

To: Unicode Technical Committee

L2/17-354

From: Deborah Anderson, IR

Subject: Brief Report from SC2 / WG2 meeting in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, China

Date: 5 October 2017

The 66th meeting of ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2 and SC2 #22 took place in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, China, from 25-29 September 2017. The SC2 meeting was attended by representatives of 7 NBs, including Mongolia. (For information on the publication and progression of the fifth edition of ISO/IEC 10646 and its amendments, as well as ISO/IEC 14651, see [L2/17-351](#) "UTC Liaison Report from WG2 #66, SC2 #22.")

1. SC2 meeting

The following items from the SC2 meeting are of note:

- A liaison report from SC 35 was submitted to SC 2 on "Proposal to incorporate the symbols of ISO/IEC 9995-7:2009 and its amendment and ISO/IEC 9995-10:2013 (=L2/17-072) into ISO/IEC 10646" (SC2 N4522). Debbie Anderson, as a WG2 expert, will submit a document to SC 35 with Unicode feedback, as contained in the May 2017 Script Ad Hoc recommendations ([L2/17-153](#)).
- The liaison report from JTC1/SC34 by Suzuki Toshiya mentioned that an update of ISO/IEC 19757-7 (CREPDL=Character Repertoire Description Language) was discussed at the SC34 meetings in Seoul and Tokyo, where it was agreed the character repertoire should be checked regarding grapheme clusters. A CD ballot will start before the next SC34 plenary, which takes place from Sept. 10-14, 2018, in Seattle.
- The SC2 Secretariat reminded participants that the ISO meeting management tool is mandatory as of 1 October 2017. Michel Suignard has asked the SC2 Secretariat to help manage the next WG2 meeting with the ISO meeting management tool.
- The SC2 Secretariat also relayed to NBs and liaison organizations that registration of WG2 and IRG experts in the ISO Global Directory is required, but WG2 and IRG can invite experts who are not in ISO GD to participate in the meetings.

2. WG2

Process

As noted in the WG2 Recommendations ([L2/17-349](#)), characters and scripts which have not yet added to a ballot may be added to the PDAM 2.2 or a future PDAM 2.x repertoire, if they are deemed mature and have consensus by WG2 experts. Such scripts include Naxi Dongba, Extension G, and additions to existing blocks. In order to call out such additions, the project editor was requested to add editorial notes in the ballot, so NBs can be alerted to the additions ([L2/17-350](#)). Alternatively, notification can be done on the WG2 email list, wg2@unicode.org ([L2/17-352](#)).

Of interest to Unicode members was an ad hoc that addressed better interaction between NBs and Unicode, in particular on new repertoire additions, including emoji. The ad hoc report is found at [L2/17-352](#) "Summary of Ad Hoc Meeting on SC2/WG2 and UTC Processes (WG2 N4903)".

Mongolian Ad Hoc

Having the WG2/SC2 meeting in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, afforded an excellent opportunity to try to address known issues regarding Mongolian. As documented in the Mongolian Ad Hoc report ([L2/17-347](#)

=N4893), the meeting was well attended, with representatives from publishing firms, font vendors, academia, and government, as well as representatives from Unicode and SC2 NBs. The ad hoc succeeded in bringing together the various groups in one room, and enabled the various parties to present the issues they face.

It appears that companies in China are developing improved specifications for implementation of Mongolian script and have not shared the new specifications with any user or vendor outside of China. Attendees from the US and other countries asked that these improved specifications be shared with them so that they can better support the Mongolian script.

Specific next steps for those attending from Unicode include:

- development of a test implementation of the Graphetic model
- creation of a code chart that only includes characters needed for Hudum
- review of current (phonetic) keyboards
- collection of information on how children are taught the script today

In order to keep the discussion with those in Inner Mongolia and Mongolia going, the idea was raised of inviting a few attendees from Mongolia and Inner Mongolia to Mountain View, in order to discuss issues more in-depth.

One result of the meeting was a chart for Mongolian produced by Michel Suignard (L2/17-368=N4900), based on “Positional Mismatches in Mongolian encoding” (L2/17-332).

The meeting was made possible with support from the Unicode Consortium, the Henry Luce Foundation, and Inner Mongolia University.

3. Future Meetings

The next meeting is slated for June 18-22, 2018 in London, with US as backup. The June 2019 meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on the West Coast of the US, with Canada as back-up.