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Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS)
ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2

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Title: Proposal for disposition of Chinese comments on Mongolian characters in DIS 1.2
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Action: For consideration at Seoul WG2 meeting
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This contribution is in response to the Chinese comment #5, regarding Mongolian characters in DIS 1.2.

The withdrawal of the Mongolian script from inclusion in ISO/IEC DIS 10646-1.2 was occasioned by differences of opinion among national bodies regarding the best way to encode Mongolian characters. WG2 determined that Mongolian required further study, and that inclusion of the Mongolian script in DIS 10646-1.2 would have been premature.

Based on that decision, DIS 10646-1.2 was distributed for national body review, comment and voting without the Mongolian script. Therefore, to add Mongolian back to IS 10646 now would constitute adding a script to the IS without a chance for national body review of that script in the context of the complete standard as voted upon.

Furthermore, it has been contended that the encoding of Mongolian as it was in the first DIS 10646 contained at least some Mongolian presentation forms. That contention creates a prima facie case that the Mongolian characters from the first DIS 10646 should be divided between the A-Zone and the R-Zone if encoded in IS 10646, as is currently the case for Arabic characters. Clearly, any attempt to do such a division of the set of Mongolian characters would constitute a technical change which would require review before it could be accepted in the standard.

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