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Japan Activity Report Nov. 2003

1 Japan National Body Activities

1.1 Overview

Japan has two committees for the SC2 related issues. They both belong to the IPSJ/ITSCJ (Information Processing Society of Japan, Information Technology Standards Commissions of Japan.) One of the committees is the higher-level committee called JSC2 that acts for the SC2, WG2 and WG3 matters. Another is called KWG (which stands for Kanji Working Group) that acts for the IRG matters. Each committee monthly meets face-to-face.

KWG currently consists of 15 members and 5 observers, who are experts of coded character sets and/or ideographic characters.

1.2 Recent Activities

After the last IRG meeting in Hanoi, the KWG spent its effort on Extension-C review, code chart review, and CJK subset issues.

1.3 Attending to International Meetings

Four delegates from KWG attended the last IRG meeting in Hanoi.

Many delegates from JSC2 and KWG attended the SC2 and WG2 meetings in Tokyo, Japan December last year (after IRG Hanoi meeting.) Five delegates attended WG2 meeting in Mountain View, U.S.A. last month.

1.4 Personnel Matters

The chair of JSC2 was changed on end of March. The new chair is Dr. Kazuhito Ohmaki, who is Director in National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST.) His predecessor, Prof. Shun Ishizaki, is elected as President of ITSCJ.

Both JSC2 and KWG experienced other member changes recently. Topics that may be of interest to IRG include the retirement of Mr. Takayuki Sato and Prof. Eiji Matsuoka, and the return of Mr. Satoshi Yamamoto.

2 Related Activities

2.1 IPSJ TS WG5

After the publication of its BUCS as an IPSJ Trial Standard, the committee called IPSJ TS WG5, that is responsible for BUCS, keeps working on the UCS subset issue. TS WG5 published its latest subset as IPSJ TS 0007.

KWG and TS WG5 are and will be working collaboratively to produce inputs to CJK Subset activity of IRG.

2.2 JCS Committee

Early 2001, INSTAC (Information Technology Research and Standardization Center) of JSA (Japan Standardization Association) started JCS Committee to revise JIS X 0208, X 0213, and related standards. The committee produced a draft revision of JIS X 0213 on March.

The draft was officially approved on October and will soon be available as JIS X 0213:2003. The revision has no impact on UCS standardization activities.

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