

Title: UTC Liaison Report from WG2

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Action: For review by UTC, Unicode officers

A WG2 meeting was held in San Jose from April 19 – 23, 2010. This document reports on select topics that will be of interest for the Unicode Consortium.

Progress on ISO/IEC 10646 Amendments and New Editions

At this meeting, WG2 process ballot comments on FPDAM text for Amendment 8, and on FCD text for the second edition. Both ballots passed in favour of progressing each to its next phase:

- Ballot comments on FPDAM 8 were resolved; the project editor will be preparing FDAM 8 for circulation and balloting in June 2010.
- Ballot comments on ISO/IEC FCD 10646 were resolved. Per WG2 discussion on CJK charts (see below), the project editor will meet with IRG in June to complete review of multi-column charts and will prepare the FDIS text after that meeting for circulation and balloting in September 2010.

WG2 also discussed options for subsequent work: over 700 characters had been accumulated for a future amendment or edition, and significant work remained to be done to publish multi-column charts for CJK Extension B (see details below). Because of the volume of the combined changes, WG2 decided that this should be done in a new edition (the “3rd edition”) rather than an amendment. WG2 took action to initiate a project subdivision for the 3rd edition. Tentative dates for stages in this work are:

- CD: 2010-06
- FCD: 2010-12
- FDIS: 2011-11

It should be noted that changes in JTC1 procedures will impact the schedule for the 3rd edition, and may entail a requirement for an additional stage in progression.

CJK Chart Issues

At the San Jose meeting, WG2 discussed various topics related to CJK multi-column charts. (See also the Liaison Report from WG2 #55, which covered discussed of associated CJK font issues.)

- IRG and East Asian NBs are on track to review multi-column charts for the FDIS text of the 2nd edition of ISO/IEC 10646 by the June IRG meeting. However, the scope of coverage will include only URO and Extension A; it will not include CJK Extension B. (There is consensus that the quality of multi-column charts for Extensions C and D are good.) A plan was reached whereby:
 - The 2nd edition will include multi-column charts for only URO and Extensions A, C and D. Final review will be conducted by the June IRG meeting, after which the final FDIS text will be prepared.

- The 3rd edition will include multi-column charts for CJK Extension B, and also for CJK compatibility characters. IRG members have already provided fonts that will be used for these charts. Review of this large set of ideographs will take considerable time. It should also be noted that production of multi-column charts for CJK compatibility characters will also require revisions to production tools.
- In reviewing multi-column charts, Korea discovered two cases in which K-source compatibility characters had been given an incorrect decomposition mapping. After discussion, WG2 determined that new characters should be encoded in the 2nd edition (corresponds to Unicode 6.0) with the correct K-source and decomposition mappings. (Cf. UTC #128, B.1.1.4.6 and L2/10-087.)
- Similarly, TCA (Taiwan) has discovered mapping errors for some T-source characters. As documentation was not ready, WG2 did not take action in relation to the 2nd edition. Rather, TCA will prepare necessary documentation of relevant cases with a view to incorporating appropriate fixes into drafts for the 3rd edition.

Emoji

As part of resolving ballot comments on FPDAM 8, WG2 discussed a number of issues related to Emoji. Some issues were resolved early by the WG2 plenary, and an Emoji Ad Hoc was held to resolve remaining issues. See L2/10-138 for details on the Emoji Ad Hoc, and L2/10-041 for final disposition of comments on FPDAM 8.

The key outcome is that the Emoji repertoire for Amendment 8 and Unicode 6.0 is now final and stable. Various glyph, name and code position changes were made; WG2 also accepted one additional character for Amendment 8 (one that UTC had already approved at UTC #122). The final repertoire is reflected in L2/10-145 “Summary of repertoire for FDAM8 content...”

In addition, WG2 approved an additional 13 emoticon characters for addition in the 3rd edition. These can be seen in L2/10-142 “Summary of repertoire for future amendment...”. These have not yet been reviewed and considered by UTC.

Middle Dot, Batak Symbols

The US ballot comments on FPDAM 8 requested the removal of three characters:

U+A78F LATIN LETTER MIDDLE DOT
 1BFA BATAK SYMBOL BINDU GODANG
 1BFB BATAK SYMBOL BINDU PINARJOLMA

In resolving the disposition on ballot comments, WG2 agreed to this US request, with the result that these characters have been removed from Amendment 8 and included, instead, in the new repertoire to be added in the 3rd addition.

Note: these three characters have not been approved by UTC.

Principles and Procedures

WG2 adopted a resolution (M56.22) on spelling of English terminology used in character names: the Principles and Procedures document will be revised to make clear that Oxford English Dictionary spellings will normally be used but that other spellings can also be used instead given reasonable evidence. See L2/10-140 "Spelling of character names in English" for details.

IRG Working Documents and Procedures

IRG has been working to revise the IRG procedures and working documents. Accordingly, WG2 invite NBs to review the following documents:

L2/10-098 "IRG Working Document Maintenance Procedure"

L2/10-099 "IRG Standing Document Summary"

JTC1 Procedure Changes

As described elsewhere (see Liaison Report from WG2 #55 and also L2/10-086, L2/10-116), JTC1 procedures are undergoing changes that impact the process for working on new standards (or new editions of standards) and amendments. In particular, the "Enquiry" process will be required, which requires a longer balloting period than ballots used in past JTC1 process: 5 months for DIS / DAM ballots. The new process will apply to all new projects as of July 2010, and on *all* projects starting in July 2011.

This change does not impact work on Amendment 8 or the 2nd edition, both of which are nearing completion. It will, however, impact work on the 3rd edition, and on WG2 meeting schedules going forward. In particular, the 5-month ballot period for DIS and DAM ballots will make it impractical to continue holding meetings at regular, 6-month intervals.