TC39 chairman's report to Co-ordinating Committee

April 2008

1   General

The officers of TC39 "Ecmascript" in 2008 are:

Chairman   Mr. J. Neumann (Adobe/Microsoft)

Vice Chairman   open

2   Meetings held

1st Meeting held 24-25th January in Mountain View, CA

2nd Meeting held 27th-28th March in Mountain View, CA

3rd Meeting held 17th-18th April in Newton, Ma

3   Programme of Work

TC 39 is a very active committee, meeting monthly, and conducting phone teleconferences almost weekly (as schedules permit).

There are two active projects; Ecmascript edition 3.1 and Ecmascript edition 4. It is intended that both projects will result in new Ecma standards in the December 2008 time frame. It is currently expected that both versions will be published as editions of ECMA-262, with subsequent Fast Track of both standards (edition 3.1 as edition of ISO/IEC 16262) and edition 4 as probably new ISO/IEC numbered standard in order to differentiate between them in International venue.

Ecmascript edition 3.1 is intended to be a gradual evolution of current Ecmascript edition 3. It will correct know errors in the current standard and add a subset of planned features from Ecmascript edition 4. The purpose of this is to allow some browser vendors the opportunity to gain some enhancements without the need to support the full set of changes in edition 4.

Ecmascript edition 4, on the other hand, represents significant change from the current edition 3, and more change than some vendors want at this time. There is significant support in the committee for this edition of the standard, and it is anticipated that it will be widely implemented in the browser industry.

The committee is working together now to ensure that edition 3.1 is truly a subset of edition 4, using the same Reference Implementation to confirm both editions.

The current plan is to produce first drafts for the May meetings, followed by a revised version in July and final version in September. It remains to be seen if both projects can meet this schedule since it is quite ambitious.

4   Documents to be submitted for approval by the General Assembly in June 2008 and for submission to JTC 1 for fast-track processing.

None

5   Future meetings

4th meeting	San Francisco	29th – 30th May 2008
5th meeting	Oslo	23rd – 25th July 2008
6th meeting	Redmond, WA	24th – 25th September 2008

The above schedule is subject to change with addition of meetings in June and August.

John Neumann, Chairman TC39