L2/98-022

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2 N1658

DATE: 1997-12-08

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2
Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS) – ISO/IEC 10646
Secretariat: ANSI

DOC TYPE:	Expert contribution
TITLE:	**Proposal to encode Coptic in ISO/IEC 10646**
SOURCE:	Michael Everson, EGT (IE)
PROJECT:	JTC1.02.18.01
STATUS:	Proposal.
ACTION ID:	FYI
DUE DATE:	--
DISTRIBUTION:	Worldwide
MEDIUM:	Paper and web
NO. OF PAGES:	4

A. Administrative

1. Title	Proposal to encode Coptic in ISO/IEC 10646
2. Requester's name	Michael Everson
3. Requester type	Expert request
4. Submission date	1997-12-08
5. Requester's reference	
6a. Completion	This is not a complete proposal.
6b. More information to be provided?	Yes

B. Technical -- General

1a. New script? Name?	No. There are some Coptic characters already in the standard.
1b. Addition of characters to existing block? Name?	No. Addition of cheracters of an existing script to a new block, or extension of the Greek Symbols and Coptic block
2. Number of characters	57+
3. Proposed category	Category C
4. Proposed level of implementation and rationale	Level 3, because of combining marks used

5a. Character names included in proposal?	Yes
5b. Character names in accordance with guidelines?	Yes
5c. Character shapes reviewable?	Yes
6a. Who will provide computerized font?	Michael Everson, Everson Gunn Teoranta
6b. Font currently available?	Michael Everson, Everson Gunn Teoranta
6c. Font format?	TrueType
7a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts, etc.) provided?	No.
7b. Are published examples (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of use of proposed characters attached?	No
8. Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing?	No

C. Technical -- Justification

1. Contact with the user community?	Yes. Tito Orlandi, John Fiscella, Kamal Mansour
2. Information on the user community?	Scholarly and ecclesiastical community.
3a. The context of use for the proposed characters?	Used to write Coptic.
3b. Reference	
4a. Proposed characters in current use?	Yes
4b. Where?	By scholars and churchmen.
5a. Characters should be encoded entirely in BMP?	Yes.
5b. Rationale	Other Coptic characters are already in the BMP.
6. Should characters be kept in a continuous range?	No
7a. Can the characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?	Like Cyrillic and Gothic, Coptic is derived from Greek, but is a unique alphabetic writing system.
7b. Where?	
7c. Reference	
8a. Can any of the characters be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?	No
8b. Where?	
8c. Reference	
9a. Combining characters or use of composite sequences included?	Yes, but further research is required on the combining characters used in Coptic.
9b. List of composite sequences and their	

9b. List of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images provided?	No
10. Characters with any special properties such as control function, etc. included?	No

D. SC2/WG2 Administrative

To be completed by SC2/WG2

1. Relevant SC 2/WG 2 document numbers:	
2. Status (list of meeting number and corresponding action or disposition)	
3. Additional contact to user communities, liaison organizations etc.	TC46/SC2
4. Assigned category and assigned priority/time frame	
Other Comments	

Issues

Further research is required on the signs and punctuation marks used with Coptic. These should be added to the proposal. The code table shows (in the last two columns) samples of precomposed characters in current coded character sets (fonts) for Coptic. The possibility of encoding these characters as fully composed characters for compatibility with existing encodings should be discussed. The code table also shows the existing Coptic characters in the standard in their correct alphabetical order. Obviously these will not appear in the final code table.

Names and code table

	xx0	xx1	xx2	xx3	xx4	xx5	xx6	x
0	ⲁ	ⲡ	†	ⲁ	ⲡ	†		
1	ⲃ	ⲣ	ⲫ	ⲃ	ⲣ	ⲫ		
2	Γ	ⲥ		Γ	ⲥ			
3	ⲇ	ⲧ		ⲇ	ⲧ			
4	ⲉ	ⲩ		ⲉ	ⲩ			
5	ⲍ	ⲫ		ⲍ	ⲫ			
6	ⲍ	ⲭ		ⲍ	ⲭ			
7	ⲏ	ⲯ		ⲏ	ⲯ			
8	ⲑ	ⲱ		ⲑ	ⲱ			
9	ⲓ	ⲱ		ⲓ	ⲱ			
A	ⲕ	ⲋ		ⲕ	ⲋ			
B	ⲗ	ⲏ		ⲗ	ⲏ	ō		
C	ⲙ	ⲝ		ⲙ	ⲝ	◡		
D	ⲛ	ⲟ		ⲛ	ⲟ	ↄ		
E	ⲝ	ⲭ		ⲝ	ⲭ	:		
F	ⲟ	ⲥ		ⲟ	ⲥ	∴		

