

8 Jul 87

SC22/WG14 Meeting No. 2  
11 Jun 87

Hilton International Paris  
18, avenue de Suffren  
Paris, FRANCE  
(1) 42 73 92 00

1.0 Opening Activities (Plauger)

1.1 Opening Comments -- Goals and Purposes

Mr. Plauger, representing the USA and serving as the acting convenor of WG14, opened the meeting by greeting all of the WG14 members and X3J11 visitors. A special word of thanks was given to M. Bourstin of AFNOR and to M. Fathi of COSMIC for the excellent facilities and the wonderful city of Paris. Mr. Plauger apologized for the lateness of the agenda and the fact that not everyone had received a timely notice of the meeting. He expressed confidence that things will be under better control before the next meeting. Mr. Brodie (USA Alternate) served as secretary.

Mr. Plauger then discussed the goals for the meeting. This meeting is an opportunity to interact and share ideas with X3J11, the ANSI committee which is doing the technical development of the C draft standard. While it is recognized that X3J11 is too far along in the process for the international community to be involved in most of the minor details of the draft, this meeting should serve as an opportunity for the international community to let X3J11 know if there are major problems with the current standard. It is also an opportunity to speak out on the major items which people would like to see changed.

1.2 Selection of a Chair for the Current Meeting

Canada (Mr. Kelly) / UK (Ms. Boldyreff)

"Move that Mr. Plauger serve as Chair for this meeting."

Motion carried, 5/0.

1.3 Approval of Previous Minutes

Ms. Boldyreff submitted the minutes of the 10 Sep 86 meeting, in St. Charles IL (WG14/NO01). The minutes were accepted without change.



#### 1.4 Approval of Agenda

Mr. Plauger submitted an agenda for this meeting (WG14/N002). The agenda was accepted without change.

#### 1.5 Introduction of Participants

All attendees introduced themselves to the Committee.

#### 1.6 Procedures for this Meeting

Mr. Plauger indicated that the meeting would be run under Robert's Rules of Order. Whenever possible, however, the meeting would remain informal to speed the process and encourage a healthy interchange of ideas.

#### 1.7 Distribution of Documents

Several documents, which members should have, were pointed out (WG14/N003-N008). These included the Japanese comments on the ANSI draft proposed standard (WG14/N003) and several BSI responses to the issues raised in the Japanese comments (WG14/N005).

#### 1.8 Roll Call

The following countries were represented and were deemed to have voting status:

Canada	Mr. Kelly
France	M. Bourstin
Netherlands	Mr. Keizer
UK	Ms. Boldyreff / Ms. Schrecker
USA	Mr. Plauger / Mr. Brodie

#### 2.0 Reports on Liaison Activities

##### 2.1 X3J11 Report

Mr. Brodie reported that X3J11's current schedule was to complete the responses to the public commentary from the first public review in September. If this was accomplished and the document could be updated in time, then the draft would go out for a second formal public review in early Nov 87. There was serious doubt whether X3J11 will make this schedule. There was a good chance that the document will not be ready for a second formal public review until after a Dec 87 X3J11 meeting. If this is the case, then the second formal public review will begin in early Mar 88.

One of the major issues before X3J11 was finding a way to ensure that the review and approval process for the ANSI document does not move so far ahead of the ISO activity that the international community is unable to get their technical issues addressed in the American document. Brodie reiterated X3J11's position that the ANSI and ISO standards should be the same document.



## 2.2 /usr/group Report

Mr. Plauger reported that he had attended a meeting of the Internationalization Subcommittee of /usr/group in New Orleans LA on 5 May 87. He presented his outline for a possible solution to the multi-byte character set support required by Oriental languages. This was generally accepted as a good solution to a difficult problem.

## 2.3 X/OPEN Report

Ms. Schrecker reported that X/OPEN agreed, at least in principle, with the approach X3J11 had taken to solve international issues (at least as necessary to solve European requirements). They did have some significant timing problems. They want to publish their Portability Guide as soon as possible. However, they do not want to publish while X3J11 still might change the standard document.

## 2.4 POSIX (IEEE P1003) Report

Ms. Boldyreff noted that a liaison was needed with this organization (WG14/N009).

A useful discussion of the structure of the International Standards Organization followed. M. Genyys (AFNOR) provided considerable information.

## 2.5 AFNOR Report

M. Fathi and M. Bourstin reported that a French translation of the May 86 X3J11 draft had been completed. This translation would be updated to reflect the latest draft. It was reported that, overall, AFNOR was satisfied with the draft. However, there were some areas where they needed some enlightenment.

