Standardizing Information and Communication Systems

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of TC39
held in Cupertino, USA, on 18th - 19th March 1997

Chairman:	Mr. G. Robinson (Sun)
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. C. Cargill (Netscape), Mr. S. Wiltamuth (Microsoft)
Secretary:	Mr. J. van den Beld (SG ECMA)
Attending:	Mr. Fisher (NIST), Mr. Ksar (HP), Ms. Nguyen (Netscape), Mr. Singer (IBM), Mr. van Tricht (KPN),
Guests:	Mr. Dembecki (Borland), Mr. Turyn (Nombas)

1 Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda (97/14)

Mr. Robinson, Chairman of TC39, opened the meeting and welcomed all attendants, in particular those attending for the first time. A roll call was held.

The agenda was approved.

2 Approval of the minutes of the 2nd meeting (97/7)

The minutes were approved.

3 Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere

Mr. Fisher announced that NIST has decide positively on the development of test assertions for ECMAScript. ECMA will not undertake any branding activities or other activities to guarantee that a product conforms to the ECMAScript standard.

4 Document distribution

The following documents were distributed:

TC39/97/19:   ECMAScript dates (Mr. Katzenberger).

TC39/97/20:   Design proposals for ECMAScript 2 (Microsoft).

5 Reports/Information

There were no reports.

5.1 Confirmation of new editor

Mr. G. Steele (Sun) was unanimously confirmed as new editor of the draft standard for ECMAScript. The meeting expressed high appreciation for the work done by **Mr. Steele** to develop and complete the first ECMAScript standard in time.

Mr. Gardner (Borland) and **Mr. Solton** (Borland), the first editors of the standard, who had to withdraw, were thanked for their large efforts to prepare the first drafts. In the mean time the 12th draft has been distributed.

6   ECMAScript

6.1   Report by the Editing ad hoc Group

Mr. Wiltamuth reported that no contentious issues exist. The draft will be completed at the end of March 1997, for final editing by the ECMA Secretariat.

TC39 agreed unanimously to forward the draft to the GA for vote in June 1997.

TC39 charged the Editing ad hoc Group to finalize the draft for submission to the GA. The Editing ad hoc Group will use one week for a final check of the final draft.

The Editing ad hoc Group was thanked for their excellent result, obtained by an efficient and effective working method with weekly meetings, and the meticulous efforts by the editor, **Mr. Steele**. **Mr. Wiltamuth** was thanked for his role as "note-taker" of the weekly meetings.

6.2   Title of the standard

TC39 agreed on the following title:

"<name of the language>: A general purpose, cross-platform programming language".

6.3   Name of the language

6.3.1   Decision on the name

The name Javascript is NOT available, according to **Mr. Robinson**. The legal counsellor of Sun, **Mr. Patch**, has declared this.

Therefore, TC39 will aim at LiveScript™ as name.

From the side of Netscape there is no legal objection to use this name, according to **Mr. Cargill**. Netscape has already executed a limited search.

TC39 requires a full trademark search. Microsoft and Netscape will look for an independent counsellor to do the full search in USA/Canada. ECMA will request this counsellor to do so. Action: **Mr. Cargill, Mr. Wiltamuth** and **Mr. Jan van den Beld.** Microsoft and Netscape will share the cost of this search.

6.3.2   Registration of the name

ECMA will register the name LiveScript in order to allow free use of this name.

Several countries have signed the "Madrid Protocol" which allows for a simple registration procedure. Under this protocol the name will be registered in :

– Benelux (Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands)
– China
– France
– Germany
– Italy
– Korea
– Russia
– Spain
– Switzerland

In other countries an individual procedure has to be followed:

– Australia
– Canada
– India
– Japan
– New Zealand
– Taiwan
– UK
– USA

Mr. van den Beld will take care of this registration.

The name LiveScript will NOT be used, for the time being, until positive confirmation has been received from legal counsellors to use the name.

The objective is to have this confirmation no later than at the GA meeting in June 1997.

6.3.3 Assigning naming rights

Netscape will send a formal letter to ECMA confirming that the name LiveScript is available with respect to Netscape.

No other member companies in ECMA claim rights with respect to the proposed name LiveScript.

6.4 Editorial completion of the standard

The technically complete draft standard will be transferred to the ECMA Secretariat at the end of March 1997. A scope, conformance clause, reference clause (if any), and definition clause (if any), will be added before the document is transferred to the ECMA Secretariat for final editing in April 1997.

6.5 Final draft

The editing of the final draft in April 1997 by the ECMA Secretariat will be completed in such a way that TC39 has one week time for a final check before the document is submitted to the GA for vote.

6.6 Information to ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC22

The editorially completed draft will be sent to SC22 for early information and review before the Standard will be submitted, in July 1997, to JTC 1 for adoption under the fast-track procedure.

Any resulting requests for information from SC22 will be resolved in a pragmatic way.

6.7 Future activities: call for proposals for "ECMAScript 2"

TC39 members are interested in a follow-up to the draft standard for ECMAScript. There is (yet) no title for this follow-up: the extensions can be either mandatory or optional.

Microsoft has already responded with a document with design proposals for a follow-up (97/20).

(More) **proposals are invited**

It is very likely that a new editor and a new note-taker will be needed. Members are invited to nominate candidate(s). A formal statement, by a company, is needed whether a candidate is "able and willing" to take the role of editor, which takes 50% or more of the candidate's time, during about half a year.

7 Any other business

None.

8 Date and place of next meetings

No. 4:   Santa Clara, 15th - 16th July 1997, no host yet.

No. 5:   Nice, 16 - 17th September 1997, hosted by ECMA.

9 Adjournment

The Chairman thanked Microsoft for their kind hospitality, and adjourned the meeting at noon on 19th January 1997.