

RDA Council Subcommittee on Operations and Coordination - Report for Council Meeting, July 2017

Background

The OCC is one of the Council Subcommittees established in May 2016. To date, OCC members have been: Rainer Stotzka -TAB (chair), Andrew Treloar - TAB (Council liaison), Larry Lannom - TAB and RDA/US project, Leif Laaksonen - OA, Stefanie Kethers - RDA Secretariat, Yasuhiro Murayama - RDA member.

The OCC Charter is as follows:

The RDA Operations subcommittee monitors and advises on the overall operations and general organisational health of RDA:

- *Ensures RDA operations are efficient, effective, and well supported by RDA governance and policies*
- *A specific current task for the RDA Operations subcommittee is to oversee the delivery of the action lines on Coordination from the current [Future Directions document](#).*

The subcommittee coordinates closely with the other subcommittees.

The Coordination actions from the Future Directions Document referred to in the Charter are:

- *Action 1: Develop an approach and appropriate groups or mechanisms to maintain/expand adoption of the outputs of Working Groups.*
- *Action 2: Develop and implement an effective process to track and expedite RDA processes, actions, and outputs.*
- *Action 3: Develop an organisational map to articulate and improve missions, outcomes and interactions between constituent organisational groups. Realise the map in RDA processes and mechanisms to improve coordination, engagement and communication.*
- *Action 4: Develop an RDA approach and mechanisms for better coordination and communication among RDA Regions.*

Activity to date

Of the above Coordination actions, Action #1 is being taken on by the OAB, Action #3 has been picked up by RDA/EU under the Atlas of Knowledge project, and Action #4 has a number of interesting political ramifications that are probably better addressed by Council.

In addition to the Coordination actions, the OCC has been concerned about the extent to which the RDA website is consistent with the openness principle. To assist with Community discussion about this issue, the OCC prepared a document which has been through one round of community comment and is [now open in revised form for further comment](#).

Issues affecting the OCC

Recently, Rainer (chair) and Leif have had to step down from the OCC due to other commitments. The OCC is looking to replace those members, but is also reconsidering its focus and terms of reference (Charter).

One of the main elements of the Charter are the action lines from the Future Directions Document. As the OCC has met over the course of the last 12 months, it has become clearer that not all of these need to be addressed by the OCC.

Action #2 is in the remit of the RDA Director of Operations. Action #3 has been removed from the OCC's Charter, as this is a massive effort that is currently being tackled by various groups within RDA, including the Atlas of Knowledge team and the TAB LOG initiative. The other main element is that the OCC *Ensures RDA operations are efficient, effective, and well supported by RDA governance and policies*. Again, this overlaps significantly with the responsibilities of the RDA Director of Operations.

Proposed changes to the OCC

The OCC wishes to propose the following options to Council for its consideration:

- Option 1: OCC changes its Charter as follows:

The RDA Operations subcommittee provides strategic advice to Council on the overall operations and general organisational health of RDA to help ensure that RDA operations are efficient, effective, and well supported by RDA governance and policies. Specifically, the OCC:

- Develops an approach and appropriate groups or mechanisms to maintain/expand adoption of the outputs of Working Groups.

- Develops an RDA approach and mechanisms for better coordination and communication among RDA Regions.
- Provides input into the evaluation of the Future Directions document and the design of further initiatives to develop the strategic direction of the RDA.

The subcommittee coordinates closely with the other subcommittees, especially Strategy and Engagement.

NB: The OCC would need to have about two new members to replace Rainer and Leif. If this option is chosen, the OCC will suggest potential new members to Council.

- Option 2: The OCC is disbanded and its proposed activities subsumed under the Strategy and Engagement subcommittees, and the duties of the Secretariat, especially the RDA Director of Operations.
- **Option 3 [preferred]:** The OCC goes into abeyance pending the appointment of the new Secretary General and reconsiders its role and membership thereafter in the context of what is being called RDA 2.0 in discussion with the new Secretary General. NOTE: this may have to be reviewed at Plenary 10 if we end up starting a new search.