To: UTC
From: Debbie Anderson, IR
Re: Report on WG2 meeting #57 in Busan, South Korea
Date: 15 October 2010

The WG2 meeting #57, held in Busan, South Korea, concluded on Friday, 8 October 2011, after a successful weeklong meeting. Nine national bodies (including Sri Lanka, a new "P" member) and three liaison members participated. The resolutions are contained in L2/10-390.

US Positions

The US comments on the CD for the third edition (L2/10-323) were generally accommodated, although the US withdrew its request for a format change for named character sequence identifiers in ISO/IEC 10646. In comments during earlier ballots, Japan had requested changes in the format for the named character sequence identifier data file (NUSI.txt) and accompanying text in the standard, with the result that the NUSI.txt data file no longer matched the format used in NamedSequences.txt. Rather than taking time during the meeting to resolve the issue, the US agreed to continue to work with Japan in order to arrive at a mutually agreeable format. The ultimate goal is to ensure that Unicode data files for named sequences remain synchronized with those in ISO/IEC 10646, and that two different data files won't need to be maintained.

The majority of requests made by the US as future additions (L2/10-325) were approved.

- Requests for new characters that were deemed uncontroversial were largely incorporated in the third edition. As noted in the Consent Docket (section 1 of L2/10-384), WG2 approved six new characters for the third edition that the UTC and US had not yet reviewed, as well as two named character sequences and several glyph and annotation changes contained in SC 35's keyboard standard, ISO/IEC 9995-7 (see L2/10-351 and L2/10-391). Note: Due to an oversight, the US submitted no comments on two Batak characters (1BFA and 1BFB) and the LATIN LETTER MIDDLE DOT (A78F, now with the name "LATIN LETTER GLOTTAL DOT"). In the next round of ballot comments, the US needs to specifically call out these characters with its objections.

- New scripts and character requests that involved questions (such as the Coptic numbers) were put into a new amendment. A few items were added to the amendment that have not yet been reviewed by the UTC and USNB and are noted in the Consent Docket (section 2 of L2/10-384). The Consent Docket also identifies a few name changes to characters which had been approved by the UTC and a change of location for the Sindhi script. Duployan, which was approved by the UTC and recommended for inclusion by

the USNB, was not put on a ballot, as this was the first time the proposal was seen at a WG2 meeting and Ireland disagreed with the chart order.

The US submitted two contributions:

- Document L2/10-228 was a request for a single CJK character. This character was approved for inclusion in the third edition.

- The second US contribution (L2/10-282) was a response to a document from China requesting Arabic additions for Uighur, Kazakh, and Kirgiz (N3819=L2/10-129). An ad hoc was held at WG2 to discuss the proposed Arabic characters. The group identified the issues as being primarily keyboard concerns (see the ad hoc report, L2/10-401=N3938). During the week of WG2, the UK representative worked with the representative from China on a keyboard, but by the end of the WG2 meeting a few issues remained unresolved for the delegate from China. As a result, China will be working on a document on outstanding problems; specific details on the problems (with examples) were requested by the US and the UK.

Progression of Ballots

The CD for the third edition was progressed to an FCD ballot, with the targeted starting dates as December 2010 for the FCD, and September 2011 for the FDIS. The draft repertoire appears in L2/10-387. The FCD still follows the "old" rules.

A new amendment to the third edition was begun. The draft repertoire appears in L2/10-386. The targeted starting dates are December 2010 for the PDAM, July 2011 for the DAM, and May 2012 for the FDAM. The amendment 1 includes 281 characters, and will fall under the "new" rules.

The OWG-Sort meeting agreed to include the RUPEE sign in ISO/IEC 14651:2007/FPDAM2, and also to merge Amendment 2 with the FDIS of the next edition, instead of issuing a FDAM. (Hence, the FDIS will be comprised of ISO/IEC 14651:2007, Amendment 1, and Amendment 2.)

Future meetings

The next WG2 meeting, #58, takes place in Helsinki from June 6-10, 2011. The following meeting, Meeting #59, is tentatively scheduled for the first quarter of 2012 with the U.S. as host, pending confirmation. Germany will tentatively host Meeting #60 in the fourth quarter of 2012, with Thailand as a back-up. Because of the new rules for processing ballots and uncertainty remains on the speed of processing the ballots, the dates for the meetings after Finland are quite tentative. As a result, the US may need to be flexible in setting the date for the meeting in 2012, at least until the timeframe for processing ballots is clearer.

Additions to the Principles and Procedures (P&P) and Proposal Summary Form

Uma Umamaheswaran proposed making three additions to the WG2 Principles and Procedures and the Proposal Summary form (L2/10-397=N3944):

- Add text on the contiguous encoding of decimal digits
  - This proposed change was not controversial and seemed agreeable to all parties.
- Document which already encoded characters (such as punctuation marks, etc.) should be used with a newly proposed script
  - The UK representative, as a proposer of new scripts, wanted more information; providing a rubric would be helpful.
- Provide a list of "confusables"
  - Ireland and UK requested more information, also asking for examples of the desired format.

The proposed additions to the P&P and Proposal Summary form remains under review by NBs.

Other Script and Character Proposals

China submitted several proposals, which are listed below. The authors are quite interested in receiving feedback, including from the UTC and its members.

- A revised Khitan proposal for the Khitan small script (L2/10-369=N3918) was discussed in an ad hoc, which included representatives from China, Japan, Ireland, and US. The ad hoc report is L2/10-400=N3942. The author of the proposal will be working on a revised proposal, taking into account comments that are received.
- A proposal for Chinese Chess symbols (L2/10-368= N3910) was briefly discussed, and a revised proposal will be prepared.
- Naxi Dongba (L2/10-396=N3935) is being worked on, although the proposal was not formally discussed during the meeting.
- It is possible a revised Nüshu may be presented at the next meeting.

Ireland discussed a large proposal for Teuthonista (L2/10-346=N3907). As Ireland would like a final proposal ready for the June 2011 WG2 meeting, input would be greatly appreciated.

Karl Pentzlin also put forward several proposals: metrical symbols (L2/10-358=N3913), symbols for Lithuanian dialectology (L2/10-357= N3914), triple diacritics (L2/10-353=N3915), Latin letters for Janalif (L2/10-356=3916), and the Double Hyphen (L2/10-361=3917). Though these proposals were not discussed in detail during WG2, sending specific feedback to the author would be useful, especially in advance of the meeting in Finland, when a larger European presence is expected.

Other proposals that were submitted included:

- a preliminary proposal for Ahom by Martin Hosken and Stephen Morey (L2/10-359=N3928)
- a proposal for Arabic combining characters used in the Quran by the King Fahd Glorious Quran Printing Complex (L2/10-381=N3933)
- two documents from SC 35: a Draft Technical Report on Definitions and Relationships between Symbols, Icons, Animated Icons, Pictograms, Characters and Glyphs (L2/10-350=N3927) and on keyboard symbols (L2/10-351=N3897).

Several preliminary SEI contributions were not discussed during the meeting, but will be carried over to the agenda for the next meeting.