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Japan Activity Report (May 2002)

1 Japan National Body Activities

1.1 Overview

Japan has two committees for the SC2 related issues. They both belong to the IPSJ/ITSCJ (Information Processing Society of Japan, Information Technology Standards Commissions of Japan.) One of the committees is the higher-level committee called JSC2 that acts for the SC2, WG2 and WG3 matters. Another is called KWG (which stands for Kanji Working Group) that acts for the IRG matters. Each committee regularly meets every month.

KWG currently consists of 18 members and 5 observers, who are experts of coded character sets and ideographic characters. KWG had four meetings since the last IRG meeting.

1.2 Recent Activities

After the last IRG meeting in Tokyo, the KWG spent most of its effort on Extension-C submission establishment and ideographs error correction issue.

1.3 Attending International Meetings

Five delegates from KWG attended the last IRG meeting in Tokyo, as well as several observers/guests from Japan.

2 Related Activities

2.1 Committee for Coded Character Set Standardization Perspectives

Early 2001, ITSCJ started a committee called Committee for Coded Character Set Standardization Perspectives to discuss Kanji-related issues. The committee membership has some overlap with KWG and JSC2.

The committee finished its job in March 2002. The final report of the committee will soon be published and made available on the web.

2.2 JCS Committee

Early 2001, INSTAC (Information Technology Research and Standardization Center) of JSA (Japan Standardization Association) started JCS Committee to revise JIS X 0208, X 0213, and related standards. The committee has concluded that some revisions are necessary and has stated outlines of the revision. The committee will continue to work on establishing the draft of the planned revision.

2.3 IPSJ-TS

IPSJ has established a new series of standard publications called IPSJ-TS (IPSJ trial standard.) IPSJ-TS is not intended as a definitive standard; it is just like RFC documents of Internet protocols of early days.

One of its first TS is BUCS (Basic Subset of Coded Character Set), which is a subset of CJK UNIFIED

IDEOGRAPHS with high degree of functional importance. It is based on Prof. Matsuoka's early work of the same name. Although ITSJ-TS is officially published in Japanese, an English translation of the document is provided as ATTACHMENT 2 for your information.

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