WG2 N4905

To: WG2 and Unicode Technical Committee

Source: Deborah Anderson, SEI, UC Berkeley

Title: Khitan Ad Hoc Report (Hohhot, Inner Mongolia)

Date: 26 September 2017

A short Khitan script ad hoc took place in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, on 26 September 2017. Attendees included: Andrew West, Michael Everson, Wu Yingzhe, Jiruhe, Daruhan, Chidaltu, Solonga, Arun, Deborah Anderson, Eiso Chan, and Wei Lin-Mei.

1. Khitan Large Script

- Andrew West reported that work continues on the script, but no documents have been written in the past year.
- Prof. Wu will share a PDF copy of a table of 2109 characters from an appendix in a recently-published book on Khitan Small Script. He mentioned that more new characters have been identified.
- Any new documents that are ready to share should be submitted to WG2 by the middle of May 2018, in order to be ready for the next WG2 meeting in June 2018 in London.

2. Khitan Small Script

The Khitan Small Script is on the PDAM 1.3 ballot being discussed at the WG2 meeting this week in Hohhot. The following provides background to the PDAM ballot comments made by Ireland (Michael Everson) and the UK (Andrew West) and gives related remarks on the Khitan Small Script in the ballot.

• FORMAT CHARACTERS

The current PDAM 1.3 has removed the two Khitan Small Script format control characters used for clustering. Study is underway on the best solution to handle cluster formation. Andrew Glass of Microsoft is providing input.

• "RADICALS"

The Irish and UK ballot comments requested removal of 12 "radicals" (=components) from the

Khitan Small Script code chart if they are only used as "radicals," such as U+18B69 \checkmark . The "radicals" are a modern device, and may be more appropriately located in a separate block of characters that can be shared across other script (i.e., Khitan and Jurchen). Prof. Wu agreed with this change.

• ITERATION MARK

Prof. Wu agreed with the Irish and UK ballot comments to move the ITERATION MARK from its present location near the end of the Khitan Small Script block, to the first position in the block. The mark is used in cluster formation and is not a punctuation mark.

Prof. Wu agreed to provide Andrew with rubbings from inscriptions, which will help in better understanding the script for a future proposal. Prof. Wu also mentioned that one of the KLS tablets is in the Inner Mongolia Museum (Hohhot), but he has not sure where the other one is located. He will speak to Debbie Anderson about imaging the tablet in the Inner Mongolia Museum.

As with Khitan Small Script, all the parties at the ad hoc agreed to submit any documents to WG2 by the middle of May 2018, in order to be ready for the next WG2 meeting in June 2018 in London.