January 2, 2018

To: Mr. Michel Suignard, WG2 Convener
From: Nitaya Kanchanawan
Re: Request to Add Thai Characters to ISO/IEC 10646/Unicode

On 2017-05-15 we received comments on ISO CD 20674-1: Information and Documentation – Transliteration of Scripts in Use in Thailand – Part 1: Transliteration of Akson-Thai-Noi,* with 16 approvals, two approvals with comments, one disapproval, and 19 abstentions.

We are concerned about the comments of the disapproving member relating to the addition of twenty Akson-Thai-Noi characters to the Unicode block assigned to Thai Language (0E00-0E7F).

It was pointed out that no contribution seems to have been made yet to either ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2 or to the Unicode Consortium regarding the addition of new characters and their proposed code positions in the 10646/Unicode.

The proposed ISO NP 20674 is an extension of ISO 11940: Information and Documentation – Transliteration of Thai, which is a confirmed international standard. Addition of the Akson-Thai-Noi characters to the Thai Language block would be the same as the practice used for Khmu characters, which are included in Lao script.

We would, therefore, very much appreciate your assistance in expediting the inclusion of the twenty Akson-Thai-Noi characters to the Unicode block assigned to Thai Language (0E00-0E7F).

Below is the list of characters and the positions in Thai Language block.

Vowel for Akson-Thai-Noi

1.   0E3B ⌒   THAI NOI MAI KONG

Consonants for Akson-Thai-Noi

2.   0E3C ̰   THAI NOI CHARACTER LA2

3.   0E3D ɟ   THAI NOI CHARACTER YA2

4.   0E5C ᦖ   THAI NOI CHARACTER HA1+NA

5.   0E5D ᦖ   THAI NOI CHARACTER HA1+MA

6.   0E60 ᦲ   THAI NOI CHARACTER KHA1+NA2

7.   0E61 ᦲ   THAI NOI CHARACTER KHA1+MA

8.   0E62 ค   THAI NOI CHARACTER KHA3+NA2

9.   0E63 ᦘ   THAI NOI CHARACTER THA5

10.   0E64 ᦑ   THAI NOI CHARACTER THA1+NA

11. 0E65 ∫ THAI NOI CHARACTER YA3

12. 0E66 ⌣ THAI NOI CHARACTER RA2

13. 0E67 ả THAI NOI CHARACTER LA3

14. 0E68 ⪯ THAI NOI CHARACTER SA6

15. 0E69 ʠ THAI NOI CHARACTER SA7

16. 0E6A ⫷ THAI NOI CHARACTER SA3+NA

17. 0E6B ⫸ THAI NOI CHARACTER SA3+MA

18   0E6C ป THAI NOI CHARACTER O+YA

19. 0E6D ⌒ THAI NOI CHARACTER O+YA

Vowel for Akson-Thai-Noi

20. 0E6E ⸻ THAI NOI SARA A2

Attached please find ISO/TC 46/WG 3 N2631 ISO2CD 20674-1 and Results on ISO CD 20674-1.

Thank you so much for your kind attention in this matter.

Proposed Project Leader
Ms Nitaya Kanchanawan, PhD
Fellow of the Royal Society of Thailand
On behalf of the Tai Language Family Romanization Principles Committee of the Royal Society of Thailand and the Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI), Thailand.

* **Some Background of Akson-Thai-Noi Script**
The Akson-Thai-Noi Script was used in religious and secular communities of the Isan Region of Thailand until the reign of King Rama V (A.D. 1868-1910). Following the Primary Education Act of B.E. 2464 (A.D. 1921), which required the population to study Standard Thai in the schools, the Akson-Thai-Noi Script fell out of favor in the region. At the same time, Akson-Thai-Noi Script continues to receive the attention of scholars, and the script is undergoing a revitalization among younger members in the academic community in Thailand. The Tai Language Family Romanization Principles Committee of the Royal Society of Thailand (RST) is now working on Romanization of several sets of scripts used in Thailand, including Akson-Thai-Noi. The RST is currently compiling a dictionary of Thai dialects. Thus, Akson-Thai-Noi Script continues be in current use.