



DATE: 2012-02-11

<b>ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2</b>
<b>Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS) - ISO/IEC 10646</b>
<b>Secretariat: ANSI</b>

<b>TITLE:</b>	Proposal of Separating the Old Hanzi Group from IRG
<b>SOURCE:</b>	China
<b>STATUS:</b>	To be considered
<b>REFERENCE</b>	N4095 Japanese Comments on TCA submission N4048
<b>DISTRIBUTION:</b>	SC2/WG2
<b>MEDIUM:</b>	Electronic
<b>NO. OF PAGES:</b>	1
<b>Appendix</b>	None

China supports the Japanese suggestion in WG2N4095: “....., Japan proposes to separate Old Hanzi group from IRG.” China suggests WG2 to review and discuss the old hanzi proposal when it is available for WG2.

China proposes this with the following considerations:

1. The old hanzi, such as oracle bone scripts, are pretty different to modern hanzi (CJK ideographs), although they are preexistence of modern hanzi. The common methods of analyzing modern hanzi sometimes cannot be applied to old hanzi. For instance, the IDS method splits almost every modern hanzi to “elementary components”, but it does not work for a lot of old hanzi. IRG was set up for encoding modern hanzi, most IRG experts/editors who are working now have few knowledge of old hanzi, and can hardly help the Old Hanzi Group. There is no need to give more workload to IRG.

2.As old scripts, China thinks it better to process old hanzi proposal(s) in WG2, like what we did for Tangut, Jurchen and other historical/dead scripts in the past years. The experience of old hanzi encoding show that it is a long term job, its separation from IRG will give old hanzi proposal drafters and people who are interested in it more freedom for setting their working schedule.

(End)