DECEMBER 1991

TITLE: Draft Minutes of meeting of WG11 held
                   in Vienna, 1991-09-16/20

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ACTION: For information to SC22 Member Bodies.

Committee:	ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22/WG11
Place:	TU Vienna Vienna, Austria
Date:	September 16 – 20, 1991

Attendees:		
	Mr. Ed Barkmeyer	NIST, USA
	Mr. Jean Bourgain	AFNOR, France
	Mr. John Dawes	ICL, UK
	Mr. Ken Edwards	IBM, US
	Mr. Peter Goetz	SNI, Germany (SC22/WG2)
	Mr. Mark Hamilton	Netwise, USA
	Mr. Tony Hetherington	Prospero Software, UK (SC22/WG2)
	Mr. David Joslin	Teeside Polytechnic, UK (SC22/WG2)
	Mr. Brian Meek	King's College London, UK
	Mr. Alistar Munro	Bristol University, UK
	Ms. Mary Payne	DEC, USA
	Mr. Ruslan Penchev	APUS Consulting, Bulgaria (SC22/WG2)
	Mr. Paul Rabin	OSF, USA
	Mr. Franz Karl Ress	SNI, Germany
	Mr. Joe Treat	Netwise, USA
	Mr. Willem Wakker	ACE, Netherlands
	Mr. Johan van Wingen	University of Leiden, Netherlands

1. Agenda (WG11/N260)

The agenda was amended as follows:

— Point 13.a: change reference SC22/N957 to SC22/N959

— Add to point 13: E-mail and e-mail lists

The agenda was accepted as amended.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings (WG11/N227 and WG11/N257)

WG11/N227: Minutes of January 1991 meeting: no changes were made to the minutes; the minutes were approved.

WG11/N257: Minutes of the May 1991 meeting:
In attendance list, change "Mr. Alistar Munro" to "Mr. Alistair Munro"
In attendance list, note that Ms. Frampton did not represent the RPC group but ECMA.
The minutes were approved as amended.

3. Convenor Report

As result of the SC22 letter ballot (SC22/N910) the convenor was appointed (SC22/N965).

With regret it was noted that a letter from Mr. Ken Meyer (British Gas, UK) was received indicating that he cannot longer be the WG4 (COBOL) liaison to WG11.

The convenor report (WG11/N269) was discussed; strong support was expressed for the issues raised in this document with respect to combined meetings with SC21/WG6/RPC.

4. National Activity Reports

4.1 BSI IST/5/11

The report is appended to these minutes.

4.2 ANSI X3T2

During the last X3T2 meeting, the formulation of the US position on the LCAS ballot and the procedural reasons for not being able to provide the appropriate form of the ballot in lieu of the deadline was discussed. Also, a series of comments were discussed that X3T2 received from X3T5.5 on the CLIDT. These comments were received late in the week at the July X3T2 meeting and have yet to respond to.

4.3 AFNOR/CG 97/CN 22/GE 11

The report is appended to these minutes.

5. Work Item 22.14 – Language Bindings Guidelines

During the meeting the updated version of DTR 10182 was handed out. It was agreed that the convenor would present this document for further processing to the ITTF representative at the SC22 meeting.

Milestones for the Language bindings Guidelines project:

5.3   91-12   TR published

6. Work Item 22.16 – Common Procedure Calling Mechanism

During the meeting a document was drafted called "Summary of CLIP concerns" (WG11/N293) which should serve to the project editor as checklist for further progression of the CLIPCM document.

The first draft, suitable for CD registration can be expected by the next WG11 meeting.

Issues relating to IDN and RPC were discussed based on documents WG11/N274, WG11/N282 and N283.

A resolution to SC22 to have Mr. Ken Edwards registered as project editor for project 22.16 was accepted.

Milestones for the CLIPCM project:

2.8   92-05   WD approved for registration as CD

7. Work Item 22.17 – Language-Independent Data Types

WD#5 was registered as CD 11404, and sent out for letter ballot (SC22/N970). The original closing date of this ballot was shifted from September 27th to November 27th 1991, due to communication problems between SC22 secretariat and the US Member Body.

Effectively this means that, since the ballot is not yet closed nothing can be done with the current document. Document WG11/N271 will be discussed at the next meeting together with other proposals and comments.

Mr. Johan van Wingen (the liaison officer from SC2 to SC22) introduced the issue of the character type in general, the relation with the emerging Multi Octet Character Standard 10646, and the consequences for the character datatype in CD 11404. The project editor will use this information to propose updates to the document.

A resolution to SC22 to have Mr. Ed Barkmeyer registered as project editor for project 22.17 was accepted.

Milestones for the CLID project:

2.8	91-01	WD approved for registration as CD
3.0	91-05	CD registered
3.1	91-05	CD study initiated
3.8	92-10	CD approved for registration as DIS

8. Work Item 22.28 – Language Compatible Arithmetic Standard

A letter ballot on the document was conducted in SC22 with two purposes: to invite comments on the document and to check whether the Member Bodies find the document acceptable as a DIS. The result of this letter ballot is in SC22/N1010.

