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Japan Activity Report (Nov. 2006)

1 Japan National Body Activities

1.1 Overview
JNB for SC2 (JSC2) is set at the IPSJ/ITSCJ (Information Processing Society of Japan, Information Technology Standards Commissions of Japan) and the committee monthly meets face-to-face. This committee is responsible to the all JTC1/SC2 activities. It has 23 members and 5 observers, who are experts of coded character sets and/or ideographic characters.

1.2 Recent Activities related IRG
After the last IRG meeting, JSC2 has been working on Extension-C1 review and preparing their evidences. The outcomes have been submitted to include in the IRG proposal to WG2.

1.3 Attending to the International Meetings
4 delegates (not including the invisible chairman) attended the IRG Hue meeting in May, and 6 delegates attended the last WG2 Akihabara meeting in September. Japan hosted this WG2 meeting, and it concluded successfully.

2. JIS updates
Revision work of JIS X 0221-1:2001 (the Japanese version of ISO/IEC 10646-1:2000) is progressing. It is planned to incorporate all changes on 10646 after 2000 including consolidated (old) part 2 contents such as CJK Extension B. The final draft will be submitted to JISC (Japanese Industrial Standards Committee) at the end of 2006. Through this work this group found some defects and consequently they are reported as the 10646 PDAM 3.2 voting to dispose.

3. Studies on the ideographs for Japanese e-government system
METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) is progressing the studies on the real usage of Kanji glyphs for Japanese e-government. This project is known as “Promotion of the standardization of character encoding and the operation of a database (汎用電子情報交換環境整備プログラム)” which is based on IT Policy Package - 2005 adopted by the IT Strategic Headquarters of Japanese government.

Its Phase 1 activities have finished 3-years investigation on the real usage of Kanji in the Family register (戸籍) and the Network system for basic resident registers (住民基本台帳ネットワーク).

While investigating another systems, Phase 2 activities started this June. Based on the phase 1 output, Phase 2 activities include proposing more Kanji characters in the ISO/IEC 10646 CJK Unified Ideographs. Japan will submit them into the CJK extension D and the future extensions.

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