Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set International Organization for Standardization Organisation Internationale de Normalisation Международная организация по стандартизации

Doc type: Working group document

Title: Nüshu ad hoc report

Source: Nüshu ad hoc committee

Author: Tero Aalto, CSC – IT Center for Science

Status: Ad hoc Report

Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2

Date: 2013-06-12

An ad hoc committee on Nüshu met in Vilnius, Lithuania on June 12, 2013. The following experts were present:

Tero Aalto (Finland)
Deborah Anderson (USA)
Chen Zhuang (China)
Michael Everson (Ireland)
Wei Lin Mei (TCA)
Andrew West (UK)

Zhao Liming (China)

The meeting was chaired by Tero Aalto.

The discussion in the ad hoc group was based on these current documents:

- N4341 Updated Proposal for Encoding Nyushu in the SMP of the UCS
  - o N4366 Input on encoding Nushu
  - o N4376 Nüshu ad hoc report
  - N4442 Comments on Nushu
  - N4451 Mapping of Nushu characters (from N4376 and N4341) and Additional Comments

## Prior documents related to the proposal:

- N3287 Proposal for Encoding Nüshu in the SMP of the UCS
  - o N3322 Comments on Nüshu Proposal by the Chinese NB
    - N3337 Reply to WG2 N3322 UC Berkeley's Comments on Nüshu
- N3340 Proposal for Encoding Nüshu in the SMP of the UCS
- N3598 Secondly Revised Proposal for Encoding Nüshu
  - N3705 Comments and Questions on N3598
    - N3719 A Quick Response to WG2 N3705

## • N3635 – Ad hoc report on Nüshu

Nüshu was previously discussed in an ad hoc meeting in Chiang Mai (2012-10-24). The document N4442 lists a number of differences between the code charts in the original proposal (N4341) and the ad hoc report (N4376), and N4451 contains a mapping between the original proposal and the ad hoc report.

The book "Nüshu Du Ben" was confirmed as the authority on the repertoire. Michael Everson had compared the proposed code charts with the book. There had been irregularities in the appearance and ordering of some of the characters, including the number of strokes. Everson requested the encoding of the script be based on a specific source and the said book be that source.

Zhao Liming reported that some characters that appear in the book had deliberately been left out of the proposal because they had been considered especially rare. However, encoding rare characters would not be problematic, whereas reducing congruence with the source, except for explicit unification, might be. Chen Zhuang suggested that if the missing characters are requested to be included, they could also be added later on.

Zhao agreed that the missing characters can be added to the proposal right away. Should some of them not be supported by the existing font, the font will need to be upgraded accordingly. Deborah Anderson and Andrew West offered their expertise for verifying the code charts, after Everson will have updated them. The revised proposal would then be eligible to go onto the ballot as soon as the work is completed.