Great concern was expressed about the US NO vote on the LCAS document (SC22/N1010): this vote mentions problems on which the NO vote is based, but does not address or explain these concerns. This makes it impossible to properly address the issues, and thus be sure that the proposed resolutions are acceptable to the US member body. It was decided that the list of changes proposed by the project editors (WG11/N280) and the proposed new text for the notification section (WG11/N281) would serve as a basis for further discussion.

On the issue of notification, it was decided that the LCAS document should specify a number of required notification mechanisms and some optional mechanisms. The language binding documents, specifying the binding of a language to LCAS, should select the mechanisms most suitable to the language, and define the meaning of the terms "nearly immediate" or "promptly" in wording appropriate to that language.

To resolve the French No vote, text for a new conformity clause was proposed.

In view of the proposed changes it was decided that:

— a 2nd CD will be produced; WG11 should approve the text of this CD by its first meeting in 1992;

— the LCAS project editors will produce a document (WG11/N292) with detailed proposed changes of text for this 2nd CD to be distributed (mainly by email) to WG11 participants so that a firm statement about the document can be made during this first meeting in 1992 (responses to the convenor before November 29th, 1991);

— SC22 will be asked to approve the publication of the current LCAS document as first part (Integer and Floating Point Arithmetic) of a multi-part standard, whereby the LCMPS and LCCAPS will be the second and third part of this standard.

The WG11 convenor will send the 2nd CD of LCAS to SC26 (Microprocessor Systems).

Milestones for the LCAS project:

| 3.8 | 92-10 | CD approved for registration as DIS |

9. Work Item 22.33 – Language Compatible Mathematical Procedure Standard

The project proposal was accepted (SC22/N951) and Ms. Mary Payne was appointed as project editor (SC22/N1013).

As the project directly follows the LCAS project, delays in the LCAS project also apply to this project. Hence, the milestones are shifted.

| 2.1 | 91-09 | WD study initiated |

| | 92–06 | First draft circulated |
| 2.8 | 93–05 | WD draft for CD registration |

10. Work Item 22.34 – Language Compatible Complex Arithmetic and Procedure Standard

The project proposal was accepted (SC22/N952) and Ms. Mary Payne was appointed as project editor (SC22/N1014).

As the project directly follows the LCAS project, delays in the LCAS project also apply to this project. Hence, the milestones are shifted.

2.1	91–09	WD study initiated
	93–03	First draft circulated
2.8	94–01	WD draft for CD registration

11. Cross language issues

The following issues were discussed.

1. SC22/N945 – PCTE
   Mr John Dawes (convenor of the ECMA task group TC33-TGEP, responsible for the PCTE standardization) introduced document WG11/N270 on the experiences of the ECMA group with WG11 documents.
   Some of the requests of the ECMA group to WG11 were: stability soon, encourage real use and feedback, and a more rigorous formal treatment.

2. WG11/N217 – POSIX Language Independent specifications
   Some general issues were discussed relating peculiar POSIX data types (like user_id and proc_id which look like integers but do not have the corresponding properties), conformance clauses (is 'shall' needed in bindings?) and binding standards. Unfortunately WG11/N284 was not distributed before the meeting and WG11 was unable to establish a comment on this document for SC22/WG15.

3. On September 18th, a combined meeting with SC22/WG2 – Pascal was held. WG2 is working on bindings documents to WG11 projects. The first proposal is a Extended Pascal binding to LCAS. General issues related to LCAS and CLID bindings were discussed.
   Conclusions:

   — WG11 noted with pleasure the activities from WG2 in the area of language bindings to LCAS, CLID and CLIPCM, and endorses the work of WG2 in this area;

   — WG11 endorses the WG2 proposal to SC22 for a new workitem (to be implemented by WG2) in this area.

12. Future meetings

An offer from AFNOR was received to host a WG11 meeting in Paris in October 1992. On the other hand it was felt that a meeting with SC21/WG6/RPC before the SC21 plenary in May 1992 could be useful to align WG11 and RPC documents. The planned meeting in April 1992 is too late to prepare input documents to this SC21 plenary. Since SC21 did not allow SC21/WG6/RPC to meet with WG11 early 1992 a resolution to SC22 to seek SC21's endorsement of a combined meeting of WG11 and SC21/WG6/RPC in February 1992 in the USA was passed.

Should a meeting in February 1992 be held, an October 1992 meeting would be too late. Therefore, AFNOR will be asked to host the WG11 meeting earlier (June 1992).

— Possible first meeting 1992.

Date: February 1992 (tentatively)
Place: Boulder, Colorado ?? (USA)

This will be a combined meeting with SC21/WG6/RPC.

— Alternative first meeting 1992.

Date: April 20th – April 24th, 1992 (tentatively)
Place: Washington DC (USA)

This will be a combined meeting with X3T2.

