



ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22
Languages
Secretariat: CANADA (SCC)

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22

N866

OCTOBER 1990

TITLE : Draft Minutes of the 4th SC22 AG meeting
held in London UK, 1990-10-10/12

SOURCE : Secretariat JTC1/SC22

WORK ITEM : N/A

STATUS : New

CROSS REFERENCE : N827

DOCUMENT TYPE : Minutes of SC22 AG meeting

ACTION : For review and action as necessary by
SC22 Member Bodies and SC22 WG Convenors.

Address reply to: ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22 Secretariat
J.L. Côté, 140 O'Connor St., 10th Floor
Ottawa, Ont., Canada K1A 0R5
Telephone: (613)957-2496 Telex: 053-3336
Fax: (613) 996-2690

FOURTH MEETING OF ADVISORY GROUP
ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22
LONDON UK
OCTOBER 10/12, 1990

Minutes of Meeting

1. Opening of Meeting:

Mr. R. Follett, interim chairman of JTC1/SC22 called delegates to order at 9:10 a.m.

The fourth meeting of the Advisory Group of JTC1/SC22 was officially opened by Mr. Schonfelder, head of the UK delegation, on behalf of BSI. He indicated that it was his first participation in SC22 as he had recently been appointed chairman of the UK national committee on Languages.

He welcomed all delegates to London and invited them to a dinner, in their honour, on Wednesday October 10, 1990.

2. Chairman's Remarks:

Mr. Follett indicated that he was pleased to chair this meeting and that, as interim chairman of SC22 would endeavor to have a successful meeting.

3. Roll Call of Delegates:

The Secretariat of SC22 proceeded with the roll call of delegates. A list of delegates in attendance is contained in document SC22 N864.

Mr. Follett then introduced Mr. Holka, Vice-Chair Application and Elements Grouping.

4. Appointment of Drafting Committee:

The following delegates were appointed to the Drafting Committee:

S. Jameson - USA
B. Meek - UK
G. Schmitt - Austria
I. Korn - Denmark

Mr. Korn, again, graciously volunteered to chair the efforts of this committee.

5. Adoption of the Agenda:

The following items were added to the Agenda:

6.1 National Activity Reports
6.2 WG Reports
6.3 Liaison Report
7.7.6 Subdivision of Modula 2 project

- 7.10.1 Formatting of ISO Standards
- 7.10.2 ISO Review of Extended APL Standard
- 7.10.3 Status/Format of ISO Addendum
- 7.12 Relationship to Functional Standards
- 9.1 Coordination of ISO and National WG Meetings
- 9.2 Future Meetings

The agenda was adopted with the addition of these items.

6. Secretariat's Report:

Mr. Côté referred delegates to document N805. He asked WG Convenors to submit, by the end of December/90, a list of scheduled and planned meetings. He indicated that such a list is useful to Member Bodies in planning and forecasting expenditures for delegates to attend meetings. He then briefly described a new JTC1 Directive, regarding project stages, which states that projects which remain at the same stage for more than two years could automatically be deleted from the SC's programme of work. Following a discussion of this issue, it was agreed that a Recommendation, expressing SC22 concerns be drafted. Recommendations 3 and 4 refers.

6.1 National Activity Reports:

The following reports were presented:

- Austria - N853
- Canada - N863
- Japan - N857
- UK - N862

In addition, the following Member Bodies reported as follows:

Denmark: The Head of Delegation (HOD) reported that Denmark's activities in standardization were currently shifting from ISO to European interest/work. To this point, the WG3 Convenor, Dr. Dickey, expressed some concern about the lack of synchronization between European standards development and ISO.

Germany: The HOD briefly reported on their national activities.

UK: The HOD outlined from his report, a suggestion that all SC22 New Work Items (NWI) should be developed as true International Standard Activity, ie. that SC22 no longer delegate development of a standard to a National Body. However, if it is delegated to a National Body, it should be done with the understanding that the National Body operates within one set of procedures.

6.2 Working Group Reports:

WG2: Mr. Joslin, Convenor of WG2-Pascal, presented his report. It is contained in document N846.

WG3: Dr. Dickey, Convenor of WG3-APL, briefly reported on the activities of this working group. It was noted that the next meeting of this working group was scheduled for August/91.

WG4: Ms. Wallace, Interim Convenor of WG4-COBOL, briefly reported on the activities of this working group. She indicated that the group was starting object-oriented work and invited those interested to contact her.

WG5: Mr. Schmitt, on behalf of Ms. Martin, Convenor of WG5-Fortran, presented her report which is contained in document N848. It was noted that the meeting schedule for this working group was found on page 4 of N848.

