To: Renate Behrens, Chair, RDA Steering Committee
CC: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary
From: David Roth, Chair of the Religions in RDA Working Group
Subject: Formal responses to RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/1 – Proposal to Revise
           Name of Corporate Body

This document responds to the issues raised by RSC members in their responses and summarised by the RSC Secretary in RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/1/summary.

Recommendation 1 (RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/1/summary Note 1)

We understand that NARDAC is concerned that removing "church councils" could be confusing for some catalogers. We are open to their idea of leaving it in parentheses as they suggest, but in light of the fact that we are trying to internationalize RDA, we think that if we would do so, we should find a parallel example from another religion to include alongside it. We suggest sending this to the Examples WG to think of another example.

Recommendation 3 (RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/1/summary Note 2)

We have no objection to the suggestion to remove "local" from the first condition.

Recommendation 3 (RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/1/summary Note 3)

We are not as comfortable with NARDAC's suggestion to change to "A corporate body is a religious institution that congregates in a particular place", as not all religions require meeting in a consistent, particular place.

Recommendation 4 (RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/1/summary Notes 4 and 5)

In light of the method of reading the condition/options as a checklist, as raised by ORDAC at the meeting in April, and of the continuing work to make implicit options explicit, the Working Group noted that the current language of the Toolkit does not explicitly allow using an official name when there is a name by which the institution is known.

The current condition options read as follows:

CONDITION OPTION
Record the best-known form of the name in a language preferred by the agent who creates the metadata.

CONDITION OPTION
Record a value that is chosen in this order of preference:

1. a conventional name by which members of a corporate body are known in a language that is preferred by an agent who creates the metadata

2. a form of name in a language that is preferred by an agent who records the metadata and used by units of the order or society located in places where that language is spoken
3. a name of the order or society in a language of a place of its origin

For example, K'hal Adath Jeshurun in Washington Heights, New York, is known colloquially as "Breuer's" (after Rabbi Breuer, its founding rabbi). Its website (https://www.kajinc.org/) states "Welcome to the online home of K'hal Adath Jeshurun. We are a vibrant and energetic congregation in Washington Heights, proudly serving the community since 1939. KAJ – or "Breuer's" as we are also known, is a full-service community, providing a wide range of services and programs to meet the needs of our members and friends." Members of the community would colloquially say "I daven (pray) at Breuer's", and would almost never say "I daven (pray) at K'hal Adath Jeshurun", but any formal publications and communications from the community are under the formal name. This condition option would allow the use of the official or formal name, even when the community is "known" by the informal name.

We are fine with the suggested revised wording from NARDAC and others with regards to "real name" and other issues of phraseology.