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xx00      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER ALFA
xx01      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER VIDA
xx02      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER GAMMA
xx03      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER DALDA
xx04      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER EIE
xx05      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER SOU
xx06      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER ZATA
xx07      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER HATE
xx08      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER THETHE
xx09      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER IAUDA
xx0A      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER KAPA
xx0B      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER LAULA
xx0C      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER MI
xx0D      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER NI
xx0E      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER KSI
xx0F      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER O
xx10      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER PI
xx11      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER RO
xx12      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER SIMA
xx13      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER TAU
xx14      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER UA
xx15      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER FI
xx16      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER KHI
xx17      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER PSI
xx18      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER OOU
03E2      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER SHEI
03E4      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER FEI
03E6      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER KHEI
xx1C      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER AKHMIMIC KI
03E8      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER HORI
03EA      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER GANGIA
03EC      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER SHIMA
03EE      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER DEI
xx21      COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER STAUROS
xx22      (This position shall not be used)
xx23      (This position shall not be used)
xx24      (This position shall not be used)
xx25      (This position shall not be used)
xx26      (This position shall not be used)
xx27      (This position shall not be used)
xx28      (This position shall not be used)
xx29      (This position shall not be used)
xx2A      (This position shall not be used)
xx2B      (This position shall not be used)
xx2C      (This position shall not be used)
xx2D      (This position shall not be used)
xx2E      (This position shall not be used)
xx2F      (This position shall not be used)
xx30      COPTIC SMALL LETTER ALFA
xx31      COPTIC SMALL LETTER VIDA
xx32      COPTIC SMALL LETTER GAMMA
xx33      COPTIC SMALL LETTER DALDA
xx34      COPTIC SMALL LETTER EIE
xx35      COPTIC SMALL LETTER SOU
xx36      COPTIC SMALL LETTER ZATA
xx37      COPTIC SMALL LETTER HATE
xx38      COPTIC SMALL LETTER THETHE
xx39      COPTIC SMALL LETTER IAUDA
xx3A      COPTIC SMALL LETTER KAPA
xx3B      COPTIC SMALL LETTER LAULA
xx3C      COPTIC SMALL LETTER MI
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xx3D     COPTIC SMALL LETTER NI
xx3E     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  KSI
xx3F     COPTIC SMALL LETTER O
xx40     COPTIC SMALL LETTER PI
xx41     COPTIC SMALL LETTER RO
xx42     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  SIMA
xx43     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  TAU
xx44     COPTIC SMALL LETTER UA
xx45     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  FI
xx46     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  KHI
xx47     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  PSI
xx48     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  OOU
03E3     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  SHEI
03E5     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  FEI
03E7     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  KHEI
xx4C     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  AKHMIMIC KHEI
03E9     COPTIC SMALL LETTER HORI
03EB     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  GANGIA
03ED     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  SHIMA
03EF     COPTIC SMALL LETTER DEI
xx51     COPTIC SMALL LETTER  STAUROS
xx52     (This position shall not be used)
xx53     (This position shall not be used)
xx54     (This position shall not be used)
xx55     (This position shall not be used)
xx56     (This position shall not be used)
xx57     (This position shall not be used)
xx58     (This position shall not be used)
xx59     (This position shall not be used)
xx5A     (This position shall not be used)
xx5B     COPTIC SYLLABIC MARK
xx5C     COPTIC HYPHEN
xx5D     COPTIC DIVISOR
xx5E     COPTIC DOUBLE PUNCTUATION
xx5F     COPTIC SINGLE PUNCTUATION
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