At this point there was a lengthy discussion of Resolution 134 in document N729, regarding the ISO Fortran standard. At the end of the discussion it was agreed that a recommendation be drafted. Recommendation 18 refers.

WG13: Dr. Henry, Convenor of WG13-Modula 2, reported that this group was currently responding to the comments received on the DP ballot. He then explained a proposal to subdivide project 22.18. He indicated that the new project would produce an Addendum to the Modula 2 standard. Following his report, the HOD from Austria expressed a concern that the language was being extended from the original plan. The HOD from USA expressed a concern about the use of VDM by WG13 while VDM is still evolving. Dr. Henry indicated that he hoped the use of VDM could be synchronized with its development in WG19. WG13 was asked to produce a revised proposal for the subdivision of project 22.18 which would present a finite list of extensions to be contained in the Addendum.

WG15: Mr. Isaak, Convenor of WG15-POSIX, reported that the final version of DIS 9945-1 was not available for the Oct. 12 deadline but that it will be sent to the Secretariat and ITTF within a few weeks. He also reported that WG15 will soon be requesting authority for Committee Draft (CD) registration for an Addendum to 9945-2. Finally, it was noted that the subdivision of project 22.21, approved by SC22 at its last Plenary meeting, would soon be submitted by the JTC1 Secretariat to its Member Bodies for endorsement (as per new Directives).

6.3 Liaison Reports:

Liaison to TSG1-Application portability:

Mr. Isaak, Liaison Officer to TSG1, presented his liaison report which is contained in document N859. He stressed the fact that some recommendations were preliminary and may not be contained in the final TSG1 report. The last meeting of TSG1 is scheduled for January 1991.

Liaison to SC2:

Mr. Van Wingen, Liaison Officer to SC2, briefly reported on the SC2 activities of potential interest to SC22.

Liaison to SC1:

Mr. Zimmer, Liaison Officer to SC1, reported that he could no longer carry out this responsibility.

At this point, Mr. Isaak suggested that SC1 should provide SC22 with a disk copy of relevant vocabulary. Mr. Scowen (WG17) asked that the ISO standard on Programming Languages Vocabulary be distributed to all SC22 working groups for review and comments.

7. SC22 Issues for Discussion:

7.1 Formal Description Techniques (FDT):

Mr. Follett reported that, in accordance with Resolution 102 in N729, he had requested JTC1, at its June/90 meeting, to allow FDT's not standardized but in the process of being standardized, such as VDM. JTC1 approved this request.

7.2 OSCRL:

Mr. Newman (UK) described past work in the area of Operating System Command and Response Language (OSCRL). He then suggested that the Overview document should be processed as a Technical Report. He indicated that 7 persons were prepared to work (mostly by correspondence) on this project.

In discussing this project, it was noted that if this project is to be developed by SC22/WG15, WG15 will require a clear statement of the project. SC22 will also need to determine under which administrative procedure the project is to be developed. Finally, the Secretariat suggested that SC22 should probably try to redefine the project and then proceed. Recommendation 12 refers.

7.3 WG Synchronization Plan:

At this point, the HOD from USA described a new procedure recently approved by ANSI to ensure synchronization of national/international standards development. ANSI has delegated to X3, IEEE and CODASYL the approval of synchronization plans. Currently, the C, COBOL and Fortran standards have been submitted to the approval process. The process for the development of "I" type project was then described by the USA delegate. The HOD from France expressed their appreciation of the USA's efforts to synchronize the development of national/international standards. The HOD from the UK suggested that any revision of "I" type standards should be developed by an ISO WG and that in 5 years, all projects should truly be international projects.

7.3.1 COBOL:

Ms. Wallace presented document N814 and explained specific points. The HOD from Germany expressed a concern about assurance that X3 did endorse the synchronization plan, ie. X3 did not endorse the Fortran synchronization plan eventhough X3J3 had endorsed it. Following a discussion of specific points such as "Disposition of Comments", a proposed Resolution was drafted. Resolution 149 refers.

7.3.2 Fortran:

Mr. Schmitt presented the Fortran synchronization plan contained on page 5 of document N848. The HOD from the UK thanked X3J3 for its efforts in trying to synchronize the development of the Fortran standard. A letter from IFIP WG2.5, contained in document N831 was then tabled for discussion.

7.3.3 POSIX:

Mr. Isaak referred delegates to document N840 and briefly described the proposed synchronization plan. He indicated that paragraph 2.2.6 on N840 had not yet been approved by WG15. It was then recommended that WG15 implement, on an interim basis (until approved by WG15), the plan described in N840.

