

15 July 2024

To: Renate Behrens, Chair, RDA Steering Committee
CC: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary
From: Damian Iseminger, RSC Technical Team Liaison Officer
Subject: Response to RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/1, Proposal to Revise Name of Corporate Body

The Technical Working Group thanks the Religions Working Group for the proposal. The working group approves in general of Recommendations 1-3 and has a question about Recommendation 4.

For Recommendation 3, the Technical Working Group agrees with other responses, in that the group approves in general of the recommendation, but suggests that the language should be made consistent.

For Recommendation 4, the Technical Working Group seeks clarification from the Religions Working Group about why the Option is needed. We surmise it is because some religious traditions would prefer that an official name be used as opposed to a conventional name, even when the conventional name predominates in sources, but we would like to have this confirmed.

If that is the case, the inclusion of such an option has implications for other Condition Options in this element concerning the use of official names. In all cases, when the choice is between an official name or a conventional name, a conventional name is always chosen, provided that conventional name is more well known than the official name.

In fact, for all of the preferred name/title elements, preference is given to the name or title that is the best known, i.e. through statements found on manifestations or found in other sources of information.

All of the preferred name/title elements do include a general option that a value of name/title of an RDA entity may be chosen as a value of a preferred name or title. This option would cover those cases where a less well-known name is preferred, if this is indeed the purpose of the proposed option in Recommendation 4.

Pending clarification, the Technical Working Group does not approve of Recommendation 4.