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Coded Character Sets
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Question(s): 10/17

Geneva, 5-14 October 2005

Ref. : TD 3141 Rev 1**Source:** ITU-T Study Group 17 (Geneva, 5-14 October 2005)**Title:** SG 17 requirements for future editions of ISO/IEC 10646

LIAISON STATEMENT**To:** ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2 and ITU-T SG 16**Approval:** Agreed to at the SG 17 meeting**For:** Action**Deadline:** March 2006

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ITU-T Study Group 17 has noted TD 0108 from the TSB that informs us that ISO/IEC 10646 will shortly be published as common text under the procedures for joint work established by JTC 1 and ITU-T. This responsibility resides with Study Group 16 on the ITU-T side and SC 2 on the JTC 1 side.

The TSB has surveyed the current references in ITU-T Recommendations to ISO/IEC 10646 and to the Unicode Consortium specification and considers it desirable for all future editions of ITU-T Recommendations to be able to reference only the joint Recommendation | International Standard.

This liaison statement informs SC 2 and SG 16 of the reasons why some SG 17 Recommendations currently reference the Unicode Consortium specification as well as ISO/IEC 10646, and requests that joint work (between SC 2 and SG 16) on future editions of the common text consider the inclusion of sufficient material or normative references to enable reference (from new editions of ITU-T Recommendations) to be made **only** to the new common text, without the need to reference the Unicode Consortium specification in addition.

NOTE - It may be that this is best achieved by the common text normatively referencing the Unicode Specification for the items identified below (with an appropriate single RER in JTC 1 and A.5 justification in ITU-T, rather than copying text). That would be for discussion as part of the joint work, but would ensure that only a single RER and A.5 was needed, rather than requiring them for each ITU-T Recommendation | ISO/IEC International Standard where such a reference is needed.

The changes we wish to be considered are:

- a) Names for ASCII control characters (or a normative reference to ISO/IEC 6429 for these names) should be included.
- b) UTF16BE specifications (and the other transformations) should be normatively defined, with the abbreviations as a normative part of the common text.

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- c) Normative identification of the particular characters that have the "decimal digit property" should be included.
- d) More generally, other character properties such as upper/lower case property are also needed for some applications such as Directory matching rules.
- e) The Unicode Normalization Forms specified in the Unicode Standard Annex #15 are required to support the Directory normalization rules.
- f) Most workers with character sets use the name "Unicode" for the character coding scheme specified jointly in ISO/IEC 10646 and the Unicode Consortium specification. It is recognized that "Unicode" is probably protected by trademark, and cannot be used without the consent of the Unicode Consortium; however, it would be highly desirable for the new common text to include - perhaps qualified in some way - the word "Unicode" in the title of the Recommendation | International Standard; for example: "Unicode Character Set (UCS)" instead of "Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS)".