

## *Infoterm Annual Report 2001*

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## Introduction

Over the year 2001 Infoterm activities concentrated on

- standardization activities, especially in direction of new horizons for ISO/TC 37 “Terminology and other language resources”
- finalizing the TDCnet Project with the European Commission and taking appropriate follow-up actions for the continuation of the TDCnet Consortium
- conceiving and applying for new projects with the EU Commission
- the engagement in the comprehensive software development strategy of UNESCO geared towards a set of modular freeware for documentation, information and knowledge management under an open source philosophy
- activities with WHO geared towards cooperation and setting-up of networks in the field of health-related terminology
- restructuring of the Infoterm Headquarters, including the change of the office location and establishment of a branch office in Germany

As all Infoterm activities are highly interconnected in order to benefit from synergies, some or most of the foci mentioned above can be found again in some or most of the project, conference, liaison as well as standardization activities listed below.

## Project activities

### *TDCnet – European Network of Terminology Information and Documentation Centres*

At the beginning of 2001, the Final Report as well as the final accounts were finalized and handed over to the EU Commission.

The preparations for the establishment of the TDCnet were continued and the new TDCnet Consortium Agreement (document TDCnet / TCA N 002) as well as the Rules of Procedure (document TDCnet / TCA N 001) were updated and discussed.

On the occasion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> TDCnet Consortium Assembly convened in Brussels on 2002-11-22, the new Agreement was signed by the representatives of the TDCnet Members present and hereafter circulated for signature to the other members of the Consortium. Also the Rules of Procedure were adopted at this meeting.

In the second half of 2001, Union Latine in its capacity as host of the TDCnet System, restructured the whole system architecture and reprogrammed its components. For further information visit <http://www.etis.info>

Infoterm was asked to take care of the secretariat of the TDCnet Consortium.

### *Project activities in Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC)*

In line with the decisions of the Infoterm Executive Board, the Secretariat endeavoured to organise EU projects with partner organisations in the CEECs, such as the “*CETnet Project*” (“*Central and Eastern Terminology Centres Network*”) and the “*ETPnet Project*” (“*Eastern Terminology Provision Network*”) with focus on partners from the applicant countries and the Newly Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (NIS) with the general aim

- to develop multilingual and multifunctional web-based systems to create, link and market high-quality knowledge-rich terminological data via the Internet and mobile technologies,
- to link national and transnational terminology working groups via the Internet in order to support the creation of terminological data in several languages and writing systems, with user friendly multilingual interfaces to the further developed TDCnet system.

In this connection, Infoterm provided guidance for the establishment of national terminology associations and terminology centres, *inter alia*, in Hungary, Poland and in the Baltic States.

*Some of these activities were supported financially or morally by:*

- the Austrian Institute of East and Southeast European Studies (OSI)
- the Austrian Commission for UNESCO (ACU)
- the Austrian Computer Society (OCG)
- the George Soros Foundation

### ***Activities in Latin American Countries***

The following project activities, among others, proceeded satisfactorily:

- development of the UNESCO freeware WinISIS and WebISIS into open source software New Generation ISIS in cooperation with UNESCO and several institutions/organisations in Latin America
- planning and implementation of a cooperation framework with the Grupo de Investigación ISO in Columbia

### ***Activities in Asian Countries***

The cooperation with many institutions/organisations in East Asia was pursued:

- Korea Research Center for Terminology and Knowledge Engineering (KORTERM) – at bilateral level as well as within the framework of EAFTerm (the East Asia Forum on Terminology)
- China National Institute for Standardization (CNIS) – at bilateral level as well as within the framework of EAFTerm (the East Asia Forum on Terminology) and of the Chinese – Austrian Cooperation Agreement in Science and Technology (new project: *Development of a multimodal, multilingual system of creating and exploiting high-quality terminology-related standards*)
- China Translation Center for Nationalities Languages (CTCNL)
- China National Committee for Terms in Sciences and Technologies (CNCTST)
- Encyclopedia of China Publishing House (ECPH)
- Terminology Association of Hong Kong (TAHK)
- Japan Terminology Association (JTA)

### ***Activities in African Countries***

The Secretariat intensified existing cooperation with language boards in African countries, especially with the National Language Services (NLS) in South Africa. Possible cooperation with language boards/language councils in other African countries (as well as reviving former cooperation) was initiated and will be continued in 2002 (Tanzania, Nigeria).

Activities with African countries focus on communication and terminology standardization in African languages. It is intended to help establishing closer cooperation and networking between the individually existing African institutions as well as between African and international institutions.

Activities included:

- functioning as focal point in compiling a WHO international bibliography of health and biomedical terminology
- preparing project cooperation with the NLS (South Africa) “Community Radio as a Feedback Loop for Health Information in South Africa” and other African countries involved in the preparation of the TAMA 2003 conference to take place in Pretoria, South Africa in February 2003.

## **Conference activities**

***TAMA 2001 “Sharing Terminological Knowledge – Terminology for Multilingual Content: Interoperability in Multimedia and Crossmedia Environments”, Antwerpen, 1/2 February 2001***

Infoterm functioned as supporter of this TermNet Conference.

***KnowTech 2001 “Knowledge Engineering & Management”, Dresden, Germany, 1/3 November 2001***

Infoterm and TermNet shared a booth at the Exhibition of this conference.

***LISA Forum Europe 2001 “Global Design for Mobile Markets. The Localization of Wireless Products and Services”, Vienna, 7/11 November 2001***

Infoterm conceived parts of the scientific programme (multilinguality and harmonization aspects) and supported TermNet, the local organizer of this Conference.

