

IRG Meeting #27 in Sanya, Hainan, China

Notes of Discussion at the Plenary Session Held in the Morning of 27 November 2006

Opening and Appointments

The meeting started at 10:00 a.m.

After a roll call, the Rapporteur appointed Mr. Peter Cheng (HKSAR) to serve as the meeting secretary, Mr. Francis Chuen (HKSAR) as the drafting group leader and Mr. Wu Jian (China) the name card and email address collector.

The Rapporteur then reviewed the draft Agenda. Without new proposals from the floor, the Agenda was approved.

Activity Reports of Member Bodies

Chief Editors took turn to briefly present the salient points in their Activity Reports as follows:

HKSAR (IRG N1242)

Four characters had been preliminarily accepted for inclusion in the Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set (HKSCS). All these characters were already in the ISO 10646 Standard. The HKSAR Government was developing a sample font and input software which would support the International Ideographs Core (IICORE) and the HKSCS on IT platforms of resource-limited devices. The objective was to promote the wider adoption of the IICORE for Chinese computing on mobile platforms in the HKSAR. Also for the purpose of promoting the IICORE, the HKSAR Government had launched an 'IICORE Comparison Utility' that could compare and check the Chinese contents of websites against the list of IICORE characters. Chinese characters not on the IICORE list would be listed in an output report for webmasters' reference. Member bodies were welcome to use this comparison utility.

Macao SAR (IRG N1243)

The Committee for Unification of Computer Chinese Character Encoding in the Macao SAR had decided that the future Macao Information Systems Character Set would follow the ISO 10646 Standard. The Macao SAR proposed to include 55 M-source characters in the ISO 10646 Standard. The details would be discussed by the CJK Editorial Group.

Japan (IRG N1244)

Revision of JIS X 0221-1:2001 (the Japanese version of ISO 10646-1:2000) was progressing and the final draft would be submitted to the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee by the end of 2006. Meanwhile, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry was carrying out a study on the usage of Kanji glyphs for Japanese e-government.

Republic of Korea (IRG N1245)

The Korean national body had found out that about 7 800 characters were not included in the Unicode or Korean standards. These characters would be candidates for the CJK Extension D project.

China (IRG N1246)

China's National Library had refined its preliminary proposal for CJK Extension D or E. About 5 000 characters were proposed for inclusion in the ISO 10646 Standard. Experts in China suggested that the Old Hanzi Expert Group should consider revising some technical rules concerning the oracle bone inscriptions project. The details would be discussed by the Old Hanzi Expert Group.

TCA (IRG N1247)

Taiwan's Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI) was reviewing a set of new standard fonts (true type fonts in Song style) for the Chinese characters in planes 3-7 of CNS 11643. TCA would provide the true type fonts of T-source characters in CJK Extension B when the BSMI had completed the review.

Vietnam (IRG N1248)

The Vietnamese Nom Preservation Foundation and the Institute of Nom Studies were working on a book to be published in 2007. The book would contain all Nom characters that had been collected and outline Vietnam's standardisation activities in the area of ideographs since 1992. Based on this book, a draft national standard on Nom characters, conforming to the ISO 10646 Standard, would be submitted to the Vietnamese national body.

Unicode/USA (IRG N1252)

The Unicode Standard, Version 5.0 was published in November 2006. The Unicode Technical Committee had authorised a set of characters for inclusion

in CJK Extension D. The details would be discussed by the CJK Editorial Group.

DPR Korea

No written report from DPR Korea.

Review of WG 2 Meeting #49 Resolutions

On the provision of source reference information, the Rapporteur reminded member bodies that they had to provide English descriptions of their source codes. The Technical Editor would follow up the matter.

The Rapporteur adjourned the plenary session at 11:40 a.m. and asked the CJK Editorial Group and the Old Hanzi Expert Group to meet at 1:30 pm.

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IRG Meeting #27 in Sanya, Hainan, China

Notes of Discussion at the Plenary Session Held in the Morning of 29 November 2006

The meeting started at 9:00 a.m.

CJK Editorial Group

The Chief Editor briefly reported the work of the Editorial Group (N1266) for members' information.

On the provision of source reference information, the Rapporteur said that text descriptions were needed in order to improve the presentation of the multi-column code chart. Since the provision of source reference information would be delayed, the IRG had to notify WG2 and there should be a resolution on this matter in the Resolutions of IRG Meeting #27.

The plenary session also discussed the latest development of CJK Extension C and the work schedule for Extension D. It was agreed that characters intended for inclusion in future extensions should be prepared in the same format as that for Extension D. This would be helpful in planning the development of further extensions.

Future meetings

Republic of Korea told the meeting that it could only host an IRG meeting in Busan in 2009, not in 2008 as previously planned.

China tabled N1269. It was noted that the Chinese delegation could not attend IRG Meeting #28 to be held in Taipei, Taiwan. To minimise the inconveniences caused to member bodies, China volunteered to host the coming meeting.

TCA reiterated its position and sincerity to host a meeting in Taiwan.

The USA said it fully appreciated TCA's endeavours to host a meeting over the past years.

The Rapporteur said it was most regrettable to learn of this unexpected change and asked member bodies to seriously consider China's position in N1269 and discuss the matter again at tomorrow's plenary session.

Review of the IICORE and safe characters for security

With reference to UTR 36 and RFC 3743, the Rapporteur asked member bodies to consult their own experts and report at the next IRG meeting.

The plenary session closed at 9:45 am.

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IRG Meeting #27 in Sanya, Hainan, China

Notes of Discussion at the Plenary Session Held in the Morning of 30 November 2006

The meeting started at 9:35 a.m. to discuss the draft Resolutions (N1260) and other outstanding matters.

Old Hanzi Expert Group Report (N1267)

Prof Li Guoying briefed the meeting on the report of the Old Hanzi Expert Group (N1267). It was noted that an ad hoc meeting would be held in January or February 2007 to speed up the work on old hanzi (oracle bone inscriptions).

The meeting unanimously accepted the report.

Future meeting schedule

TCA told the meeting that it was deeply disappointed at China's position in N1269 and said it would not volunteer to host any IRG meeting in Taiwan in the future.

After discussion, the meeting accepted China's proposal to host IRG Meeting #28 in Xi'an, Shaanxi.

Approval of the Resolutions (N1260)

The meeting scrutinised the Resolutions item by item and approved N1260 unanimously.

Close of IRG Meeting #27

The meeting closed at 10:20 a.m. followed by a group photo-taking session.

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