JUNE 1994

TITLE: Report from the Convenor of WG11 - Binding Techniques to the Seventh Plenary of SC22, 1994-09-19/23

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WORK ITEM: N/A

STATUS: New

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ACTION: For information to SC22 Member Bodies. This document will be discussed at the next Plenary meeting of SC22, 1994-09-19/23.
1. Meetings
The following meeting of SC22/WG11 has been held since the last report:

25-29 April 1994  London (U.K.)

The large interval between this last meeting and the previous one (July 1993) was due to
the fact that most of the documents under production were out for ballot.
The following meeting is planned:

January 1995  U.S.A., date and place yet to be established.

NOTE: the tentative meeting for September 1994, as mentioned in the Minutes of WG11
WILL NOT TAKE PLACE, since not enough participation could be attracted.

2. WG11 Participation
In the previous WG11 convener report to SC22 it was noted that the participation in WG11,
and the attendance to WG11 meetings was decreasing. This situation has not improved at
all: at the last meeting there were (next to a number of experts which attended the meeting
to discuss only one topic) only three "full-time" WG11 members present (representing the
U.S., the U.K., and the Netherlands).

SC22 Member Bodies are urgently requested to review their support for the WG11 activities.

3. Work Item JTC1.22.16 - Common Procedure Calling Mechanism
Working draft 6.3 of this document (SC22/N1507) passed the CD registration ballot (for
the ballot results and comments, see SC22/N1572). An updated version for subsequent DIS
ballot will be available in as soon as possible.

During the last meeting great concern was expressed on the alignment with the SC21 RPC
specification: it appears that it might be the case that, in order to resolve some negative DIS
ballot comments, a completely different specification will be proposed. This would ruin the
carefully prepared alignment with LIPC, and would nullify all the efforts WG11 has put
into this alignment.
A liaison statement expressing these concerns has been sent to SC21/WG8.

4. Work Item JTC1.22.17 - Common Language-Independent Datatypes
LID version 8 (SC22/N1577) was sent to ITTF for DIS processing in April 1994. The DIS
ballot closes by the end of October 1994.

5. Work Item JTC1.22.28 - Language Independent Arithmetic, Part 1
The LIA-1 (integer and floating point arithmetic) document passed the DIS ballot with 2
NO votes: one from France (on the incorrect translation of the title into French), and one
from Sweden. During the April meeting, the Swedish comments were discussed
extensively, but it was not possible to reverse the Swedish NO vote.
A revised version will be sent to ITTF for publication as IS 10967-1.

Now that DIS 10967-1 is about to be published, the work on part 2 (on mathematical procedures) can really start. It is hoped to have a first WD available for WG11 by November 1994, and a WD for CD registration by June 1995.

7. Work Item JTC1.22.34 - Language Independent Arithmetic, Part 3

The work on this part of IS 10967 (on complex arithmetic and procedures) will follow (in time) the work on part 2.

8. Language Independent Service Specifications

A NWI proposal for a TR, titled 'Guidelines for the Preparation of Language Independent Service Specifications', was approved (JTC 1/N2976).

As with all WG11 projects, here again participation is a problem: three out of the six JTC 1 P-members which indicated participation during the ballot (Germany, Japan and Roumania) are not attending WG11 meetings. Furthermore, the U.S. voted NO, and only after the April meeting of WG11 it became clear that the intended project editor for this project (from the U.S.) would indeed be available to do the work (although no travel budget for 1994 was available).

Before WG11 will embark on this project, this participation issue will be brought forward to the SC22 Plenary in September 1994.

9. Liaisons

Liaisons exist with the following SC22 WGs: WG2 - Pascal, WG3 - APL, WG4 - COBOL, WG9 - Ada, and WG15 - POSIX. Also, liaison representatives from SC24 (Graphics) and SC26 (Micro Processors) to WG11 have been appointed.

Informal liaisons also exist with SC22/WG13 - Modula-2, SC22/WG17 - Prolog, SC2 - Characters, SC21/WG8 - RPC, and ECMA TC33 - PCTE.

10. SC22/WG11 Milestones

Work Item 22.16 - Language-Independent Procedure Calling

Milestones:

- 2.8  93-10  WD approved for registration as CD
- 3.0  93-11  CD registered
- 3.4  94-10  CD approved for registration as DIS

Work Item 22.17 - Language-Independent Datatypes

Milestones:

- 2.8  91-01  WD approved for registration as CD
- 3.0  91-05  CD registered
- 3.1  91-05  CD study initiated
- 3.8  93-10  CD approved for registration as DIS
- 4.1  94-04  DIS ballet initiated

Work Item 22.28 - Language-Independent Arithmetic, Part 1

Milestones:

- 3.8  93-04  CD approved for registration as DIS
- 4.1  93-09  DIS ballet initiated
- 4.8  94-07  Full report circulated and DIS approved for publication as IS
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