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Canadian Submission to SC22 Plenary 2005 POSIX

The submission of POSIX-related documents has been problematic within SC22 for a significant period of time. WG15 had not met as a WG in excess of 5 years and yet new POSIX documents were being submitted as though there was a properly functioning WG to manage these documents. To wit the POSIX 2003 complete balloting process was handled by SC22 secretariat without a functioning technical POSIX group within SC22.

At the 2004 SC22 plenary, SC22 terminated WG15 and instituted SWG to examine and report on POSIX issues. This group had a single meeting in January 2005, and concluded that POSIX documents should be prepared and submitted by the existing editors directly to SC22 for balloting.

Canada notes that:

- 1.ISO/IEC/JTC1/SC22 has no formal relationship with the Austin Group now that WG15 has ceased to exist. It is not even clear that the Austin Group has a legitimate charter since 2 of the 3 founding entities no longer exist.
- 2.ISO/IEC/JTC1 directives contain no mechanism for project editors to submit new standards, corrigenda to standards or amendments to standards without a current JTC1 project and national body participation
- 3.SC22 has no mechanisms in place to perform technical work such as POSIX standards development outside of working groups

Canada therefore requests that SC22 secretariat inform the Open Group that

- a. it is unable to accept future updates to POSIX standards as SC22 work unless an effective POSIX WG is in existence.
- b. Failing the creation of an effective POSIX WG within SC22, all future updates to POSIX must either follow the standard JTC1 fast track process or JTC1 PAS process; and
- c. the Open Group take necessary measures to initiate fast track or PAS process within JTC1 so that POSIX standards are not unduly held back by JTC1.

Canada further notes that item 9 of the POSIX SG meeting recommends that all POSIX character maps and locales be assigned to the I18NRG. This is likely not possible given the current state of i18n within SC22. Recognizing that SC22 needs a place to manage this work, we suggest that this be moved to a developing Linux or Linux/POSIX WG.

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