

To: RDA Board
RDA Steering Committee

From: Colleen Barbus, RDA Board Chair
Renate Behrens, RSC Chair

Subject: Working Group on Artificial Intelligence, 2025

This document supersedes [RSC/Chair/2024/7](#) and provides a new set of tasks ([Section 4](#)), following the publication of the Working Group's White Paper, [Considering AI in the Growth of RDA \(RSC/Papers/2025/1\)](#), which fulfilled the original tasks set out in [RSC/Chair/2025/7](#) Section 4.

1 Background

Artificial Intelligence is a growth area of interest in cataloguing, librarianship and society in general. It seemed timely for the RDA Board and RDA Steering Committee to investigate potential uses and threats present in the production of RDA. With this in mind, the RDA Board suggested a joint Working Group be established in 2024 and this was agreed by the RSC ([RSC/Minutes/444-455](#) Item 446.5).

2 Membership

Ahava Cohen, Europe Representative to the RSC, Chair

Christian Aliverti, RDA Board
Colleen Barbus, RDA Board Chair
Renate Behrens, RSC Chair
Judith Cannan, RDA Board
Charlene Chou, RSC Wider Community Engagement Officer

James Hennelly, ALA Digital Reference *ex officio*

3 Terms of Reference

The Working Group operates within [RSC/Operations/3](#), the general terms of reference for RSC Working Groups. As a task-and-finish group, the Working Group has a two-year term, 2024-2025. The group will focus on practical applications of AI to enhance metadata quality and RDA implementation.

Having completed the tasks set in its original Terms of Reference with the publication of its White Paper, [Considering AI in the Growth of RDA \(RSC/Papers/2025/1\)](#), this document sets out further tasks for the group ([Section 4](#)).

4 Tasks

1. **Research and Review**

- Investigate live production services using AI for cataloguing and whether they adhere to RDA or other standards.

2. **Practical Applications of AI in Metadata Management**

- Identify specific ways AI can support metadata creation and maintenance while maintaining compliance with RDA standards.
- Draft guidelines for creating an AI agent to help users navigate the RDA Toolkit.

3. **Define Standards for AI-generated Metadata**

- Develop a minimal set of entities that a dataset must include to be RDA compliant, even if the metadata is automatically generated.
- Establish quality criteria for RDA compliant metadata (including AI-generated metadata) to ensure reliability, accuracy, and consistency and elaborate on how AI can assist in quality assurance.

4. **Recording and Documentation**

- Provide recommendations for transparency in the AI-assisted metadata creation process.
- Propose methods for documenting the AI-generated nature of RDA data in metadata records.

5. **Deliverables**

- Recommendations for standards and quality requirements for RDA compliant AI-generated metadata.
- Guidelines for documenting AI-generated metadata and creating an AI Toolkit Guide.

6. Provide brief progress reports to the RDA Board and the RSC for each meeting. The RSC Secretary will prompt the Working Group Chair before each RSC meeting; the RDA Board Chair will prompt the Working Group Chair before each Board meeting.

7. Provide a final report to the RDA Board and the RSC in December 2025, summarizing findings, recommendations, and next steps. The RSC Secretary will prompt the Working Group Chair for this.

5 Reference sources:

- [*Considering AI in the Growth of RDA \(RSC/Papers/2025/1\)*](#)
- [United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/78/L.49 Seizing the Opportunities of Safe, Secure and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence Systems for Sustainable Development, 11 March 2024](#)
- [*IFLA Statement on Libraries and Artificial Intelligence, Agreed by the IFLA Governing Board, 17 September 2020*](#)
- [*Draft PCC Guiding Principles for Use of AI and Machine Learning Technologies in Cataloging and Metadata Work, March 13 2025*](#)
- [*PCC Task Group on Strategic Planning for AI and Machine Learning for Cataloging and Metadata: Final Report, 15 April 2024*](#)
- [IFLA Artificial Intelligence Special Interest Group. *23 Resources to Get Up to Speed on AI in 2023*](#)
- [Andrew M. Cox. *The Impact of AI, Machine Learning, Automation and Robotics on the Information Professions: A report for CILIP*, May 2021](#)
- [Saccucci, Caroline and Potter, Abigail. "16 Assessing Machine Learning for Cataloging at the Library of Congress" In *New Horizons in Artificial Intelligence in Libraries* edited by Edmund Balnaves, Leda Bultrini, Andrew Cox and Raymond Uzwyshyn, 227-238. Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter Saur, 2025.](#)