

To: WG5 and X3J3

From: Jeanne Martin (Convenor WG5)

Subject: Report of the SC22 Meeting in Vienna Sept. 23-27, 1991

Attachments: JTC1 Committees / SC22 Working groups
 Report of C++ Convenor to the SC22 Meeting (Carter)
 Report of the Madrid JTC1 Meeting (Follett)

The SC22 resolutions from the Vienna meeting are WG5-N748. The ones that pertain directly to Fortran are:

151 Appointment of Convenors
 152 Confirmation of Project Editors
 153 Appointment of Project Editors
 155 Establishment of Interpretations Ad Hoc Group
 156 Interim Interpretations
 157 Responsibility for the maintenance of the International Fortran standard
 158 Distribution of Technical Reports
 160 E_mail
 163 Large NWI Proposals
 193 Appreciation to WG5 and X3J3: completion of Fortran 90

Others that may be of interest:

166 REXX and Parallel Processing
 170 Working Group Reporting
 191 Background Material for Working Groups

The most important thing that I learned in Vienna is that there is NO international mechanism for handling interpretations and corrections of a language standard and there never has been. Again we must be on the forefront of developing procedures. An SC22 ad hoc group was set up, chaired by John Hill (Chair of the US TAG to SC22) and with most Convenors as members (Resolution 155). I provided John Hill with a copy of FIB #2 (Interpretations of Fortran 77). Until his group actually defines procedures for SC22, we must move forward as best we can (Resolution 156).

The procedures involving defect reports and corrigenda were developed by SC21 specifically for their needs and adopted in toto by JTC1. I was told that corrigenda are not appropriate for language standards, and that if we develop procedures that are, we might have a chance of getting them adopted by JTC1 as well.

COBOL has published Information Bulletins in the US and amendments to the international COBOL standard. Amendments are generally language additions, not interpretations. A language can have only two amendments before it must be revised. For some reason, Addenda are no longer permitted; we can have amendments only, but they are not appropriate for interpretations either. The current international mechanism that comes the closest to meeting the need for international publication of interpretations and corrections is a type 3 Technical Report. Presumably this would contain the same material as an Information Bulletin published in the US.

Bob Follett, Chair of SC22 and member of X3, says that the procedures for interpretation in the US are changing. Both COBOL and C include corrections in their standing documents for

interpretations. COBOL has published several Information Bulletins in the US with no international counterpart I believe that C has yet to publish a document. We can only hope that more definitive procedures will be in place by the time we are ready to publish interpretations and ~/ corrections for Fortran 90.

Because the responsibility of producing international Fortran standards has been given to the US, the US chooses the WG5 Convenor. The Convenor must be from the US and ANSI/X3 uses their procedures for selection (every three years). If WG5 had responsibility for producing the international Fortran standard, WG5 could recommend its choice for Convenor to SC22.

A project editor must be appointed by SC22 for every project (Resolution 152). As of now, they are merely named by the Convenor. This is something to keep in mind for future Fortran development.

Several documents have been made available to Convenors for distribution to their working groups (Resolutions 158 and 191). TR 10176:1991 is WG5-N742. TR 10034:1990 is WG5-N610. TR 9547:1988 is WG5-N749 and is in this distribution. The JTC1 Directives are WG5-N562R. For sake of reference, I have attached a list of the 16 committees in JTC1 of which SC22 is one. There are currently 16 working groups in SC22 of which WG5 is one. I have attached a full list of the 21 SC22 working groups, six of which have been disbanded. WG5-N750 is the latest Working Draft on Terminology for programming languages.

There is a new SC22 requirement that Minutes of meetings be made available to the SC22 Secretariat within two months of the meeting.

C++ has developed some innovative procedures for holding joint meetings between WG21 and X3J16. (See the attached report of the WG21 Convenor which describes these procedures.) SC22 is permitting this departure from normal procedures, but is taking a wait-and-see-how-it-works attitude toward them. This might be a way that WG5 and X3J3 could proceed with the development of the next Fortran standard.

If you are on email you are no doubt aware that the WG5 email distribution service is now being managed by Keld Simonsen in Denmark. To send mail to WG5, use the address:

SC22WG5@dkuug.dk

Mail to this address goes to several national reflectors, a few individuals, and to x3j3@ncsa.uiuc.edu, so X3J3 members need keep their address current only on the x3j3 list.

In case you are wondering why there are two resolutions titled "SC22 Title and Area of Work" (149 and 150), this was so that Japan could vote yes on 149 that specifies the current work assigned to SC22, but no on 150 that states that this is appropriate work for SC22 and requests JTC1 to approve a revision to the existing Title and statement of the Area of Work which was out-of-date. Japan disapproved of POSIX being in the SC22 area of work. There was a JTC1 meeting in Madrid after the SC22 meeting, and apparently Japan reversed its position. See Bob Follett's report of the JTC1 meeting, attached.

[The attachments specified were not available for digitisation.]