Source:	Mike Ksar
Title:	Proposed response to ITU communications
Action:	For review and approval by SC 2
Status:	Draft Liaison Statement on status of ISO/IEC 10646 (Unicode) as common text with ITU-T
Distribution:	ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2 and WG 2

SC2 acknowledges receipt of input from ITU-T SG 16 & ITU-T SG 17 requesting that ISO/IEC 10646 and its amendment have been submitted for ITU-T to Consent as a new ITU-T Recommendations T.55 and its Amendment 1.

Below is the response to the specifics of your request.

1. According to the JTC 1 and ITU-T cooperation guide, mode of cooperation between two organizations must be agreed at the SG/SC level. SC 2 has a liaison with ITU-T, but has never agreed to work with Collaboration mode.
2. SC2 discourages ITU-T from the proposed common-text approach and recommends that ITU-T follow its previous approach to reference ISO/IEC 10646 as a normative reference that can be added to Recommendations such as T.51.
3. As a result SC2 is surprised to see such a unilateral action by ITU-T to start a process to make ISO/IEC 10646 a common text without agreement of JTC1/SC2. SC2 expected that ITU-T would have contacted SC2 prior to taking such action.
4. SC2/WG2 has been working on the development of this standard for over twenty years. There is an active set of experts and several liaison organizations that participate in the standardization activity of ISO/IEC 10646. It cannot be taken for granted that SC2/WG2 is not active. As a matter of fact the repertoire of the standards with its upcoming amendments now exceeds 100,000 characters. SC2/WG2 requests that ITU-T to note that the Unicode Consortium has been recently approved as an ARO in JTC1. A copy of the ARO is attached.
5. SC2 would like to invite ITU-T experts to the next SC2/WG2 meeting in Tokyo Japan from 25 September – 29 September 2006. The presence of ITU-T experts would be welcome to review the actions that SC2/WG2 took so far and to clarify some of the other items that ITU-T requested. SC2 notes that ITU-T expected feedback on its comments by 13 November 2006.
6. Here are the responses to the issues that you raised:
   a. Normative definitions to control characters and control functions: SC2/WG2 is adding new normative definitions for the identified relevant terms related to control characters and control functions as part of a future amendment to ISO/IEC 10646. In addition an information annex will also be added showing the default content of 0000 - 001F, 007F and 0080 to 009F. Blocks and charts similar to those published in the Unicode Standard and with names that relate to the names from ISO/IEC 6429.

b. ITU-T should note that ISO/IEC 10646 already has a normative reference to ISO/IEC 6429 and thus the request to be normatively referenced has been accomplished since 1993, the first time ISO/IEC was published.
c. SC2/WG2 accepts the request from ITU-T SG17, item b, to add explicit text for UTF-16BE and other similar forms for inclusion in the standard.
d. Items c, d, and e need further clarification on the nature of the request from ITU-T. SC2/WG2 invites ITU-T representatives to participate in the SC2/WG2 meeting in Tokyo, Japan from 25 September 2006 – 29 September 2006.
e. With respect to item f in your input, SC2 agrees with ITU-T SG17 that there are trademark issues and SC2 is not in favor of changing the expansion of the term UCS.