

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Alan Danskin, United Kingdom Representative
Subject: Place as an RDA entity. UK Response.

The British Library and CILIP thank the Working Group for the proposed revisions, which the CILIP/BL committee discussed at its meeting on 10th September. We agree with the general intention, that Place should be placed on an equal footing with other entities. We have some general comments on scope and some specific comments about the detail of the draft.

General Comments

Presentation

Numbering of the instructions in the outline chapter would assist reference. It would also have been helpful to have an indication of where the draft departs from the current text.

Scope

1. RDA defines place as:

"A location identified by a name"

It is recommended that examples are added to make it clear that this includes natural features, such as rivers, mountains, and that the scope is not limited to terrestrial features.

2. Jurisdictions are corporate bodies and should not be conflated with place.
3. Appendix A of 6JSC/BL rep/2 provides an outline of the relationships required by a place entity and some suggestions for attributes of place which may be useful in the Working Group's future activity.

Specific Comments

Page 9 Place names that include a term indicating a type of jurisdiction

We agree with the change to omit terms indicating a type of jurisdiction, but there is ambiguity in the current instructions. The examples "District of Columbia" and "Citta di Castella" could be interpreted as falling under the first provision, "the first part of a place name is a term indicating a type of jurisdiction". We recommend that the instructions focus on how the place is listed in appropriate sources. Proposed text:

"If the name of the place includes a term indicating a type of jurisdiction, omit the term indicating the type of jurisdiction, unless it is integral to the place name in lists published in the language of the country in which it is located."

[Page 10 Conventional name of government](#)

Is the intention that this should be deleted from Chapter 11?

[Page 17 Place associated with the Place](#)

The instruction mixes place and jurisdiction. We suggest, generalizing relationships such that they are neutral with regard to the type of place. For example,

Place Contained By

Place Contains

Associated Place

Example

Place: **Strawberry Field**

Place Contained by: **Woolton**

Associated Place: **Penny Lane**

These relationships would be sufficient to put the place in context and to distinguish physical relationships from political and administrative structures.

Redefining the relationships also has an impact on the additions that can be made to the preferred name when constructing AAP for the place.

[Page 23 Type of Jurisdiction](#)

This is not a type of place, it is a type of Corporate Body and should remain in Chapter 11. Consideration could be given to whether it would be useful to define an element Type of Place.