

## ***ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2 N4632***

**Date:** September 23, 2014

**Title:** A Letter to the Authors of N4542 (5 Birgas in Mongolian Block)

**Source:** China National Body

**Action:** To be considered

**References:** WG2N4542, WG2N4547


WG2N4542 proposed to encode 5 more BIRGAs in Mongolian block of UCS (from U+181A through U+181E). China expressed different opinion in WG2N4547 and SC 2 N 4340 (ISO/IEC 10646 (Ed.4)/PDAM 2).

Below is a letter from Prof. Quejingzhabu of Inner Mongolia University to the authors of WG2N4542. It was sent to one of the authors of WG2N4542 on 12 Aug. 2014.

The letter explained why more BIRGAs were not necessary and proposed another method of meeting the demands.

## 确精扎布的反馈意见(20140727)

1. 用“?” 囿”录入  是个无奈的、不是妥当的办法，应该修改它。如何改，因为发现了许多变体，需要进一步探讨。

Inputing the Birga (U+1800) + ZWJ (U+200D) is not an ideal way of implementing the , so we should modify it. This needs to be discussed and developed.

2. 蒙古文里使用的 BIRGA，据我们的进一步调研掌握，至少有 14 种。它们出现于托忒文和传统蒙古文文献里（不包括“美术字”之类的太花哨的变体）。因而蒙古文字符集 181\*行里放不下 14 种 BIRGA 了。

According to our further investigation into the Birga of the Mongolian Script, there are at least 14 forms. They appear in the Todo Mongolian and traditional Mongolian literature. These 14 variants are base forms. There are more stylistic forms beyond the 14 variants. One thought of encoding is to place all of the 14 variants on line 181\* as individual code-points. But it is not possible to encode them all there.

3. 我们认为进一步调研掌握的 BIRGA 的各个变体字符不是“名义字符”，而是 1800 的多种“变体”。判断某个字符是否是 1800 的变体，需要看它所起的作用：据我们考察上述 14 种变体在文献中的作用是一致的：表示文章、页的起头，在某些重新抄写的手抄本里也会表示原来文章的文章、页的起头（在抄写的过程中因纸张的尺寸不一样，变成非文章、页的起头）。

We think that all of the Birga variants are not the same character. To determine whether a Birga deserves an individual encoding we need to look at its function. According to our investigation, each of the 14 forms carries unique sets of functionality. Functions may include indicating the head of the article or page. In manuscript revision, the birga also indicates whether the article is the original or has actually been revised. It may also indicate an opening paragraph. The functions will vary between Todo and Mongolian with a greater variety of function on the side of the Todo usage.

4. 名称，是否叫第一、第二... 变体可能更好些。从形状的角度起名不太可能有明显的区别称呼的作用。在蒙古文里也没有过区分它们的名称。现在起些史上没有用过的名称，不太合适，不宜人们接受。

Names like “Birga one”, “Birga two”, ... “Birga nine” could be an option for naming the variants. There are no intuitive methods to naming the variants. In the early of Mongolian Script usage, we find no descriptive discussion regarding nomenclature. They are not assigned names throughout history, so it is not appropriate and may not be accepted by the public to give individual names to each birga.















5. 我们正在起草在“蒙古文编码”中引用 16 个通用“变体选择符”（FE00-FE0F）的报告。其中包括 BIARGA 变体使用的“变体选择符”。

We are drafting a report suggesting the use of variation selectors (FE00-FE0F) in the Mongolian Encoding as below.

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杂文种字体: Times New Roman, 10.5 磅, 加粗

附件:

我们调研掌握的 14 种 BIRGA 和相关信息为:

	图形 Glyph	名称 Name	出现于 Appear in		作用 Function				使用选择符的建议 Use of variant selector
			传统蒙古文 Traditional Mongolian	托忒文 Todo	目录 Contents	文首 Head of Article	页首 Head of Page	“ᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ” 后，行中 In line	
1800		BIRGA Character	有 Yes	有 Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	不用 No
0001		BIRGA Variant 1	有 Yes	有 Yes	✓	✓	×	×	用 Use FVS1
0002		BIRGA Variant 2	有 Yes	有 Yes	✓	✓	✓	×	用 Use FVS2
0003		BIRGA Variant 3	有 Yes	有 Yes	×	✓	✓	×	用 Use FVS3
0004		BIRGA Variant 4	有 Yes	有 Yes	×	✓	✓	×	用 Use VS4
待定 ?		BIRGA Variant 5		有 Yes	✓	✓	✓	×	用 Use VS5
待定 ?		BIRGA Variant 6		有 Yes	×	✓	✓	×	用 Use VS6
待定 ?		BIRGA Variant 7	有 Yes	有 Yes	✓	✓	✓	×	用 Use VS7
待定 ?		BIRGA Variant 8	有 Yes		✓	×	×	✓	用 Use VS8
待定 ?		BIRGA Variant 9	有 Yes		✓	✓	×	×	用 Use VS9
待定 ?		BIRGA Variant 10	有 Yes		✓	✓	×	×	用 Use VS10
待定 ?		BIRGA Variant 11	有 Yes		×	✓	×	×	用 Use VS11
待定 ?		BIRGA Variant 12	有 Yes		×	✓	×	×	用 Use VS12
待定 ?		BIRGA Variant 13	有 Yes		×	✓	×	×	用 Use VS13

愿意进一步交换意见。

Hope to further exchange views.

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2014-07-27