Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation
Международная организация по стандартизации

**Doc Type: Working Group Document**
**Title: Towards an Encoding of Old Hungarian – Comments on N3527 and N3615**
**Source: Karl Pentzlin**
**Status: Individual Contribution**
**Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2 and UTC**
**Date: 2009-04-21**

In the German Comments on PDAM7, Germany required the encoding of Old Hungarian (document N3592-G). This comment was resolved by the hint of the editor that doing this was out of scope of such comments, and should be done in a separate document.

This is done by supplying this document (while the original comment was retracted in consequence). This document is intended to provide a minimal consensus between the two proposals N3527 and N3615.

Compared with the original German comment, this paper takes into account that the proposal N3531 regarded in the original comments is replaced by a revision N3615 in the meantime.

Beyond that, it resembles the original comment except substituting "Germany recommends ..." etc. by "It is recommended" etc., as there was no time to formally edit this document as a contribution of the German NB.

--

It is requested to include the script which is called Old Hungarian in the WG2 document N3615 (by Michael Everson et al.) and Szekler-Hungarian Rovas in document N3527 (by Gábor Hosszú).

It is recommended to follow N3615 (which includes the naming of the script as "Old Hungarian"), with the following deviation:

The code points of the character proposed 10CFA ...10CFE shall be shifted downwards by 1, thus occupying 10CF9...10CFD, leaving a gap at 10CFE for a 500 symbol, whether this will added in the first step or not.

Germany favors to encode an additional U+10CFE OLD HUNGARIAN NUMBER FIVE HUNDRED based on the U+1AB5 SZEKLER-HUNGARIAN ROVAS NUMBER FIVE HUNDRED proposed in N3527 (but named according to the rules in N3615), as the evidence of use by an (admittedly very small) minority of the users of Old Hungarian is shown in N5327.
This minority would be prevented to propagate the use of the 500 symbol, although this symbol appears not more novel or idiosyncratic as most of the recently proposed Emoji symbols.

It is favored to encode the eight ligatures which correspond to single Latin letters:

U+10CB4 OLD HUNGARIAN CAPITAL LETTER Q
U+10CB5 OLD HUNGARIAN CAPITAL LETTER W
U+10CB6 OLD HUNGARIAN CAPITAL LETTER X
U+10CB7 OLD HUNGARIAN CAPITAL LETTER Y
U+10CF4 OLD HUNGARIAN SMALL LETTER Q
U+10CF5 OLD HUNGARIAN SMALL LETTER W
U+10CF6 OLD HUNGARIAN SMALL LETTER X
U+10CF7 OLD HUNGARIAN SMALL LETTER Y

as in the context of the concurrent use of the script with the Latin script, there especially names written in Latin must be able to be represented uniquely and reversibly in the Old Hungarian script, not confined to names which are inherently Hungarian.
Thus, unlike the other ligatures proposed in N3527, these ligatures get the quality of letters like the Latin Æ/e (AE/ae, U+00C6/U+00E6) which are ligatures in origin but due to their usage context qualify as letters to be encoded.
Recurring to mechanisms like ZWJ is considered a pseudo-encoding which as such is to be avoided.