— Second meeting 1992

Date: June 1992, or October 12-16 1992
Place: Paris (France)

Documents identified since last mailing

WG11 Nbr	Other Nbrs	Date	Author	Title
261	Email 158	910604	Greengrass	Response to N259
262	Email 168	910703	Turba	Comments on CLID WD#5
263	Email 169	910712	Greengrass	Comments on Turba – N262, part 1
264	Email 170	910715	Greengrass	Comments on Turba – N262, part 2
265	Email 171	910716	Meek	Comments on Turba – N262
266	Email 172	910717	Greengrass	Comments on Turba – N262, part 3
267	Email 173	910717	Greengrass	Comments on Meek – N265
268	Email 174	910718	Barkmeyer	The further discourse with Turba
269		9108xx	Wakker	WG11 Convenor Report to SC22
270		9108xx	Dawes	Experiences with ECMA PCTE Bindings
271		9108xx	AFNOR	Comments on CD 11404 - CLID WD #5
272		910801	Burch	Design for a CLI File Format Standard
273		910802	Burch	Design for a CLI File Representation of Data Standard
274		910812	Netwise	IDN issues with CLID and CLIPC - 1
275		910812	Netwise	IDN issues with CLID and CLIPC - 2
276	SC21/N6111	910530		RPC - WD3
277		910913		Response by LCAS project editors to Scowen comments
278		9109xx		Revised DTR 10182 - Bindings Guidelines
279		9109xx		Editors comments on Revised DTR 10182 (N278)
280		910913		Summary proposed changes LCAS - CD 10967
281		910913		Proposed revised Notification section of CD 10967
282		9109xx	UK RPC	Revised Canonical IDN Grammar
283		9109xx	UK RPC	Extension of value_expr syntax in RPC IDN
284		9105xx	IEEE/TCOS	P.L. Independent Spec. Methods D#4
285		9109xx		UK position on Open Issues in RPC IDN
286		910917	ECMA	ECMA proposed BNF for IDN
287		910917	ECMA	Comments on IDN Grammar Syntax
288		910917	ECMA	Pointer Datatype
289		910917	ECMA	Declaration of Real Values
290		910917	ECMA	Identifiers etc.
291		910917	ECMA	Comments on IDN data typing
292				Proposed changes to CD 10967 (LCAS)
293		910919		Summary of CLIP concerns
294		9110xx	Wakker	Minutes WG11 Meeting September 1991

National activity report for UK, January to September 1991

The UK panel has continued to be active at a similar level to before, working mostly by correspondence (and primarily by electronic mail), with occasional meetings: in particular in March (between the Monterey WG11 and Arles RPC meetings), July (to discuss the outcome of the Arles meeting) and September (briefing for the Vienna WG11 meeting).

Liaison has been established with the UK RPC panel, members of whom, including David Robinson and Alistair Munro, have been added to the UK panels electronic mailing list. Brian Meek attended part of the last UK RPC panel meeting.

Brian Meek gave a presentation in August to the UK WG15 Posix panel about the work of WG11, particularly CLID.

The UK panel has pursued issues mentioned in its paper N256, submitted at Arles but not discussed. On the question of student projects as a means of supplementing the work of WG11 e.g. to investigate bindings of CLID, CLIP, LCAS to specific languages), some interest was expressed within the academic part of IST/5 (the UK equivalent to SC22). However, we would like these possibilities to be explored in other countries too.

The panel has defined UK positions on most important current issues. Below is a brief summary: these will be elaborated on as necessary during discussions.

1. We are still concerned about the level of attention being paid to the work of WG11 by language WGs: SC22 might be asked to issue a "directive" to these WGs to improve in this respect. The action of WG21 C++ in appointing an official liaison is welcomed in the UK and others should be requested.

2. UK strongly supports the item in the WG11 convenors report about making a WG11 RPC liaison representative an official delegate to RPC meetings.

3. UK recommends caution in dealing with the proposals to X3T2 for language independent input-output and file handling standards because of potential overlap with WG15 and SC21.

4. On LCAS, the UK panel regards the comments accompanying the US NO vote to be unacceptable, and has suggested that this be raised at SC22 and the US member body be asked for a written statement of the changes it is seeking. Meanwhile we support the efforts of the project editors in seeking to resolve the problems, while maintaining the UK position that any conforming processor must provide an "immediate" notification facility, preferably as the default.

5. On the CLID Null issue the UK panel believes that the Vienna WG11 should choose one of the contending models, and that informative text should be added explaining the relationship of this to the others. We believe that Aggregate, Procedure and Pointer datatypes should have separate sections. More generally we are concerned at the still widespread misunderstanding of CLID outside WG11 and recommend that more attention be given to provision of informative material and guidance on use, and other "educative" activities.

Brian Meek
Principal UK expert
17 September 1991

AFNOR National Activity Report

Since the Monterey meeting, the AFNOR group met 3 times: April, June and July. During these meetings, the following was accomplished:

— preparation of votes on LCAS and CLID

— preparation of comments on CLID

— preparation of document to be submitted to SC22 on

— conformity rules for cross-language standards.

The AFNOR group came to the conclusion that WG11 should issue NPs on language WGs to the effect that they make the necessary extensions to handle WG11 requirements (e.g. LCAS).

Next meeting of the AFNOR group is planned in October. The plan is to discuss the matter of examples in CLID.