STM and RDA deepen their collaboration

As part of the STM Research Data Year, the RDA and STM have agreed to deepen their collaboration further. To this effect RDA’s Secretary General Hilary Hanahoe and STM’s CEO Ian Moss have signed the following Letter of Intent:

Introduction:
The International Association of STM Publishers (STM) has declared 2020 to be the STM Research Data Year. STM has launched a program to assist their publisher member organisations to encourage academic authors to SHARE-LINK-CITE research data alongside their publications. To this purpose, STM is promoting the uptake of several standards and recommended practices that have been developed within and by the Research Data Alliance (https://www.rd-alliance.org/), RDA, during the past few years.

RDA welcomes the initiative of STM, an RDA Organisational Member, and recognises the importance of publishers as influential stakeholders in the scholarly ecosystem for the adoption and implementation of FAIR data sharing.

Collaboration: During STM’s Research Data Year, STM and RDA intend to intensify their collaboration on matters such as:

- Adoption by academic journals of Data Availability Statements as developed and recommended by the RDA-Interest Group on Data policy standardisation and implementation (https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/data-policy-standardisation-and-implementation-ig)
- The uptake of SCHOLIX, the universal reference model for linking data and publications, developed by the RDA/WDS Publishing Data Services Working Group (https://rd-alliance.org/group/rdawds-publishing-data-services-wg/outcomes/rdawds-publishing-data-services-wg-recommendations)
- Data Citation principles as recommended by RDA, DataCite and FORCE11 (http://dx.doi.org/10.15497/RDA00016)

Exchange of Expertise: In addition, STM and RDA have agreed to share and exchange their expertise and experiences on FAIR research data sharing and will assist each other in relevant working groups,
interest groups, steering committees, advisory boards and at workshops, seminars, events and conferences.

Was signed on 13 July 2020 by:

Hilary Hanahoe  
Secretary General RDA

Ian Moss  
CEO STM

Background:

About RDA (link):
The Research Data Alliance (RDA) was launched as a community-driven initiative in 2013 by the European Commission, the United States Government's National Science Foundation and National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Australian Government’s Department of Innovation with the goal of building the social and technical infrastructure to enable open sharing and re-use of data.

RDA has a grass-roots, inclusive approach covering all data lifecycle stages, engaging data producers, users and stewards, addressing data exchange, processing, and storage. It has succeeded in creating the neutral social platform where international research data experts meet to exchange views and to agree on topics including social hurdles on data sharing, education and training challenges, data management plans and certification of data repositories, disciplinary and interdisciplinary interoperability, as well as technological aspects.

The RDA Vision: Researchers and innovators openly share data across technologies, disciplines, and countries to address the grand challenges of society.
The RDA Mission: RDA builds the social and technical bridges that enable open sharing and re-use of data.

About STM (link):
The International Association of STM Publishers (STM) is a member organisation of academic and professional publishers with global reach.
At STM we support our members in their mission to advance research worldwide. Our 150 members based in over 20 countries around the world collectively publish 66% of all journal articles and tens of thousands of monographs and reference works. As academic and professional publishers, learned societies, university presses, start-ups and established players we work together to serve society by developing standards and technology to ensure research is of high quality, trustworthy and easy to access.
We promote the contribution that publishers make to innovation, openness and the sharing of knowledge and embrace change to support the growth and sustainability of the research ecosystem. As a common good, we provide data and analysis for all involved in the global activity of research.

STM Aims and Objectives:

- to assist publishers and their authors in their activities in disseminating the results of research in the fields of science, technology and medicine;
- to assist national and international organisations and communications industries in the electronic environment, who are involved in improving the dissemination, storage and retrieval of scientific, technical and medical information.

Participants in STM’s Research Data Year include: