

JTC1/SC2/WG2 N3724

TITLE: Letter to DEVCO members for circulation by ISO/Central Secretariat
SOURCE: Deborah Anderson, SEI, UC Berkeley
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Members of DEVCO can contribute significantly to the development ISO/IEC 10646 Universal Coded Character Set by sending in information on scripts and characters that are not yet included in ISO/IEC 10646 and ISO/IEC 14651, the international sorting order standard. In order to encourage this, it would be greatly appreciated if attached letter and list could be circulated to DEVCO members.

Responses should be forwarded to: Deborah Anderson, Script Encoding Initiative, 1203 Dwinelle Hall, Department of Linguistics, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720; email: dwanders@sonic.net.

Script Encoding Initiative
1203 Dwinelle Hall
Department of Linguistics
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720-2650
28 October 2009

Dear DEVCO member,

I am a liaison member of ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2 and run a project at the University of California, Berkeley, that works cooperatively with user communities to get letters, symbols, and other characters used to write various languages into the international character encoding standard ISO/IEC 10646 and the international sorting standard ISO/IEC 14651. The ISO standards still have characters that are known to be missing, which means that some language users are not able to write in their writing systems on the Internet, in email, on cell phones, and in word-processing documents.

We would like to initiate contact with experts and users of these scripts, so they can provide information. This will also allow these users to actively participate in the ISO standards process.

Please find attached a list of scripts or extensions to existing scripts that are not yet included in ISO/IEC 10646 (/Unicode) and ISO/IEC 14651.

If you could circulate this list to governmental and non-governmental agencies that are involved with language communities of developing countries, as well as other contacts who work with minority language users, it would be greatly appreciated. The goal is to locate experts who can provide information on the writing systems listed on the attached sheet.

Questions and responses should be sent directly to me, at the address above or to my email address (dwanders@sonic.net).

Sincerely,

Deborah Anderson
Project Leader, Script Encoding Initiative
Dept. of Linguistics
University of California, Berkeley
<http://linguistics.berkeley.edu/sei>

List of Scripts Needing More Information

The following is a listing of scripts – or extensions to existing scripts – for which additional information is needed, in order to see if they are eligible for inclusion in the international character encoding standard, ISO 10646 (/Unicode) and the sorting standard ISO 14651. This is important, because once eligible scripts are part of this worldwide standard, it will be possible for the letters and symbols of these scripts to be accessible to the user communities and others to use eventually on webpages, in email, and in word-processing documents. This effort will provide a way for communities to become part of the digital age, and to make the communities' written historical and modern documents available to the world at large.

Information in answer to the following answers is needed:

- (a) is the script still in use and, if so, in what context – schools, books, magazines, or religious texts?
- (b) what languages use it and in what countries is it used?
- (c) what basic letters or symbols and marks of punctuation make up these scripts, and can a printed example of these letters and symbols be provided?
- (d) can the names of any users or experts who are familiar with these scripts be provided, with their email addresses?

Note: The following list may not be complete. To quickly see the list of scripts that are already in the standard, see: <http://www.unicode.org/charts/>. For more information, please contact: Deborah Anderson, Script Encoding Initiative, 1203 Dwinelle Hall, Department of Linguistics, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720-2650, USA, Email: dwanders@sonic.net. (The Script Encoding Initiative is a project that aims to help user communities get eligible scripts and characters proposed to ISO 10646/Unicode. More information on the project and the scripts below is available at: <http://linguistics.berkeley.edu/sei>.)

Africa	South and Southeast Asia	East Asia and Central Asia
Afaka	Ahom	Archaic Miao Square Script
Arabic Extensions for African languages	Balti (non-Tibetan script)	Archaic Yi Extensions
Bagam	Chola	Arabic Ext. for Kazakh
Bassa Vah	Dhives Akuru	Bopomofo Extensions
Beria (=Beria Giray Erfe)	Kawi	Ersu Shaba
Bété	Khojki	Jing (Zinan)
Fula (Oumar Dembélé)	Landa	Jurchin
Fula (Adama Ba)	Leke	Kitan Large Script
Hausa (Salifou)	Mahajani	Kitan Small Script
Hausa (Raina Kama)	Maithili (Tirhuta)	Naxi Geba
Hausa (Tafi)	Modi	Naxi Tomba
Kpelle	Mro	Old Uighur
Loma	Pahawh Hmong	Soyombo
Masaba	Pyu	Zhuang Square
Mende	Ranjana	
Nsibidi	Siddham	Other (Europe, Caucasus, etc.)
Numidian	Siyaq Numerals	Büthakukye
Wolof (Garey)	Tai Don	Old Permic
	Tai Daeng	Old Udi
	Takri	
	Tulu	
	Warang Citi	
	Woleai	