Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set UCS

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2 IRGN1703 (2010-06-24)

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At the plenary session of IRG#34 on 2010-06-22, the IRG asked the Old Hanzi Expert Group to provide the selected glyph collection of Oracle Bone scripts with tracking information (why a glyph was dropped, why a glyph was unified with another one, and so on). However, providing all tracking information was considered not practical. Therefore, the Old Hanzi Expert Group agreed to provide only the following tracking information:

- Why a glyph was dropped for "Deleted" glyphs.
- Which glyph was unified with another glyph.

Also, the dated snapshot of the database was also required to record when the decision was made.

Japan requested that the data format of the selected glyph collection should be some spreadsheet format editable by popular applications (like Excel) or some XML, because it would be difficult to examine PDF data with electronic tools. After discussion, the Old Hanzi Expert Group agreed to provide all database materials to JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2.

The issue of copyright should be cleared before submission to the IRG. The source glyph image and the partial scan of the rubbing of Oracle Bone might cause copyright problems. Both China and TCA were concerned that the representation glyph could be some calligraphic opus and might cause copyright issues. Japan was concerned that the database without original and representation glyph image was difficult to discuss, and difficult to use for font production to publish JTC1 standard.

Because the publishing of source and representation glyph images as individual pictures could cause copyright issues, the Old Hanzi Expert Group agreed to submit only 2 documents to the IRG:

- 1. PDF including all texts and images in the database.
- 2. Excel including all texts but excluding images in the database.

Also Japan proposed to add new property for each glyph in the database--unique IDs for the collected glyphs. It should not be changed even if the glyph was dropped in the working process. The Old Hanzi Expert Group agreed to add unique IDs for every glyph in the database and keep them. The Project Secretary would add unique IDs after this meeting.

Japan was concerned that the current working process might be different from the process described in IRG N1271 (revision 2), IRG N1460, IRG N1473 and IRG N1524. Japan proposed to produce Version 3 to reflect the current working process. The Old Hanzi Expert Group appointed Professor Atsushi Suzuki to consolidate the materials for preparation of Version 3.

WORK SCHEDULE

- 1. Project Secretary (Selena Wei) to add unique IDs to the glyphs to generate new Version 2 of the database to include all data by 2010-August-31, and distribute to all members of the Old Hanzi Expert Group. Version 2(IRGN 1705) would be submitted in PDF format.
- 2. Project Secretary to submit Excel file to all members of the Expert Group by 2010-08-31.
- 3. Professor Atsushi Suzuki to submit a consolidated document(IRGN 1706) about the Old Hanzi Expert Group's principles and references for discussion by 2010-09-30.
- 4. Members of the Expert Group to submit feedback on item 3 to the Project Secretary by 2010-10-22.
- 5. Project Secretary to consolidate the feedback on item 4 to all members of the Old Hanzi Expert Group by 2010-11-05.
- 6. Members to discuss their feedback on item 1 at IRG#35.

Members attended the meeting were Li Guoying, Wei Lin-Mei (Selena), Zhao Cheng, Jung Bor-Sheng (鍾柏生), Dai Hong, Zhou Xiaowen, Atsushi Suzuki, Toshiya Suzuki, Tatsuo Kobayashi, Chen shuangxin and Peter Cheng (鄭偉康).

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