ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2   **IRG N912**

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Macao S.A.R. joined this workgroup at the 17th Meeting in June of 2001. As a new member of the ISO/IRG, Macao started its work relatively late, in comparison with other members.

Since the admission into the ISO/IRG, the Committee for Unification of Computer Chinese Character Encoding, of the Macao government, began to accelerate the work for consolidation of Chinese characters. By means of questionnaires distributed to all public service departments, 1355 newly created characters had been collected, of which 249 characters are not included in the Extension B of ISO/IEC 10646 2:2001. Thereafter, we had double confirmed with the sources about their origins, usage ratio, accuracy, etc., proceeding thorough and prudential consolidation of all collected characters. Eventually, after having eliminated some characters with very low usage, and corrected a lump of wrong characters, we got 56 characters created amongst Macao public service departments, of which 22 characters were proposed already at the 18th Meeting of ISO/IRG held in December of 2001 (see Document N842R).

After the 18th Meeting of ISO/IRG, once again, we have verified back and forth these created characters of every public service department, trying hard to find out their origins,

and aiming at clearing out details, reason and practical use of every created character, in order to compile basic conditions for consideration when presenting them to the ISO/IRG.. With seriousness and sense of responsibility, we decided not to propose any character that misses detail and usage, and do propose again those 22 characters already submitted at the 18th Meeting of ISO/IRG, with the formal style as requested by the plenary meeting and indicated in document N881.

These characters are almost all used in persons' names, and definitely printed on effective identity documents of Macao citizen. Therefore, they must be submitted.

After the admission into the ISO/IRG, as a member, we have known how ISO/IRG works, and affirmed the way to proceed ahead. We will soon publish locally our mechanism and principle for submission of characters, controlling seriously and prudentially the growth of new characters, and preventing unreasonable and never ended expansion of Chinese characters in number.

Hereafter, the Government of Macao S.A.R. will certainly adopt the ISO 10646 standard, and gradually catch up with this standard in the territory of Macao, in respect to encoding, font, ideograph of Chinese characters. We are looking forward to keeping track with the ISO 10646 in the near future, and we are striking for this goal.

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