

Report on the SC35 Bellevue Meeting

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JTC1/SC35 and its various working groups met in Bellevue, Washington the week of February 21 – 25, 2011. A delegation representing L2 was in attendance for some of the meetings, including the SC 35 plenary sessions and some of the WG1 and WG5 sessions. The topic of primary interest for L2 was the WG5 agenda item regarding the recent NP ballot, N1616. The delegation was also invited to discuss certain WG1 items.

WG1

WG1 discussed their liaison contribution to SC2 (discussed in Busan and, subsequently by UTC and L2) requesting various character additions and other changes. (This set of requests relate to ISO/IEC 9995-7 and Amendment 1 of 9995-7.) The L2 delegation notified WG1 that the US preferred to see the entire changes considered together. As WG1 is allowing time until the next SC2 meeting for possible SC2 actions or feedback, no actions were taken at this time.

WG1 also discussed work related to a working draft for ISO/IEC 9995-9. Specifically, Karl Pentzlin is preparing a proposal to encode “missing Latin small capital and modifier letters”. The L2 delegation pointed out the need for proposal to include documentation that demonstrates established usage. Accordingly, a resolution (SC35/2011.6) was prepared instructing Karl Pentzlin to make the needed improvements.

WG5

The working draft for TR 20007 was discussed briefly. This TR discusses terms for “character”, “symbol”, etc. as used in various JTC1 standards and committees with a view to highlighting important differences or similarities. The L2 delegation indicated that the main interest from L2 would be to ensure that the notion of ‘character’ is appropriately represented and described. A revised working draft will be available for review before the next SC35 meeting. (Cf. resolution SC35/2011.12.

The WG5 topic of primary interest for L2 was the NP ballot, “New work item for a TR titled Specification method for cultural conventions” (N1616). The US ballot was received. In spite of negative votes from Canada, Finland and the US, the outcome of the vote was positive. Thus, this is now an approved SC35 project. Disposition of comments was discussed; US requested that the DoC respond to comments from Canada, Finland, and the US with an explanation as to why any specification other than LDML would make sense for this project. The final DoC is still forthcoming.

The drafting committee had prepared a resolution that would have the current working draft go to a PDTR ballot in mid-April. The L2 delegation raised various concerns with the resolution that was drafted, and was supported by France, Germany, Ireland, Korea, Japan and UK in getting the resolution amended. The following was adopted:

Resolution 2011.13: Progress of project titled "Information technology -- Specification methods for cultural conventions" (WG5)

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35 acknowledges the positive result of the NP ballot on "Information technology -- Specification methods for cultural conventions" (SC 35 N 1649) and appoints Mr Keld Simonsen as project Editor. The Editor is requested to provide a document resolving received comments.

A revised working draft will be produced with the agreed changes, and distributed to SC 35 as a numbered document by 2011-03-15 for a two-month comment period. The Editor is then asked to provide a new working draft taking comments into account for the next WG 5 meeting. It is intended that the working draft be considered at the next WG 5 meeting for submission to PDTR Ballot.

SC 35 encourages its National bodies to investigate their constituency and provide expertise to WG 5, including by identifying and proposing experts as potential co-Editors.

Note: We cannot comment as what comprise the "agreed changes". It appears that WG5 met and discussed this project at some other time during the week when the L2 delegation was not present.

SC 35 also adopted a resolution (2011.14) instructing the SC35 Secretary to create a liaison with the Unicode Consortium.

Future meetings

Future meetings of SC 35 are scheduled as follows:

2011-08-29/09-02	Warsaw, Poland
2012-02-20/24	Kyoto, Japan
2012-08-27/31 (tentative)	Montréal, Canada (tentative)
2013-02-25/03-01 (tentative)	Latin America, or Korea (tentative)
2013-08-26/30 (tentative)	Korea, or Latin America (tentative)