

Minutes of the 11th meeting of TC39 held in Kona/Hawaii on 13th March 2001

Chairman: Mr. A. Clinick (Microsoft)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Lewis (Netscape)

Secretary: Mr. J. van den Beld (SG ECMA)

Attending: Mr. Deese (Microsoft), Mr. Dempsey (Microsoft), Mr. Horwat (Netscape), Mr. Jaeschke (Microsoft), Mr. Kadhim (Fujitsu), Mr. Marcey (Intel), Mr. Miller (Microsoft), Ms. Mingins (Monash University), Mr. Nanja (Intel), Mr. Ruby (IBM), Mr. Smith (Intel), Mr. Stapf (ISE), Ms. Thompson (HP), Mr. Vartiainen (Openwave)

1 Opening, welcome and roll call

Mr. Clinick, Chairman of TC39, opened the meeting. A roll call was held.

2 Adoption of the agenda (01/3)

The agenda was adopted.

3 Approval of the minutes of the 10th meeting (00/7)

The minutes were approved.

4 Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere

Mr. Clinick is preparing the final DIS (Draft International Standard) text which includes the result of the ballot resolution. The DoC (Disposition of Comments) Report and the Final DIS text will be sent by the ECMA Secretariat to ISO/IETF which takes care of the publication of the new edition of ISO/IEC 16262.

5 Reports / actions, if any

5.1 GA and CC (GA/00/149 and GA/00/127, resp.)

The GA and CC minutes are available to the members of all TCs and TGs in the folder COMMON.

There were no comments to the TC39 Chairman's report (00/12).

5.2 Status report from Task Group 1: ECMAScript

Mr. Lewis, Convenor of TG1, reported on the progress made in TG1 which is slower than he had hoped for. The plan is now to have the fourth edition of ECMA-262 up for GA ballot in June 2002 instead of December 2001.

Some delay in TG1 has been caused by CLI. Another time and resource consuming effect is the ongoing, rather tense, discussion about whether the development of ECMAScript has to go into the direction of a dynamic language rather than a static one: the struggling about this direction has now been going on for a considerable time.

The Convenor thanked **Mr. Ruby** for his work as Editor of ECMA-262 until he became the Convenor of TG3.

Mr. Horwat is the new Editor.

5.3 Status report from Task Group 2: C# (01/4)

Ms. Thompson presented her Convenor's report to TC39, highlighting the progress made on the C# draft standard during the first four TG2 meetings: there is a solid expectation that the draft 1st Edition of the standard can be finished in time for voting by the GA in December 2001. TG2 hopes to resolve the open issues before the June 2001 meeting: currently about 40% of the issues (about 50 in total) has been resolved.

The question was raised whether a second vendor is already implementing C#. The response is that this is not known yet, but that it would be desirable, if only to make the standard more robust.

5.4 Status report from Task Group 3: CLI (01/5)

Mr. Ruby presented his Convenor's report to TC39. Unlike TG2, TG3 has not yet been able to do a scan of the complete CLI document, which is substantially bigger than the C# material.

The 1st Edition of the CLI standard will contain almost the complete set of requirements for the Virtual Machine, without subsetting, and a subset of the Class Libraries. The largest portion of the Class Libraries will go into the standard in the future. The 1st Edition will contain five so-called Partitions (in WORD/PDF) and one big XML Partition on the Class Libraries. TG3 expects to complete its first round of reviews of the five Partitions and of about 35 library types before their June meeting.

Also for CLI no second vendor implementation is known.

5.5 General

Mr. van den Beld expressed his appreciation for the speed and quality of TG2 and TG3 in taking up the new work on C# and CLI. The performance achieved seems satisfactory, the main concern being whether TG3 can achieve a final draft for vote by the GA in December 2001.

The meeting schedule of one meeting per month seems to work well for TG2 and TG3. TG1 is considering to go back - after their meeting in May 2001 - to their original meeting scheme and venue (Bay Area and Redmond, alternately), instead of always co-locating their meetings with those of TG2 and TG3. The interim teleconferences are also considered useful and helpful.

Attendance of the meetings by experts from some other companies would be welcome. The current presence is:

- TG1 : 8 - 10 persons
- TG2 : up to 15 persons
- TG3 : up to 20 persons

5.6 Structure of TC39

Unlike TG2 and TG3, TG1 does not feel much benefit from the TC39 structure. Netscape feels itself in a somewhat artificial environment in TC39, according to **Mr. Lewis**: it has no real relation with CLI. Developing and building a language that fits together with CLI is an impediment.

Mr. Clinick responded that the objectives of Microsoft for the development of ECMAScript are not dependent on the existence of CLI.

TG2 has somehow some 'perception' to develop C# independently from CLI.

Keeping the languages within the same TC as CLI keeps CLI best aware of the possible impediments on (these) languages. Together ECMAScript and C# form a stronger 'counter balance' to CLI than when they were each separate.

The Chairman concluded this discussion - and by doing so also his action point from the last TC39 meeting - by stating that most TC39 members move forward pretty satisfactorily - TG1 least - and that, therefore, the current structure of TC39 is maintained and kept as it is.

Mr. Lewis stated that Netscape can live with this conclusion but that it does not consider it the most appropriate solution.

Mr. Horwat asked whether any other language is know coming to ECMA. **Mr. van den Beld** responded not to be aware of any proposal, either underway or under preparation.

6 ECMAScript - Compact Profile (2001tg1-004)

Mr. Vartiainen presented the 7th draft TR. The Compact Profile can be used for several types of resource-constrained equipment. The idea is to use the profile as a normative reference, comprised of a subset of ECMAScript edition 3.

The WAP Forum is working strongly with WML Script, and is strongly focused on mobile phones. It is not yet clear whether the Forum wants to add 'functionality', e.g. libraries, outside the current definition of the language and its libraries, e.g. by subsetting ECMAScript.

Mr. van den Beld recommended to explore the possibilities of a double logo (WAP-ECMA) publication.

TC39 approved the seventh draft as final draft, and agreed to have the document submitted to the GA for vote in June 2001.

7 Any other business

None.

8 Election of Officers for 2001

Mr. Clinick was unanimously re-elected as Chairman of TC39.

Mr. Lewis was unanimously re-elected as Vice-Chairman of TC39, subject to confirmation by his company.

9 Date and place of next meeting(s)

No. 12: Cupertino (USA), 27th September 2001, on kind invitation by HP.