

Excerpts

Minutes of the: **105th meeting of the Ecma General Assembly**
held in: **Nice, France**
on: **11 June 2013**

President: Ms Valet-Harper (Microsoft)
Secretary: Dr. Sebestyen (SG Ecma International)
Attending: Ms Auber (HP), Mr. Brookes (Sony), Mr. Elzinga (Ecma International), Dr. Friedrich (IBM), Mr. McAllister (Adobe), Mrs. Porath (Intel, part-time), Mr. Yamashita (Hitachi), Mr. Sandholm (Google, part-time).
Apologies: Mr. Bisson (Nvidia), Mr. Hasebe (Toshiba), Mr. Horwat (Google), Mr. Murata (Canon), Mr. Lakhapal (AMD), Mr. Matsumura (Fujitsu), Mr. Nohnishi (Konica-Minolta), Mr. Sweeney (Yahoo).

1 Opening

Ms Valet-Harper, President of Ecma, opened at 09:00 the 105th General Assembly meeting and welcomed all attendees.

2 Call for Representatives ([GA/13/052-Rev1](#))

Dr. Sebestyen proceeded to the call of the Ordinary Member Companies' representatives, present or represented by Proxy to the SG.

7 out of 16 Voting Intentions Forms ([GA/13/052-Rev1](#)) have been returned.

16 out of 16 Ordinary Member Companies were represented:

Adobe	Mr. McAllister – Voting intentions
AMD	nothing received – proxy to the SG
Canon	Voting intentions
Ebay	nothing received - proxy to the SG
Fujitsu	nothing received - proxy to the SG
Google	Mr. Horwat – Voting intentions
Hewlett Packard	Ms Auber
Hitachi	Mr. Yamashita – Voting intentions
IBM	Dr. Friedrich
Intel	Mrs. Porath
Konica Minolta	nothing received - proxy to the SG
Microsoft	Ms Valet-Harper
Nvidia	Voting intentions
Sony	Mr. Brookes – Voting intentions
Toshiba	Mr. Hasebe – Voting intentions
Yahoo	nothing received - proxy to the SG

Dr. Sebestyen then asked all delegates to introduce themselves.

3 Approval of the Minutes of the 104th GA ([GA/12/130](#))

The GA approved the minutes of the 104th GA without changes.

7.7 TC39 – ECMAScript

Activity report: [TC39/13/020](#).

Ms Auber reported about the activities of TC39.

ECMAScript Edition 6 will come out at the end of 2014 (so 1 year later than originally planned....), also they are working on the 2nd Edition of ECMA-402 with the same target date.

The JSON project (joint with IETF) has just started. **Dr. Sebestyen** explained that the project was also approved at the May 2013 TC39 meeting in London. Ecma wants to standardize the already stable standard (Ecma can not afford that past ECMAScript implementations break), in the IETF some want to make significant modifications, changes on JSON. We will see how this plays out. Ecma will have also a plan “B” should the original plan not work out.

The agreement with IETF is to work on the IETF reflector (so also interested Ecma TC39 members should join the IETF Reflector as individuals). We, in Ecma TC39, will archive key documents of the JSON development work. As soon as there is a stable draft standard available on the IETF Reflector, we would initiate either a letter ballot within Ecma or approve at the next Ecma GA (whatever comes first). Therefore the GA is asked – in case it is needed – to permit an Ecma letter ballot on the JSON standard. **Mr. McAllister** seconded the request. **The GA granted TC39 that possibility of a postal ballot on JSON.** The GA also encouraged TC39 members to join the IETF JSON Mailing list. The GA also reminded that the possible postal ballot should go with a documentation of an analysis of the situation, where we are, what is to be expected etc.

Ms Auber noted that the past practice of IETF is not insisting on backwards compatibility. This is different for Ecma. **Dr. Sebestyen** and **Mr. McAllister** were asked to inform the CC and the GA about further developments.

On Test262 there is a liaison with W3C and other 3rd party contributions. **Dr. Sebestyen** believes that the current text for the submission of the software contributions looks already good enough to use that text also for those external software contributions. He said that he has submitted that observation and proposal to the IPR Adhoc Group some weeks ago, but the group simply had no time to work on that. **Dr. Sebestyen** said that TC39 itself is interested in such an extension, but let us take “one step after the other”.

Ms Auber explained how the introduction of the new TC39 Experimental Patent Policy would be done (if that is approved – which happened later in the GA meeting).

Dr. Sebestyen said that some new prospects for new membership exist in TC39, and some potential interested new members may come as observer to the July 2013 TC39 meeting.

8 Other CC/Technical activities ([GA/13/046](#))

8.1 Ecma IPR Policy matters: decisions and approval ([GA/13/023](#), [GA/13/043](#))

Dr. Sebestyen presented the Experimental TC39 Royalty Free Policy package: The GA will have two votes on the policies (8.1.1 and 8.1.3) and one on the TC39 RF TG Scope (8.1.2).

Regarding the operational documents in the package (like forms) there will be no voting, as those documents may have more frequent updates. This should be simply approved by the CC.

Mr. Brooks suggested that in the TC39 RF registration form also the GA representative's name should be included (in addition to the legally binding company signature). It was noted that one signature per application should be enough, and it is members' internal matter who should sign the registration form. **Mr. Brooks** stressed that visibility of the applications is important. **Dr. Sebestyen** said that actually all such registration forms would become GA and probably also TC39 documents. Also the withdrawal document falls in that category. It was agreed that the publishing of TC39 RF TG membership registrations and withdrawals as GA documents immediately. This was noted by the GA. **Mr. Brooks** was satisfied with that solution.

Regarding non-member TC39 RF TG contributions (GA/13/043) – as a technical document - those will become a TC39 internal document (and not a GA document). The CC chairman should in the future indicate in his report which is such an external contribution.

Then the GA went to vote:

From (GA/13/023/Rev2) the Experimental TC39 RF TG Policy package:

8.1.1 Vote on:

The experimental TC39 royalty-free patent policy (CC/13/010):

In favour: 14

Against: none

Abstain: 2 (Canon, Toshiba)

8.1.2 Vote on:

TC39 Royalty Free (RF) TG Scope (CC/13/001):

In favour: 14

Against: none

Abstain: 2 (Canon, Toshiba)

8.1.3 Vote on:

(GA/13/043) Non-Ecma-member contributions to the planned TC39 RF TG Work:

In favour: 15

Against: none

Abstain: 1 (Canon)

The GA expressed its gratitude to the members of the **IPR Adhoc Group** (incl. those from the CC), the CC Chair, **Ms Auber**, and the SG, **Dr. Sebestyen**, to have advanced the work to the GA approval stage. Special thanks also to **Mr. Wirfs-Brock** who helped to enlighten the TC39 interests in the work.

The GA called upon the IPR Adhoc Group to finish its work on the 3rd party and liaison software contributions in TC39 work.

Ms Valet-Harper noted that this new experimental policy is an important milestone in Ecma's life and expressed the hope that it will be a useful instrument in TC39s work.

8.2 Ecma By-laws and Rules – Participation of non-members in Ecma activities ([GA/13/044](#))

Dr. Sebestyen introduced GA/13/044. This is an update of the document that was presented to the CC in April. It is progress in work. The Annex is different from the earlier version in the sense that its text is close now to GA/13/043 (External TC39 contribution – see report above). The text part of the contribution is a summary of the long practice in Ecma how “invited experts” and other non-members were treated in Ecma meetings.

Mr. Elzinga suggested that the GA should request the TCs to use GA/13/044 (and the form) on an experimental basis, and report back to the next CC meeting (and the GA) on the experiences made. This was approved by the GA.