



# Report of the convener of WG 1, 2011

## 1 Status of documents

### 1.1 Published parts

ISO 639-1:2002 *Codes for the representation of names of languages – Part 1: Alpha-2 code*, developed by ISO/TC 37/SC 2. Periodic review closed 2007-12-18; IS confirmed 2008-02-20; next periodic review scheduled 2013-01-15.

ISO 639-2:1998 *Codes for the representation of names of languages – Part 2: Alpha-3 code*, developed by a joint committee of ISO/TC 46/SC 4 and ISO/TC 37/SC 2. Periodic review closed 2008-12-17; IS confirmed 2010-07-20.

ISO 639-3:2007 *Codes for the representation of names of languages – Part 3: Alpha-3 code for comprehensive coverage of languages*, developed by ISO/TC 37/SC 2. Periodic review closed 2010-06-17; IS confirmed 2010-07-20.

ISO 639-4:2010 *Codes for the representation of names of languages – Part 4: General principles of coding of the representation of names of languages and related entities, and application guidelines*, developed by ISO/TC 37/SC 2. Published 2010-07-16; periodic review scheduled 2013-07-15.

ISO 639-5:2008 *Codes for the representation of names of languages – Part 5: Alpha-3 code for language families and groups*, developed by ISO/TC 37/SC 2. Published 2008-05-15; currently undergoing periodic review (closing 2011-09-16).

ISO 639-6:2009 *Codes for the representation of names of languages – Part 6: Alpha-4 representation for comprehensive coverage of language variants*, developed by ISO/TC 37/SC 2. Published 2009-11-17; periodic review scheduled 2012-10-15.

### 1.2 Parts under development

ISO/TC 37/SC 2/WG 1 currently “technically” has no active Work Items. However, work on a new document based on ISO 639-4 has been started. Unfortunately the work hasn’t progressed as quickly as anticipated at the 2010 meeting of the Working Group. The latest published document is document **N200** reflecting the discussion at the previous meeting. A new document **N204** will be published prior to the June 2011 meeting of the Working Group. However, that document hasn’t progressed as far as was anticipated at the previous meeting.

## 2 Activities since previous meeting

See document **N205** for an overview of activities in the ISO 639 RAs-JAC, including the finalization of new language identifiers. Activities within ISO/TC 37/SC 2/WG 1 are closely coordinated with those of the JAC.

Recent developments at ISO CS relating to the ISO Concept Database (CDB) make it necessary to re-think some of the plans for a future ISO 639 as database. See document **N208** for a discussion of some of the issues that need to be addressed in that context.

## 3 Personal closing remarks from the convener

I regret that I am unable to attend the 2011-06 meeting of ISO/TC 37/SC 2/WG 1. Furthermore I need to inform the Working Group that I need to ask to be replaced as convener of the Working Group and Project Editor of parts of ISO 639. It has been interesting and challenging work, and I hope to be somehow involved also in the future, but in a different capacity than that of a convener and project editor.