

Title: ISO/IEC FCD 8859-7: Editor's DRAFT Disposition of Comment
Source: Michael Everson, editor
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Responses to the letter ballot on the FCD ballot appear in document JTC1/SC2 N3382 (published three years ago, 1999-10-22). National bodies that submitted comments are listed below in alphabetical order. THIS IS A DRAFT DISPOSITION OF COMMENTS.

Three National Bodies voted No on the FCD. Two National Bodies voted Yes with comments. Two National Bodies Abstained. A resolution of the comments of those National Bodies is provided here.

A number of small changes approved by SC2 for other parts of 8859 since 1999 have been incorporated into the FDIS for consistency. Other changes which might be expected to be requested by ITTF, such as the layout of the definitions which has been changed to be in accordance with the new ISO directives for definition formatting, are NOT going to be incorporated into the FDIS, on the assumption (1) that this standard ought to have been processed before those changes came into effect, and (2) that consistency with all of the other parts of 8859 should take precedence over this arbitrary typographical convention.

Comments accompanying Australia's ballot on ISO/IEC FCD 8859-7 (Abstain)

Lack of expertise.

Noted.

Comments accompanying Canada's ballot on ISO/IEC FCD 8859-7 (Disapprove)

Canada disapproves for the reasons below:

Character 10/14 looks too much like the G0-set “;”, which does not justify adding a new one for compatibility reasons. Currently the “G0 set” “;” is used as an interrogation mark in Greece. Creating a new codepoint to mean the same character would be detrimental to current applications.

Accepted. The character will not be added.

Second, check the YPOGEGRAMMENI UCS identifier which might be wrong.

The code position is U+037A and the name is GREEK YPOGEGRAMMENI.

Comments accompanying Israel's ballot on ISO/IEC FCD 8859-7 (Approve)

Israel votes YES provided that the relevant (*) national body also approves this draft - otherwise our vote is ABSTAIN.

(*) relevant national body = the national body for which this character collection describes its national language.

Noted.

Comments accompanying the Netherlands' ballot on ISO/IEC FCD 8859-7 (Abstain)

We abstain as we do not have sufficient expertise in the matter. Nevertheless, we like to put a few questions.

1. The drachma will be replaced as soon as possible by the euro. Why is then inclusion of a DRACHMA SIGN justified? A standard is

meant to be permanent, and not for a short period only.

Apparently there was a desire to be able to use both currency signs in databases and so on.

2. A difference is made between SEMICOLON and GREEK QUESTION MARK. But the corresponding graphic symbols are almost indistinguishable. How will this work out in practice?

The GREEK QUESTION MARK will not be added to this part of ISO/IEC 8859. In practice, U+037E is equivalent to U+003B.

3. Most of the texts of the several parts of 8859 are, and shall be, identical. Are there any deviations made in this part 7 from the common text (which we were unable to check)?

The text is to be harmonized with the text of the latest published part of ISO/IEC 8859.

Comments accompanying Poland's ballot on ISO/IEC FCD 8859-7 (Disapprove)

Reasons for disapproval of ISO/IEC FCD 8859-7

The clause on page 1 (inherited from the earlier parts of the standard): *"This part of ISO/IEC 8859 may not be used in conjunction with any other of ISO/IEC 8859. If coded characters from more than one part are to be used together, by means of code extension techniques, the equivalent coded character sets from ISO/IEC 10367 should be used instead within a version of ISO/IEC 4873 at level 2 or level 3."* no longer makes sense, because the ISO/IEC 8859 standard family contains now (or will contain) characters not included ISO/IEC 10367 (e. g. Thai).

Noted. The editor doesn't think that this is going to cause any problems in the real world. This text appears in all of the parts of ISO/IEC 8859.

Comments accompanying Sweden's ballot on ISO/IEC FCD 8859-7 (Approve)

1. The Swedish NB assumes that the DRACHMA SIGN will have received a 10646 coding before 8859-7 is progressed to the FDIS stage.

It has.

2. The Table 1 identification of the GREEK QUESTION MARK is in error. The identification shall be U+037E, not U+00AE.

Noted, but the character will be deleted from the FDIS in any case.

Comments accompanying the U.S. ballot on ISO/IEC FCD 8859-7 (Disapprove)

Disapprove unless the following changes are made to the proposal:

Greek question mark in position AE must not be added.

Accepted. It will not be added.

Add a comment to 3B "also Greek question mark for Erotimatiko".

Accepted in principle. The U.S. proposed text doesn't quite make sense. The comment "(used for Greek erotimatiko)" will be added to the character name. The editor knows that there is a different character in the UCS with the name GREEK QUESTION MARK, and believes that a comment "(Greek erotimatiko)" would not be sufficient.

U+20AF must be entered at the table as the identifier for 10/05 (A5) DRACHMA SIGN.

Accepted.

The identifiers and names for 10/01 (A1), 10/02 (A2), and 11/07 (B7) must be changed to:

10/01 U+02BD - MODIFIER LETTER
REVERSED COMMA

10/02 U+02BC - MODIFIER LETTER
APOSTROPHE

Rejected. ISO-IR 126 calls these characters LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK and RIGHT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK respectively, though the glyph for the former is clearly that of DASIA, implying that PSILI is meant for the latter as well. On the other hand the glyph in the FCD shows the quotation marks. The question is, what are these intended to represent? Quotation marks or breathings? Considering that 8859-7 supports monotonikó orthography it seems unlikely that these characters for polytonikó orthography would be required. In any case the Unicode Mapping Table (by Ken Whistler, 1999-07-27) maps to U+2018 and U+2019, so that should quash the U.S. comment easily enough.

11/07 U+00B7 - MIDDLE DOT

Accepted. In ISO-IR 126 this character is identified as MIDDLE DOT (Ano teleia).

These changes must be made to prevent mapping problems for this new standard, and incompatibilities with ISO 10646.

The editor assumes that the Unicode mapping reflects industry consensus.

Registration for final bytes must be done also.

Noted.

Late comments from ELOT and the Convenor of WG3:

The following is a comment from the convenor of WG3, sent to the SC2 secretariat 2001-10-05 (two years after the FCD ballot):

Meanwhile, please be informed that our National Technical Committee has finally decided to accept the comments made by the US and Canada on 8859-7 and leave character position 10/14 of Table2 (Code Table) of this draft Standard empty. Also we would like to put in the relevant position 10/14 of table 1 the remark "Left for future Standardization".

Rejected. SC2 character set standards use the text "(This position shall not be used)" which does, however, carry the implication that the positions so identified can be used for future standardization.

This was a major compromise on behalf of the Greek National Committee, since the Standard was already approved, and there was no obligation to reverse any vote for the Standard to be adopted.

Noted.

Anyway, I hope that now we satisfy everyone and there should be no objection for the Standard to be processed immediately as a new version of the 8859-7. This way, I hope that we almost conclude with our work programme.

Noted.