7.3.4 Ada:

Dr. Mathis referred delegates to document N844 and described the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). He reported that the MOU had been discussed in WG9 for about 1 year and that, at this point, he was seeking an informal endorsment of it. It will be presented to WG9, at its next meeting in December and then, it will be submitted to SC22 for formal endorsment. He asked for individual comments to be sent to him by November 15.

7.3.5 FIMS:

Dr. Frantz briefly reported on the status of WG18 and indicated that the synchronization plan will be submitted to SC22 after the next meeting of WG18. The plan will then be ciculated to SC22 Member Bodies for endorsment. At this point the HOD from Denmark indicated that FIMS was becoming important in Europe.

7.3.6 C:

Although the Convenor of WG14 was not in attendance, Mr. Jameson (USA) indicated that the C Addendum was being developed as an "I" type project. He further indicated that the synchronization plan for C should be submitted to SC22 after the next meeting of WG14. There was some concerns expressed about the absence of the WG14 Convenor. A recommendation to express this to ANSI was drafted. Recommendation 9 refers.

7.4 Relationship Between SC22 WGs and Other JTC1 Work:

7.4 a) Project JTC1.22.30 Functionality for Internationalization of Applications:

Following a discussion of this project, it was agreed that a WG should be established and that Mr. Weaver (USA) be appointed as Convenor. It was noted that this working group will need to work closely with the language and the other cross-language groups. The HOD from France recommended that this group have a wide scope.

7.4 b) Language-Independent Standards:

The Interim Convenor of WG11, Mr. Wakker, referred delegates to document N861. He stated that WG11 needs to establish liaison with SC21 and asked the Secretariat to communicate with the SC21 Secretariat. He added that he would prepare a liaison statement and forward it to the appropriate SC21 WG. Mr. Isaak asked Mr. Wakker to send a list of available WG11 documents to all SC22 WG Convenors. At this point, Mr. Follett indicated that all SC22 WGs should pay close attention to the work of WG11. It was noted that WG11 will meet in Austria the week prior to the next Plenary meeting of SC22 and it was suggested that all WGs should take advantage of this to meet with WG11.

It was also pointed out that it has become increasingly important for our language groups to work together with cross-language groups. It was suggested that SC22 encourage liaison at the national level to help reduce meeting attendance costs.

Mr. Zimmer (Germany) stated that POSIX language-independent bindings should not delay the language-specific bindings work.

Mr. Isaak stated that projects were proceeding in parallel and not being delayed.

7.5 Ada/SOL Language Interface:

The Secretariat reported that this project had finally been assigned to SC22, project JTC1.22.31.

7.6 Harmonization of POSIX:

Mr. Isaak referred delegates to document N860 and explained WG15's proposed harmonization plan. Mr. Zimmer asked for additional information which Mr. Isaak agreed to provide.

7.7 Status of Possible NWI's:

7.7.1 C++:

During a discussion on C++, the following points were raised:

- should a new WG be established for C++ only or include object-oriented programming
- comparison between C and C++
- how will the standard be developed (int'l or delegate to

National Body)

Mr. Carter (USA) answered many queries about C++ and explained some differences between C and C++.

Following the discussion, a Recommendation was prepared.

7.7.2 Attribute Registry:

It was reported that the UK Member Body will prepare a NWI proposal by next Spring.

7.7.3 Language Compatible Complex Arithmetic and Procedure Standard:

This item did not require any discussion.

7.7.4 Language Compatible Mathematical Procedure Standard:

This item did not require any discussion.

7.7.5 Modules and Single Character Input Enhancement to Fortran Basic:

This item did not require any discussion.

7.7.6 Module 2 Subdivision:

Dr. Henry explained the proposed project subdivision. The HOD from France asked whether the list of extensions was a fixed or open list. It was noted that, while the proposal is an open list, SC22 would prefer a finite list. It was agreed that the proposal be revised and submitted to SC22 for ballot.

7.8 WG Membership:

7.8.1 WG11-Bindings:

Mr. Wakker reported that there were currently 8-10 active members representing 4 countries, USA, UK, France and The Netherlands.

7.8.2 WG18-FIMS:

Dr. Frantz reported that only 4 members were in attendance at the first meeting representing 2 countries, USA and UK. The Convenor went on to point out that this was one project where it was beneficial to be developed by a National Body. He then agreed to produce a brief overview paper of FIMS for distribution to SC22 Member Bodies along with the agenda for the next meeting of this working group.

7.8.3 VDM:

Dr. Andrews reported that six countries have participated in the development of VDM, UK, Denmark, France, Germany, Poland and The Netherlands and that USA and Canada have indicated an interest in

participating in the working group.

