

The Future of UTR #45

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During the final stages of preparing Unicode 6.1, there was a problem with UTR #45. The data files online were an old version that didn't include everything with a U-source identifier in the standard. They should have been updated but had not been. This was exacerbated by a last-minute addition to the U-source at IRG #37 as a result of a character being orphaned during Extension B review.

UTR #45's status, moreover, is a little anomalous, in that it provides the formal definition for normative parts of the standard but is not itself normative in any way.

For both these reasons, I'd like to recommend the following:

- 1) UTR #45 should be made a UAX. This would make its status more in-line with its actual use and would ensure a more rigorous review process when updates are made.
- 2) Additions to the U-source should require UTC approval. This would make the addition process more controlled and less likely to slip up.

Note that addition to the U-source database does *not* mean that the UTC considers a character a suitable candidate for encoding. The database is our way of tracking ideographs which have been brought up for our consideration. It's useful not only as a source for IRG work, but as a public record of ideographs we are aware of but do not wish to have encoded.