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## Multi-Lingual Forum (MLTF)

# INTLNET

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Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Further to my last mail, which informed you about the code-elements' user assignation that I made in my MLTF Daft on "cctags", our 6/8/07 meeting and other efforts "to negotiate an agreement" (ISO/CS 1/15/07), and pursuant to clauses 8.1 and 8.2 of ISO 3166-1:1,

I hereby inform you of the coming revision of this "cctag" ISO 3166-inferred multilingualization doctrine, which has been worked out within the MLTF framework and the main remarks we think of interest for you.

### **New Version extensions**

This new version should extend to universal tags (unitags) by supporting:

- languages and scripts in using the "OO", "OOO", and "000" code elements. For example, "OO1EN" will be the English language. It conforms to RFC 4646: the suggested corresponding langtag will then be: "x-n-oo1en").
- local regions in extending them to local/regional subtags, postcodes, and E.164, X.121
- personal attributes in extending them to systems such as SSNs, mobile numbers, etc.
- time, through a hexatridecimal triple progression (positive, negative, relative)
- ICAO 9303 (Sep 2006) "A Passport with Machine Readable Capability" and ISO 7501 "Identification Cards - Machine Readable Passports." Part 1, Annex 7, use of ISO 3166-1 alpha-3:
  - Part A: GBD, GBN, GBO, GBP, and GBS.
  - Part B: XOM, XCC, UNO, UNA, UNK, XXA, XXB, XXC, XXB,

This version should be a further step towards the multilingual regalian metastructure that the ongoing debate at the IGF (Internet Governance Forum) or the BSI NWIP on "Internationalized (non-ASCII script) etc." calls for.

### **Experience of the June 8 Meeting**

We did appreciate the AFNOR's welcoming at our June 8, 2007 ISO/ICANN/Intlnet-MLTF meeting, where ISO was represented by Members/Experts of ISO/CS, BSI and AFNOR. The ISO Members' debate on the new BSI NWIP has introduced several new concepts that, as ISO 3166/639/15924 users, we would need much more information about.

This illustrates the need for a concerted analysis by all the parties concerned and stronger security protection and stability warranties to industry.

### **Our planned endeavors**

The MLTF wants to pursue this common effort by:

- proposing to the different stakeholders a pragmatic cooperation to answer the WSIS and ICANN demands and to innovate jointly (the WSIS gather the civil society, the private interests, the governments, and the international entities [such as ISO])
- working on language metadata.
- working on a document on sociotechnical linguization outside any particular implementation.
- working on a document on the multilingualization of the WDE (world digital ecosystem) convergence and its Internet application.
- considering the organization this Fall of a concertation meeting on universal semantic addressing before the Rio IGF (Internet Governance Forum) meeting.

### **Needed clarification**

We hope that all of this can contribute to the consensual documentation of the fundamental differences and similarities between the TC37 and TC46 (and their users', like us) understanding of what a language is in each of their contexts and its technical, cultural, legal, and structural metastructural description. Most of our confusion occurs when we do not understand "languages" in the same manner as in ISO 639. We experimented that difficulty at the IETF (RFC 4646) where we had pain to preserve modal interoperability and functional interintelligibility at network, container, and content levels. This is still the case in spite of intense debates, which will only be addressed in having this point clarified at the level of their ISO referents.

In **ISO 639**, we consider languages as human inter-brain relational protocols that can be differentiated by a computer based on an identified linguistic corpus, with all of the desired fractal granularity that is permitted by the proposed corpus. We consider the user as authoritative in the ISO 639 area and the number of human languages to be therefore illimited.

In **ISO 3166**, we consider languages as communication vehicles, the obligation of which, as documented in ISO 3166, cannot be considered as a technical restriction to trade, along with the WTO rules. We believe that each national States is sovereign and the UN is authoritative in that area.

In both cases we attach great importance to the scripts that are being used (ISO 15924), such as Latin, Cyrillic, Arabic, Han, Katakana, etc. and do not make any difference on the basis of the mode, medium being used, specific application being run, binary possible code encoding such as ASCII, EBCDIC, ISO 10646, etc., or their related language such as Japanese or French, etc. However, we are certainly attentive to the progresses made in that area, along with the impact on languages, new language creation, and all the forms of visual, aural, and haptic interactions.

### **Need for further clarifications**

FYI, we continually meet three main technical demands, in order to cover:

- the documentation of the linguistic versions of national applications, where the language is to be understood per ISO 639.
- the denomination of geolinguistic applications/needs, where we need every significant territory on Earth to be documented. This raises the problem of territories such as Clipperton Island, of which the particular political, administrative, and economic sectors (200- nautical miles zone) should be coded. Before coding it on the user allocated space, I would like the intent of the TC46/WG2 to be indicated.
- the linguistically invariant root of information/documentation systems that may "emerge" from the various language fuzzy notions that are being used and the resulting semantic addressing system.

Sincerely yours.  
JFC Morfin  
President

**Annex:**

**Previously reported customized use**

CONT	alpha2	alpha3	NR	Description
QT	QT	ZQT	001	World
QM	QM	ZQM	002	Africa
QM	XA	ZXA	014	Eastern Africa
QM	XB	ZXB	017	Middle Africa
QM	XC	ZXC	015	Northern Africa
QM	XD	ZXD	018	Southern Africa
QM	XE	ZXE	011	Western Africa
QN	QN	ZQN	019	Americas
QN	QO	ZQO	419	Latin America and the Caribbean
QN	QP	ZQP	021	Northern America b/
QN	XF	ZXF	029	Caribbean
QN	XG	ZXG	013	Central America
QN	XH	ZXH	005	South America
QO	QO	ZQO	419	Latin America and the Caribbean
QP	QP	ZQP	021	Northern America
QQ	QQ	ZQQ	142	Asia
QQ	XI	ZXI	143	Central Asia
QQ	XJ	ZXJ	030	Eastern Asia
QQ	XK	ZXK	034	Southern Asia
QQ	XL	ZXL	035	South-Eastern Asia
QQ	XM	ZXM	145	Western Asia
QR	QR	ZQR	150	Europe
QR	XN	ZXN	151	Eastern Europe
QR	XO	ZXO	154	Northern Europe
QR	XP	ZXP	039	Southern Europe
QR	XQ	ZXQ	155	Western Europe
QS	QS	ZQS	009	Oceania
QS	XR	ZXR	053	Australia and New Zealand
QS	XS	ZXS	054	Melanesia
QS	XT	ZXT	057	Micronesia
QS	XU	ZXU	061	Polynesia

**Table 1: Addition to 3166 - (sub)continents**

CONT	alpha2	alpha3	NR	Description
QU	QU	ZQU	990	Martime part of the World (5 oceans cluster)
QV	QV	ZQV	991	Atlantic Ocean
QW	QW	ZQW	992	Indian Ocean
QX	QX	ZQX	993	Pacific Ocean
QY	QY	ZQY	994	Arctic Ocean
QZ	QZ	ZQZ	995	Antartic Ocean

**Table 2: Addition to 3166 - Oceans**

alpha2	alpha3	language
ns	nso	Northern Sotho, Pedi, Sepedi
pu	pau	Palau
sy	cpt	Selsewa creole
tp	tpi	Tok Pisin
tu	tet	Tetum
zz	zzz	no defined language

**Table 3: Elements of information missing in ISO 3166**