

Transition timescales for RDA Governance



In June 2015, The Committee of Principals shared an initial statement with stakeholders which outlined the direction for the future development of the Governing structures for the development of RDA.

This statement committed to sharing a detailed transition plan with stakeholders prior to IFLA's World Library and Information Congress in 2015.

Having reviewed the agreed changes, the Committee has agreed a 4-5 year programme of activity to enable the current structure to move, over time, towards the new governing structure.

The key principles governing the transition include:

- Current key stakeholders will be actively engaged in the change process and will be tasked with helping to shape future structures and support mechanisms to ensure they are fit for purpose.
- We will carefully balance retaining current skills and expertise and bringing new skills and representation on board in order to ensure that the stability of RDA as a tool does not suffer.
- The new structure will evolve gradually rather than one big change.
- The committee aim to have the new structure firmly in place by 2019.

In the first instance, it is hoped to change the names of the Committee of Principals and Joint Steering Committee to the RDA Board and RDA Steering Committee on the 6th November 2015. If this is possible, this will be officially launched at the JSC meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Over the next year, the Committee of Principals/RDA Board will:

- Make contact with current constituents to discuss the impact of Governance changes, the work that needs to be done to prepare for these changes and timescales involved.
- Develop proposals for the selection of National Institution representatives on the Board.
- Develop new governance documentation.

Over the next year, the Joint Steering Committee/RDA Steering Committee will:

- Consider how working processes can be streamlined.
- Work with the Chair of the JSC/Steering Committee and Chair of the Committee of Principals to consider what new supporting structures are required.
- Develop new governance documentation.

The new RDA Board will use their annual report back from their meeting to report on progress to stakeholders.