations.

[no change to the CONDITION OPTION]

- LC has the following comments (including an alternate rewording to NARDAC’s suggestion):

The proposed new Condition Option mentions “single string” without that being mentioned in the Condition. LC thinks it would be clearer if that wording was also part of the Condition. LC notes that the phrase “single string” appears nowhere else in RDA. [NARDAC notes that this also applies to recommendation 2]

A clear differentiation is needed from Guidelines on normalized transcription: [Letters or words intended to be read two or more times](#) which addresses phrases such as "Postes Canada Post" and permits them to be transcribed as parallel data. In the New Zealand dual-name examples, LC’s understanding is the words are only intended to be read once and do not represent parallel data.

Combining all these concerns, LC wonders if something like this would work:

“A value of a name appears in manifestations as a single string, containing words in two or more languages, intended to be read together as a single value.”

Recommendation 2:

- Approve. NARDAC recommends the following wording:
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[preferred name of place]

Language

CONDITION

A single value of a name of place consists of words includes in two or more languages in manifestations.

- The recommendation is to place the new Condition (and Condition Option) in the “Language” section. But that section is a sub-section under “Different names for the same place.” NARDAC wonders whether that does not contradict the arguments in the proposal that these New Zealand dual-names are considered a single name for a place, with the English words being just part of the name.

Appendix.

NARDAC offers the following names from outside New Zealand that that could be used as examples of this new instruction:

Corporate bodies from Canada:

- Éditions Brimar Publishing Inc.
- Éditions Bloc-notes Publishing Inc.
- Disques Pyrrhic Records Inc.
- Mont Royal Records Inc./Les Disques Mont-Royal inc.

Place name from Switzerland :

- Biel/Bienne [see <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biel/Bienne>]