Source / Contribution Identifier :   **Japan**

Meeting :   @ / for   Kunming

Issue Number :   Project Number :

Title :   **Activity Report**

Keywords :

Status :

Short Description :

This paper is an activity report of Japanese National Body.

Proposed Conclusion / Requested Action :

None

Arguments / Text of Contribution :

See attachment.

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Activity Report in Japan (June 2000)

1. Japanese National Body Activities
1.1 Activities Overview
We have two committees for the SC2 issues in Japan. They belong to the IPSJ/ITSCJ (Information Processing Society of Japan / Information Technology Standards Commission of Japan). One is a higher level committee, called JSC2, acts for the SC2, WG2 and WG3 matter. The other one is KWG (Kanji Working Group) acting for the IRG matter. Each committee meets every month.

KWG has 19 members and 5 observers, who are experts of coding scheme and ideographic character. We had six KWG meetings and three ad hoc meetings after the last IRG. We reviewed the resolutions of IRG Singapore meeting and WG2 Beijing meeting, and discussed about the issues.

1.2 Attending SC2 meeting
Four delegates from KWG (and they're also JSC2 members) attended last SC2/WG2 meeting which were held in Beijing this March.

1.3 Extension B addition
KWG is working with Japanese Extension B proposal. In the FCD10646-2, 301 unified ideographs are included.

1.4 Revision of UCS
JSC2 organized a new committee last year to revise JIS X0221 for revision of ISO/IEC 10646-1. It almost finished the work this March and the revision of JIS will be published as soon as the revision of ISO/IEC 10646-1 is published.

2. JIS X0213
The new standard JIS X0213:2000 was established Jan. 20, and published this March. According to the standard, the specification is as follow.

2.1 Size
JIS X0213 is an extension of JIS X0208. It includes all JIS X0208 characters as a repertoire, and newly adds about 4,000 characters. The added characters are:

      659 non-kanji characters
      1,249 level 3 kanji characters
      2,436 level 4 kanji characters

2.2 Relation with UCS
Because there are several hundreds characters that have not been mapped to UCS, Japan is working to put them into UCS. 301 Kanjis are now in the FCD10646-2 as unified ideographs and 60 Kanjis were approved in SC2/WG2 to include as Compatibility Ideographs. Other non-Ideographic characters are also being proposed to ISO/IEC10646-1 and under the discussion at SC2/WG2.

2.3 Coding scheme
The standard includes specification of coding scheme on the environment such as Shift-JIS, Internet and EUC as informative references.

2.4 Registration to ISO-IR
JSA is requesting to register JIS X0213 to the ISO-IR.