The first meeting of WG19 is scheduled for April 17/91 in Brussels. Dr. Andrews indicated that a tutorial document on VDM should be available in 1991 and that he hopes to have the first draft of the VDM standard available for the first meeting of WG19. Finally he noted that VDM was used for PL/I, Ada and Pascal (not the current standard).

7.9 SC22 Document Distribution:

The Secretariat explained that because of the high cost of distributing many versions of many language standards which can vary between 200-800 pages, he would like to investigate the possibility of distributing these documents via 3.5" disks. As there appeared to be wide support for this idea, the Secretariat will communicate with SC22 Member Bodies and Working Group Convenors to investigate this possibility further.

7.10.1 Formatting/Acknowledgment of ISO Standards:

Following some discussion on issues such as paragraph numbering, line numbering, acknowledgment of experts, etc. It was agreed that SC22 should express our views on this matter to the JTC1 Secretariat and to the ITTF.

Recommendation 5 and 6 refers.

7.10.2 Status/Format of ISO Addendum:

It was noted that the JTC1 Directives indicates that "Addendum" is not to be used any more and that "Amendment" is the replacement. The Vice-Chair indicated that this is an SC decision and also that the rule of a maximum of 2 Addenda is not implemented by ISO.

7.10.3 ISO Review of Extended APL Standard:

Dr. Dickey, Convenor of WG3, indicated that he would like ITTF to review the Extended APL CD document, when it is available (Jan/91) rather than waiting for the DIS stage to submit their editorial comments. It was noted that ITTF is prepared to do this, as they have done in the past.

7.11 Liaison Requirements:

It was noted that SC22 needs a Liaison Officer to SC1 and should also appoint a Liaison Officer to the TSG-FS.

7.12 Relationship to Functional Standards:

The HOD from Denmark suggested that SC22 establish a technical liaison to the JTC1 TSG-FS.

8. Report From Ad Hoc Group on Character Requirements in Programming Languages:

Dr. Ellis, Convenor of this Ad Hoc Group, reported on the activities of this group. His report is contained in document N856. It was noted that the new working group on Functionality for Internationalization of Application should coordinate its first meeting this Ad Hoc Group. It was proposed that these two groups meet at the same location and time, next Spring.

Other Business:

9.1 Coordination of ISO and National WG Meetings:

The issue of coordinating ISO Working Group meetings with a National Working Group meeting was discussed and it was generally agreed that it should not raise any problem.

9.2 Future Meetings:

The schedule for future Plenary meetings of SC22 was agreed as follows:

September 23/27, 1991	-	Vienna Austria (confirmed)
Sept/Oct 1992	-	Scandinavia
Fall 1993	-	France
Fall 1994	-	The Netherlands
Fall 1995	-	UK or USA

It was also noted that a Collaborative meeting between JTC1 and CCITT was scheduled for January 16/17, 1991. The Vice-Chair recommended that SC22 be represented. Mr. G. Schmitt (Austria) volunteered to represent SC22. This was accepted and the Secretariat will notify the JTC1 Secretariat.

9.3 Discussion of SC22 Chairmanship:

Note: This discussion was chaired by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Holka, and the two candidates voluntarily left the room to permit an open discussion.

The SC22 Secretariat informed the delegates that Canada 101 received two nominations for the position of Chairman of SC22. The USA have nominated Mr. Robert Follett and Austria nominated Mr. Gerhard Schmitt. Mr. Côté indicated that although the Secretariat (Canada) had the ultimate responsibility for nominating a chairman, he wanted to get a sense from delegates as to their preference.

During the discussion, it was suggested that SC22 may wish to consider nominating a chairman and a vice-chairman.

At the end of the discussion, Mr. Holka, who kept track of the delegates' preferences, reported that the opinions were evenly balanced and that there was no clear preference.

Mr. Côté then indicated that he would raise this matter with the Canadian committee and the Standards Council of Canada. Based on

the results of his discussion, a letter ballot would be circulated to SC22 asking SC22's endorsement of the nominated candidate. The official nomination will then be submitted to JTC1 for ratification.

10. Approval of Recommendations:

The Recommendations and Resolutions were approved as indicated in document N865.

11. Vice-Chairman's Remarks:

Mr. Holka stated that he felt this meeting had been successful. He suggested that SC22 should, in the near future, re-consider the working methods of this subcommittee. He also emphasized the fact that the horizontal Working Groups (WG11, 15, 18, 19 and 20) will need to be given more importance and attention.

12. Adjournment:

There being no further business for discussion, the Fourth Meeting of the JTC1/SC22 Advisory Group was adjourned at 17:05, October 12, 1990.

Respectfully submitted,



J.L. Côté,
Secretariat, JTC1/SC22

