

Notes of Plenary Sessions
at IRG Meeting #31 in Kunming, Yunnan, China

PART 1

Notes of Discussion at the Plenary Session
Held in the Morning of 10 November 2008

Opening and Appointments

The meeting started at 10:00 am.

After a roll call, the Rapporteur appointed Mr. Peter Cheng (HKSAR) to serve as the meeting secretary, Mr. Retarkgo Yan (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 (N1492) and explained the meeting schedule.

The meeting went on to review the Resolutions passed at IRG#30, with HKSAR confirming that it would host IRG#32 in June 2009.

Review of WG2 Meeting #53's Resolutions

The meeting then reviewed WG2#53's Resolutions that were related to the IRG. Items included M53.07 (Additions from HKSCS): accepted by WG2; M53.27 (Multi-column formats for CJK in next edition): Japan was preparing the fonts and it could only give a target completion date later but it should be able to meet the deadline; ROK asked whether the IRG would have the chance to review the draft prepared by WG2 Project Editor; all other member bodies could also meet the deadline; and China would contact DPRK to clarify its position; M53.30 (Access to CJK Ext B glyphs): no problem on the part of the IRG; and M53.32 (Japanese compatibility ideographs): Japan would present N1499 later at the meeting.

Activity Reports of Member Bodies

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

China (N1504)

China had been working very hard to gather evidence for its characters in Ext D and the UNC set. At this stage, evidence for 3,215 Ext D characters could not be found and China had decided to withdraw these characters (see N1531).

HKSARG (N1505)

HK planned to consolidate the Chinese translations of some ISO/IEC 10646 and Unicode related terms and submit them to Unicode Consortium for its reference. China and TCA indicated that they would pass some reference materials to HK for its consideration in adopting the Chinese translations.

TCA (N1506)

The meeting noted that CNS 14754 'Sorting Attributes for Chinese Data Processing' would be

published in December 2008. It further noted that the Research Centre for Information Technology Innovation was drafting a document entitled ‘Ideograph Structure Description Sequence (ISDS) for Identifying Chinese Character’. The ISDS was similar to the IDS and could uniquely identify every Chinese character in CNS 11643.

Republic of Korea (ROK)(N1507)

ROK requested to correct two glyphs in version 4.0 of Ext D.

Japan (N1508)

In response to the study on the actual usage of Kanji (Hanzi) glyphs for e-government by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan would finalise two encoding proposals. Preliminary information could be found in N1499 and N1521.

Vietnam (N1514)

The meeting noted that the Vietnamese Nom Preservation Foundation and the Institute of Han-Nom Studies had published the book *Han Nom Coded Character Repertoire*. Those interested might inspect a copy of the book by approaching the Vietnamese delegates.

Macao SAR (N1517)

Macao was absent from the meeting and its activity report was read out by the Rapporteur. The meeting noted the setting up of Macao’s Computer Chinese Character Encoding Workgroup to establish and publish the Macao Information Systems Character Set Standard.

Other Agenda Items

Japan’s N1499 and N1521

Japan briefly presented its proposals and invited the IRG to give feedback to WG2.

Regarding N1499, Mr. John Knightley suggested that the use of Ideographic Variation Sequences should be explored while Mr. Tom Bishop thought that the characters listed should not be separately encoded as ideographs. ROK told the meeting that it faced similar problems in Korea.

Close of Plenary Session

The Rapporteur adjourned the plenary session at 11:50 am and asked the CJK Editorial Group and the Old Hanzi Expert Group to meet at 2:00 pm.

PART 2

Notes of Discussion at the Plenary Session Held in the Afternoon of 12 November 2008

The meeting started at 4:08 pm.

True Type Fonts

It was agreed that fonts for CJK Main Block and CJK Ext A would be available by the end of 2008. As to the licensing requirements, member bodies having restrictions on font submission

should submit documents to explain the conditions on which fonts could be provided.

CJK Ext B Source Visual References

Member bodies indicated that they could meet the deadline without any problems.

Annex S

The meeting noted that the Annex S Review Ad Hoc Group had finished the review and discussion of relevant papers.

Future Meetings

HKSAR would submit a paper to confirm the hosting of IRG#32. The IRG was seeking hosts for IRG#33 (TCA had indicated its interest), #34 and #35.

