

**To:** Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR  
**From:** Deirdre Kiorgaard, ACOC representative  
**Subject:** **IME ICC 5.2.4 Forms of Uniform titles**

ACOC thanks the CILIP representative for preparing this discussion paper.

If, after discussion, the JSC do not agree with IME ICC 5.2.4 as written, ACOC would like the JSC to raise the issues we identify with the other IME ICC participants. This discussion should take place with a view to maintaining consistency between RDA and the Statement of International Cataloguing Principles if possible.

***“5.2.4. Forms of Uniform Titles***

***An authorized heading or uniform title for a work, expression, manifestation, or item may either be a title that can stand alone or it may be a name/title combination or a title qualified by the addition of identifying elements, such as a corporate name, a place, language, date, etc.”***

The CILIP rep discussion paper does not explicitly address the initial statement above. ACOC largely agrees with what appears to be the intent of this sentence, however we find it ambiguous. For example; it is not clear whether the identifying elements can be added to both titles and name/title combinations; it is also unclear what conditions need to exist for a title to be considered “a title that can stand alone”.

***5.2.4.1 The uniform title should be the commonly known title in the language and script of the catalogue when one exists for the resource, otherwise***

***5.2.4.1.1. the uniform title should be the original title or***

***5.2.4.1.2. the title most frequently found in manifestations of the work.***

On face value, the commonly known title would seem to be the best choice for the uniform title (or, in RDA terms, preferred name for the work or expression). However, CILIP's discussion paper identifies that the commonly known title varies over time and place, even within a language or script community.

At the risk of oversimplifying the issues:

- To support consistency over time and place, and therefore also the international exchange of data, ACOC favours the use of a uniform title/preferred name based on the language of the work (per RDA Draft), not the language of the catalogue (per IME ICC).
- ACOC also favours the use of a uniform title/preferred name based on the language of the work because this results in consistency in naming works and parts of works, thus meeting the needs of users to navigate the catalogue to find related resources.
- To assist cataloguers' ease of decision-making, ACOC favours using the title found in manifestations of the work in its original language, or in, lieu of that, in reference sources.

- To meet the needs of users to find resources by title, ACOC favours the provision of references from the “commonly known title in the language and script of the catalogue” to the preferred title used to name the work, etc.