## 3.0 Report on Current Status

Mr. Plauger reported that the main business was to review and determine how to respond to the Japanese comments on the letter ballot (to have the draft proposed ANSI standard document accepted as the working ISO document).

## 4.0 Response to Japanese Comments

A lengthy discussion covered the many possible ways to respond to the Japanese objections to accepting the ANSI document as the working ISO document. Several positions became clear. There was unanimous agreement that the committee should not make a special version of the standard document which only addressed the Japanese objection. This was seen as a waste of valuable time and not particularly useful. It was also generally agreed that it was not the work of WG14 to actually address the technical issues raised in the Japanese comments. These comments have been passed on to X3J11 (X3J11 87-091) where they are being reviewed and technical responses are being prepared. It was pointed out



that many (but probably not all) of the technical issues raised by the Japanese had been addressed in the latest X3J11 working draft.

There was considerable concern that the document that was sent out for ISO balloting was now somewhat out of date (X3J11 has made 3 meetings worth of changes in response to the public review comments). Mr. Kelly was concerned that if WG14 waited too long that X3J11 would get too far along to effectively respond to International public review comments. Some way was needed to get the latest version of the document out for widespread public review in a timely manner.

M. Genuys (AFNOR) recommend a possible solution. It ended up as the following motion:

France (M. Bourston) / Canada (Mr. Kelly)

"Move that we draft a letter to the SC22 Secretariat, with a copy to the Japanese committee, stating: that WG14 believes that the appropriate forum for technical review is X3J11; that it is in the best interest of the international community to have the latest working draft of the X3J11 document distributed for review and acceptance as a draft proposed ISO standard; that we therefore wish to submit the latest available X3J11 draft as an ISO working draft; and that WG14 fully expects to adopt all changes made by X3J11 in response to the Japanese comments."

Motion carried, 5/0.

\*\* Mr. Plauger will prepare and send these letters.

##### 5. Other Business

Mr. Jaeschke (a member of X3J11) noted that there had been some interest in establishing an agreed upon spelling for the locale names required by the setlocale function. Users seem to want this, but there are many difficulties, ranging from getting a complete set of names, to the fact that there may be many locales within a single country (e.g., English and French speaking Canada). One possible solution, which may be worth further investigation, is to use the international postal codes.

Mr. Plauger asked each country represented whether there were any outstanding issues which would prevent them from voting to accept the current X3J11 draft unchanged as an ISO standard:

Canada said there were none.

France said there were none.

The Netherlands said there were none.

The UK said there were none.

The USA said there were none.

Mr. Plauger then asked each representative to indicate areas that each national committee would like to see changed.



Mr. Keizer of the Netherlands indicated that his group do not like all of the additions which have been made, but they will not fight to have them removed. The Netherlands feel that the use of the unary plus to force grouping is a very poor choice. It is a potential source of considerable confusion. (WG14/N004, X3J11 87-102)

Ms. Boldyreff of the UK indicated some concern in the area of the preprocessor. The UK is not comfortable that the preprocessor is implementable. (WG14/N006, X3J11 87-126)

M. Fathi of AFNOR indicated that the French would prefer that parenthesis have grouping properties (instead of using unary plus). They would also like some clarifications in the area of text and binary files.

Mr. Kelly of Canada and Mr. Plauger of the USA indicated no particular problem areas.

\*\* Mr. Plauger will champion any WG14 issues before X3J11.

\*\* Ms. Boldyreff volunteered to be the POSIX liaison.

It was agreed that a representative of the Open System Interconnect committee would be added to the mailing list. This would help satisfy the liaison responsibilities with this committee.

## 6.0 Future Meetings

Mr. Keizer of the Netherlands volunteered, pending confirmation, to host the next meeting of WG14 in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The meeting will be held on 16-17 Nov 87.

## 6.1 Future Agenda Items

The following items were requested as future agenda items:

- an X3J11 status update
- a review of National Body Responses

## 6.2 Miscellaneous

Ms. Boldyreff requested that the draft be circulated in electronic form to help expedite its distribution in the UK

\*\* Mr. Jaeschke will distribute the machine readable draft.

\*\* Mr. Plauger will handle the mailings.

## 7. Adjournment

Canada (Mr. Kelly) / UK (Ms. Boldyreff)

"Move that we adjourn."

Motion carried, 5/0.



The meeting adjourned at 11:30, 11 Jun 87.

Attachment -- attendance sheets.



Small 7/10

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