TO: Unicode Technical Committee

FROM: Deborah Anderson (SEI, UC Berkeley), IR TITLE: Brief IR Report on WG2 Meeting #62

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ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2 Working Group 2 meeting took place in San Jose at Adobe from 24-28 February 2014. Seven national body members were present (including representatives from Russia) and four liaison members. The meeting included a dinner on Wednesday night, provided by the Unicode Consortium.

As noted in the Unicode Consortium liaison report ($\underline{L2/14-072}$), the RUBLE SIGN was approved and slipped into the fourth edition (as was one cuneiform character and the Manichaean sequences). The fourth edition now progresses to the FDIS ballot; draft charts for the FDIS delta are available at: $\underline{L2/14-080}$.

It was decided that characters and scripts currently in Amendment 1 to the fourth edition would be separated into two amendments, since some scripts and characters were deemed more urgent than others.

Below are the significant contents of each amendment:

DAM1 includes: additions to the Cherokee block and a new Cherokee Supplement block (which will provide lower case pairs for Cherokee), the two Siddham vowel signs, and a few other characters. (Draft charts: <u>L2/14-078</u>)

PDAM2 includes: the Nushu, Tangut, Zanabazar Square, and Marchen scripts, Tamil and Malayalam fractions and measurement characters, Malayalam chillus, and a few other characters. (Draft charts: <u>L2/14-079</u>)

The Tangut script was approved with the name changes as requested by the USNB, but the first character in the block, TANGUT REPETITION MARK, was moved to a new "Ideographic Symbols and Punctuation" block.

As noted in the Unicode Consortium liaison report, various experts attended the meeting and participated in ad hoc meetings. Notable outcomes from these meetings include:

- For Nushu, names will be rule-based (i.e., NUSHU CHARACTER-XXXXX, where XXXXX is the
 codepoint). Experts from Japan and others will work with China in reviewing the repertoire.
 China will provide an English translation of Appendix F of N3598 explaining how unifications and
 disunifications were decided. The Nushu script was moved into Amendment 2.
- For Siddham, names of the four alternate letters were changed to be more descriptive (such as "SIDDHAM LETTER THREE-CIRCLE ALTERNATE I") and were moved over a column. These four alternate Siddham letters will progress to the FDIS stage of the fourth edition, but the two vowel sign characters will go into Amendment 1, to allow one last review.

China provided feedback (in L2/14-081) on the Mongolian head marks proposal (L2/14-030). Additional dialog will need to take place between the authors of the proposal and Mongolian users in China. The Editor of 10646 may opt to include the Mongolian head marks in Amendment 2 at a later stage.

IRG plans to have CJK Extension F ready to submit to WG2 after IRG meeting #42 in May 2014. Three Urgently Needed Characters requested by China, discussed in L2/14-082 at this WG2 meeting, will be added to what will become "Extension F". ¹ (One of these, #7373, is the same as UTC-01171.) If Extension F is delayed, China requests that these three characters be appended to the URO as U+9FCD through U+9FCF.

WG2 also agreed to accept proposed text to subclause 23.2 concerning presentation of updated sources (N4544). The new text will clarify the text in the standard so glyphs for CJK Ideographs can be updated to reflect modern usage, while retaining the original source information.

WG2 discussed difficulties in trying to access enquiry draft documents. This situation has impacted work by USNB and its experts, particularly resolution of DIS comments, and affects work by other NBs and experts. As a result of the discussion, WG2 passed a resolution requesting SC2 and its secretariat to "explore options to enable WG2 members to have access to enquiry draft documents for review and to facilitate consideration of these drafts and ballot responses at WG2 meetings." It is hoped a discussion will take place at the SC2 meeting in Colombo.

The OWG-SORT group agreed to progress PDAM2 of ISO/IEC 14651 third edition to DAM2, with the addition of the RUBLE SIGN, thereby ensuring it is synchronized with UCA 7.0. After the Colombo meeting in Fall 2014, it is expected that the CD of the 14651 fourth edition will be ready.

The next WG2 meeting (#63) takes place in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 29 September - 3 October 2014. The host for the following meeting (#64) in 2015 has not been finalized.

¹ Two of the proposed characters were in F2, and will be moved to F1, and one will be added to F1; what will become Extension F is called F1 in IRG; F2 will become Extension G.