Vietnam volunteered to host IRG#34 in Danang, while Malaysia said it was willing to host IRG#35 in Kuala Lumpur.

Japanese Compatibility Characters

Member bodies were requested to give feedback. Mr. John Knightley thought that further examination was needed and he would submit a document listing the kind of additional information that the IRG would need to consider in the review process.

Japan clarified that its characters were in a closed set and it could provide further information in response to member bodies' feedback.

Old Hanzi Expert Group

Mr. Taichi Kawabata presented N1522 on behalf of Dr. Suzuki. The document asked if there were rules and principles governing the work of the Old Hanzi Expert Group.

The meeting noted that the Old Hanzi Expert Group had formulated N1271 (Old Hanzi Principles and References). The Rapporteur invited member bodies to give specific comments to improve N1271.

At the meeting, both the Rapporteur and the representative of the Old Hanzi Expert Group provided feedback to address the questions raised in N1522.

Detailed discussion would continue at the meeting of the Old Hanzi Expert Group.

Close of Plenary Session

The meeting closed at 5:05 pm.

PART 3

Notes of Discussion at the Plenary Session Held in the Afternoon of 13 November 2008

The meeting started at 2:45 pm.

The Rapporteur briefed the meeting on the progress of different items to be dealt with at this IRG meeting. The Rapporteur said the item on licensing requirements had been concluded by the editorial group right before this plenary session.

Future Meetings

HKSAR confirmed hosting IRG#32 (N1540).

Regarding IRG#33, TCA decided not to host the meeting. Vietnam would take TCA's place, and IRG#34 would be hosted by Malaysia, #35 by Macao and #36 by Japan.

Reports of Editorial Group/Ad Hoc Group

CJK Ext D

Mr. Chen Zhuang reported the work of the CJK Ext D Editorial Group (N1529).

Old Hanzi

Professor Li Guoying reported the work of the Old Hanzi Expert Group (N1524), in which feedback to N1522 from Japan could be found.

Annex S

Mr. John Knightley presented N1527 which summarised the work of the Ad Hoc Group and set its work schedule. He would amend the report and add a number of attachments for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Group later in the afternoon.

UNC

Mr. Chen Zhuang briefed the meeting on N1509, the structure of which was the same as that of the Ext D Editorial Report.

PnP

The Rapporteur presented N1503 and explained the purpose of N1503 Discussion (which indicated the comments made during the course of discussion).

Other Agenda Items

Remainder of UNC Submissions

Mr. Chen Zhuang told the meeting that some characters would be removed due to the lack of evidence.

Japanese Compatibility Characters

Mr. John Knightley briefly explained N1539. The Rapporteur invited member bodies to give feedback directly to Japan or indirectly through the IRG. A resolution would be passed on this item.

Font Availability

ROK presented N1530. The meeting agreed that there was no need to cover this item in the Resolutions.

Standing Document Series

The Rapporteur put forward the idea of introducing 'Standing Document Series' (WG2 was using this in conducting its business) and asked member bodies to give some thought to it.

Email List and Participant List--Privacy Concerns

To protect participants' privacy, the Rapporteur would use the ideograph '在' to replace '@' in the email addresses.

IVS Registration Fee (N1544)

Mr. John Jenkins told the meeting that registration fees would be waived for the IRG.

IVS (N1543)

The paper was not reviewed at IRG#31. The IRG might re-visit this at the next meeting.

Use of RAR

The Rapporteur asked member bodies to explore the feasibility of using RAR for IRG business. The item would be re-visited at IRG#32.

Adjournment of Meeting

The plenary session closed at 3:55 pm for a coffee break and the Rapporteur instructed the Drafting Group to meet after the coffee break.

Resumption of Meeting

The plenary session resumed at 5:10 pm.

The Rapporteur led member bodies in reviewing the draft Resolutions. Necessary amendments, including the tentative dates (23 to 27 November 2009) for IRG#33, the instruction to the Rapporteur to submit UNC V4.0 to WG2#54 and refinement of the Annex S Version 5 review schedule, were made to improve the draft Resolutions.

After careful scrutiny, the meeting unanimously passed the Resolutions (N1510).

Close of IRG#31

The meeting came to an end at 6:35 pm followed by a group photo-taking session.

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