

To: UTC

L2/12-375

From: Deborah Anderson, IR and Head of Delegation

Re: Brief report from WG2 Meeting #60, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Date: 2 November 2012

Working Group 2 #60 and SC2 #18 meetings successfully concluded on 26 October 2012. In attendance were 8 national bodies and 3 liaison organizations.

This report is meant to be read in tandem with the UTC Liaison Report from WG2 (L2/12-356), which reports on the progression of the ballots in detail, and the Consent Docket (L2/12-344).

The USNB requests for new character additions (WG2 N4313 and WG2 N4275) were largely accommodated, although the characters in the Mende Numbers block were placed instead in the Mende block (and no Mende Numbers block was hence required; for details, see Consent Docket, L2/12-344).

During WG2 several ad hocs were held to try to resolve outstanding issues on a number of scripts (or characters). The ad hoc meetings included: Nushu (see ad hoc report N4376), "Old Hungarian" (ad hoc report N4374), Mende numbers (ad hoc report N4375), Webdings, Tangut, and LATIN LETTER MIDDLE DOT. Changes to Webdings appear in the Disposition of Comments (N4377) and the new charts for DAM2 (N4380). There was no formal ad hoc report on Tangut, but China agreed to review the Tangut proposal documents (N4325, N4326, and N4327), relaying feedback to the proposal authors, hopefully in advance of the next WG2 meeting in Vilnius. No agreement was reached on LATIN LETTER MIDDLE DOT; the character was removed from the PDAM but can be expected to appear in committee drafts for the next edition. It is expected that the MIDDLE DOT will be discussed again in Vilnius.

The OWG-Sort met and accepted Ken Whistler's recommended changes to the Common Template Table (CTT). Those changes will bring the table in synch with changes to the UCA already committed by the UTC and anticipated to be included in UCA 6.2.1. (There will be further changes to UCA 6.2.1, and Ken discussed those with the OWG-Sort participants, anticipating that there will be further requests for changes to the CTT at a subsequent meeting.) A resolution was passed to create a new project subdivision for a new amendment to 14651. That amendment will include additions to the CTT to cover the repertoire from 10646 AMD 1 and AMD 2, to eventually bring 14651 into synch with the repertoire for Unicode 7.0. Ken Whistler agreed to provide an interim working draft of the CTT by December, 2012, to be roughly in synch with the anticipated UCA 6.2.1, and another working draft of the CTT after June, 2013, roughly in synch with UCA 7.0, for use in balloting the amendment to 14651. The Convener, Alain LaBonté, announced he will post a working draft of 14651 Amendment 2, and that ISO/IEC 14651:2011/Amd 1:2012 was published in October 2012. Alain LaBonté was re-appointed as Convener.

The WG2 meeting was co-located with the 18th plenary meeting of SC2 meeting, which took place on Friday, October 26.

The Secretariat, Toshiko Kimura, brought to the members' attention a few resolutions from the November 2011 JTC 1 Resolutions (SC2 N4209):

- a trial of webconferencing technology by SC22 (Resolution 44), as there may be some guidelines from JTC 1 to expand the use of webconferencing to other SCs. Members of SC2 expressed no urgent need to move towards webconferencing.
- The Secretariat also noted the creation of an Ad Hoc on Structure (Resolution 37), which examined ways to improve JTC 1 and its SC and WG structure. A report from this Ad Hoc

(SC2 N4249) from September 2012 reported that the group had examined possible mutual involvement between SC2 and SC35, but recommended no changes.

- The Secretariat mentioned Resolution 30, a standing document on the history of JTC 1, and reported she had posted SC2 N4257, which is the Revised Standing Document on JTC1's history. The document can be updated at any time. Annex 1 (page 31) chronicles SC2; the entries are rather spartan and could be improved.

The Secretariat further noted the new Directives, which have been put into effect as of 1 July 2012 (see "JTC 1 Secretary Communication regarding the 2012 ISO IEC Directives, Part 1 and JTC 1 Supplement", posted as SC2 N4234).

Highlights of the changes are:

- The DIS ballot is now reduced from 5 to 3 months.
- After the DIS ballot has been submitted to ITTF, but before the ballot is initiated, National Bodies are given 2 months to translate the document. This 2 month translation period has generated questions from SC2 members (and other SCs, according to SC2 N4234). ITTF has informed JTC1 that the period is "to allow all National Bodies the chance to translate and prepare for their national consultation on the DIS." ITTF has recommended JTC1 hold an electronic ballot to see if eliminating the 2 month period will cause any NB difficulty. If JTC1 finds that removing this translation period won't affect any NBs, ITTF will allow JTC1 to hold a trial period that eliminates the 2 month translation period.
- A DIS may go directly to publication without 100% approval, if SC2 approves a resolution indicating it intends to skip the FDIS ballot. The resolution requires agreement by a 2/3 majority of P-members, either via electronic ballot or by an SC2 committee meeting. However, if "substantial technical changes" are made, it should go to FDIS.

Several SC2 members voiced frustration in locating JTC 1 ballots, such as the recent DAM1 ballot. The Secretariat will look into this.

SC2 Chair, Prof. Yoshiki Mikami, presented his report on SC2 given to the JTC 1 plenary in San Diego in 2011, and gave a preview of the presentation he will give in Jeju, Republic of Korea, in early November. SC2 members provided feedback, which will be incorporated into the presentation. Prof. Mikami, whose appointment expires in 2013, was endorsed for a second term as SC2 Chair during the meeting. SC2 also passed a resolution, documented in SC2 N4263, to start work on a new edition of 10646, which will contain Amendments 1 and 2 to ISO/IEC 10646: 2012, and with further changes as accepted by WG2 (as noted in WG2 N4382).

The next WG2 meeting (#61) will take place in Vilnius, Lithuania, from 10-14 June 2013. The US will host WG2 meeting #62, with the tentative dates of 24-28 February 2014, to be held on the West Coast. A U.S. host is being sought. Meeting #63 is tentatively to take place in Sri Lanka in September 2014, and the SC2 meeting will also take place in conjunction with WG2 meeting #63.