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SC22/WG14's Response to comments received on
DP9899-C

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30 June 1988   WG14/N055

J.L. Côté
Secretariat JTC1/SC22
140 O'Connor Street, 10th Floor
Ottawa ON K1A OR5

Dear Mr. Côté:

Subject: Response to comments received on DP9899-C (SC22 N463)

The comments sent by SC22 member bodies with the voting on DP9899 fall into
two categories.

The first category is technical and relates to the contents of the C standard.
All issues in this category were already presented by WG14 to X3J11 as issues
that had to be addressed before the result of ANSI C standardization could be-
come an ISO standard. Most of our issues were resolved by X3J11. As of today,
only two issues remain which, in the opinion of several members of WG14, prevent
the current ANSI draft standard from becoming an ISO DIS. These two issues are
1) an alternate, more readable notation to accommodate countries with national
variants of ISO 646 (a substantive change), and 2) soundness of the definition
of the X3J11 draft, especially in the area of preprocessing (editorial changes).
Apart from these two issues, we feel that X3J11 has produced a very good draft
C standard, which deserves to be approved without any further substantive
changes.

The comments in the second category relate to the wish of several members of
SC22 to have identical ISO and ANSI C standards. Our understanding was that
after DP9899 was approved, WG14 was allowed to take the modifications made by
ANSI X3J11 to the C draft and submit the thus modified draft to ISO for regis-
tration as a DIS. Since this procedure did not work out the way we intended it
to, we will not submit any more C drafts to ISO until X3J11 produces its final
draft and hands that to X3 for approval.

At that time, WG14 can decide, depending on the changes made by X3J11, whether
the technical issues mentioned above warrant modification of the ANSI C standard
before we can put it forward for registration as a Draft ISO Standard.

Sincerely,

P.J. Plauger
Convenor, WG14