

Excerpts

Minutes of the: *meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee*
held in: *Geneva*
on: *13- 14 May 2008*

Chairman: Ms. J. Auber (HP)
Secretary: Mr. I. Sebestyen (SG Ecma)
Attending: Mr. J. Neumann (Toshiba), Mr. H. Amir-Alikhani (Panasonic),
Mr. M. Breidhardt (IBM), Mr. O. Elzinga (Ecma), Mr. K. Fisher (Intel),
Mrs. I. Valet-Harper (Microsoft), Mr. K. Yamashita (Hitachi)
Phone call: Mr. H. Theis (Avaya, part time)
Excused: Mr. D. McAllister (Adobe), Mr. P. Weijenbergh (Philips).

1 Review of the work of the TCs

The TC Chairmen's reports were presented as follows:

TC12 Mr. Elzinga
TC20 Mr. Elzinga
TC26 Mr. Sebestyen
TC31 Mr. Neumann
TC32 Mr. Sebestyen / Mr. Elzinga
TC38 Mr. Elzinga
TC39 Mr. Neumann
TC43 Mr. Sebestyen
TC44 Mr. Sebestyen
TC45 Mrs. Valet-Harper
TC46 Mr. Sebestyen
TC47 Mr. Elzinga
TC48 Mr. Elzinga
TC49 Mr. Sebestyen

1.7 TC39 – ECMAScript

See report: [TC39/08/011](#).

Mr. Neumann has reported about TC39:

1.7.1 General

The officers of TC39 “Ecmascript” in 2008 are:

Chairman: Mr. J. Neumann (Adobe/Microsoft)

Vice Chairman: open

1.7.2 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

1.7.3 Programme of Work

TC39 is a very active committee, meeting monthly, and conducting phone teleconferences almost weekly (as schedules permit).

There are two active projects; as a workable compromise among the group **Ecmascript Edition 3.1** and **Ecmascript Edition 4** are developed. 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 known 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 the ambitious schedule.

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

None

1.7.5 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 CC has expressed satisfaction that the new TC39 works well within the new setting and that the rules of Ecma are much better followed. Some doubt has been expressed whether the parallel Editions 3.1 and 4 will not cause some confusion especially for the ISO fast track process. Mr. Sebestyen explained that – as result of the wish by its members - also TC43 keeps two Editions of the U3D Ecma standard alive. Similarly the ITU-T is using for certain cases parallel versions in some of its standards (e.g. H.323, H.225, ...). These versions are kept alive in parallel as long as the Industry needs those, and then the older versions are gradually withdrawn. Of course in each of the standards an identification mechanism about the concrete version number is always implemented. This is a compromise solution that not all in the Industry have to implement the very latest approved version of a standard, but all are still implementing a standard, and upward compatibility is still provided. Mr. Neumann promised that he will look with Tc39 into the matter again.