ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22
Languages
Secretariat: CANADA (SCC)

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22
N 1157

MAY 1992

TITLE: SC22 Chairman's Management Report to the JTC1 Plenary of June/July 92

SOURCE: Secretariat ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22

WORK ITEM: N/A

STATUS: New

CROSS REFERENCE: N/A

DOCUMENT TYPE: Chairman's report to JTC1 Plenary

ACTION: For information to SC22 Member Bodies.

Address reply to: ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22 Secretariat
J.L. Côté
Treasury Board Secretariat
140 O'Connor St., 10th Floor, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0R5
Tel.: (613)957-2496 Telex: 053-3336 Fax: (613)996-2690

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22
Languages
Secretariat: CANADA (SCC)

Subcommittee 22 Chairman's Report to the JTC1 Plenary Meeting June 30 - July 3, 1992

The last plenary of Subcommittee 22 was held in Vienna, Austria on 23-27 September 1991. The management report of that plenary is given in document JTC1 N1680. That report noted that the plenary was very successful and covered the key management issues which we addressed at that time. This report provides an SC22 management update for the JTC1 plenary, but without repeating the issues already covered in JTC1 N1680. A more extensive report will be made after the next SC22 plenary in Tampere, Finland, 24-28 August 1992.

National Body participation in Working Group 11 continues to be a problem. I recently attended a WG11 meeting myself and regret to report that only three National Bodies were present. This is of concern since the projects in WG11 are for language independent standards (data types, procedure calling mechanisms, arithmetic, etc.) which potentially affect the programming language working groups in the development of their future standards or revisions. Broad participation from a diverse group of experts is therefore highly desirable. We will again address this problem at our next plenary.

We have placed a related issue on our next plenary agenda which I hope will also have a positive effect on participation in WG11. It is time for SC22 to consider what the appropriate response should be from our individual language WGs to language independent or cross language standards after they are adopted. Since many of our programming languages vary widely in philosophy and style, this is not a simple issue. However, it is important for both those developing programming language standards and those developing language independent or cross language functional standards to know what expectations there are for use of the latter standards after they have been approved. This issue relates not only to standards developed in WG11, but also in WG15 (POSIX) and WG20 (Internationalization).

Another item which we will be addressing in Tampere is the recommendation to JTC1 regarding internationalization, as requested by JTC1 in Madrid.

Finally, we note that we are not receiving ballot responses from several National Bodies which are P-members of SC22. We are in the process of taking action in accordance with the Directives.