## **Association matters**

***Infoterm Executive Board (IEB) Meeting, Antwerp, 30 January 2001***

The Board members agreed

- to focus Infoterm activities on the establishment of terminology centres, networks and other elements of public or non-profit terminology infrastructure
- to reorganise the International Infoterm Awards (IIAs) into →International Terminology Awards (ITAs)

***Infoterm General Assembly (IGA), Vaasa, 22 August 2001***

The IGA approved the Report of the Secretariat, the Final Accounts 2000 and the Budget Estimates 2002; it discharged the IEB and the Auditors from their responsibilities. The following new Board was elected:

Mr. Key-Sun Choi, Korea Research Center for Terminology and Knowledge Engineering (KORTERM, Korea),

Mr. Håvard Hjulstad, Norwegian Council for Technical Terminology (RTT, Norway),

Mr. Gabriel Huard, Translation Bureau of the Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC),

Mr. Serguei Papaev, Russian Research Institute for Classification, Terminology and Information on Standardization and Quality (VNIKI),

Mr. Heribert Picht, International Institute for Terminology Research (IITF),

Mr. Laurent Romary, Association for Terminology and Knowledge Transfer (GTW),

Mr. Klaus-Dirk Schmitz, German Centre for Terminology Information and Documentation (DEUTERM) at the Cologne University of Applied Sciences,

Ms. Jutta Zeumer, German Terminology Association (DIT).

### ***Infoterm Executive Board meeting, Vaasa, 22 August 2001***

The new IEB elected

President: Prof. Dr. Klaus-Dirk Schmitz,

Vice-Presidents:

- Mr. Håvard Hjulstad and
- Mr. Key-Sun Choi

### ***International Infoterm Awards (IIAs)***

By agreement with the European Association for Terminology (EAFT), the system of the IIAs was reshuffled. The “International Terminology Awards” (ITAs) as they are called henceforth cover:

- the TFR Award (for theoretical and fundamental research in the field of terminology) to be granted every two years  
alternating with the
- the ARD Award (for applied terminology research and development) to be granted every two years

These ITAs will be supported by a number of umbrella organizations.

The secretariat of the IIAs as well as of the International Jury for the Awards will be taken care of by the EAFT.

The revised “Regulations” and “Rules of Procedure” were drafted by Infoterm as well as the call for nomination of candidates for the TFR Award 2002.

### ***Liaison activities with international organizations***

Infoterm liaises with a number of intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs):

- WHO – the World Health Organisation called officially upon Infoterm to engage actively in organising cooperation and networking in the field of health-related terminology. Infoterm paved the way for two international projects by collecting data for an international bibliography of health and biomedical terminology and by further developing a strategy for the large scale EU project: “HealthTerm”.
- UNESCO - active participation in the debate on “Multilingualism and Access to Cyberspace” and strong support for UNESCO’s efforts in preparing a set of modular freeware and open source programmes for documentation, information and knowledge management. The Director of Infoterm attended the General Conference of UNESCO, Paris, from 29 – 31 October 2001, as a member of the Austrian Delegation.
- LISA – Infoterm supported the European Forum of the Localisation Industry Standards Association, held in Vienna on 7/11 November 2001, as member of the Scientific Committee.
- RaDT – the Council for German Language Terminology (Rat für Deutschsprachige Terminologie) met in Cologne on 6 April, and in Vienna on 10 November 2001. A brochure in German on “Terminology” was finalized and prepared for printing.
- EU Commission – engagement as consultant to European eContent and 6th Framework Programmes.

### **ISO/TC 37 “Terminology and other language resources” Secretariat**

***Advisory Group*** (ISO/TC 37/AG) meeting in Antwerp , 30 January 2001.

*At this ‘unofficial’ ISO/TC 37/AG meeting the following matters were discussed:*

- change of title and scope of ISO/TC 37 and its impact on the future development of ISO/TC 37
- establishment of a new ISO/TC 37/SC 4 “Language resource management”
- ISO/TC 37 Business Plan 2001
- Election of Gerhard Budin (University of Vienna) as Chairman of ISO/TC 37/SC 2 for the period 2001-2006.

### ***ISO/TC 37 meeting week, Toronto, Canada, 13/17 August 2001***

During the meeting week in Toronto from 13 to 17 August the following meetings were convened:

- Plenary of ISO/TC 37/SC 1 and meetings of its WGs
- Plenary of ISO/TC 37/SC 2 and meetings of its WGs
- Plenary of ISO/TC 37/SC 3 and meetings of its WGs
- ISO/TC 37/AG (Advisory Group)
- ISO/TC 37/EC (Editing Committee)

New fields of standardisation activities, such as language resource management and multilingual product classification in e-business were explored during the last months of 2001 and will be added to the programme of work of ISO/TC 37 for 2002-2005.

### ***New ISO/TC 37/SC 4 “Language resource management” established***

- voting procedure ended on 30 April with a positive vote in favour of a new ISO/TC 37/SC 4.
- the Korean ISO member body KATS agreed to host ISO/TC 37/SC 4 and to entrust the Secretariat to KORTERM.
- activities to implement the Secretariat of ISO/TC 37/SC 4 and to start the operation of this SC began after the ISO/TC 37/AG meeting in Toronto. The ISO/TC 37/SC 4 constituent meeting will take place in Las Palmas, Spain on 2002-05-28.

### **Major changes at the Infoterm Headquarters**

- in spring 2001, the second part of the Infoterm Archive was handed over to the Eugen Wüster Archive, which had been established in 1999.
- the Infoterm Documentation and the remaining part of the Infoterm Archive were transferred to the Eugen Wüster Archive in September.
- a branch office of Infoterm was established at the Cologne University of Applied Sciences (Germany) at the end of 2001.
- the holdings of the Infoterm Library were transferred to the branch office in Cologne in September.
- the Infoterm office was moved to the new location at Aichholzgasse in the 12<sup>th</sup> district of Vienna in September.
- Infoterm participated in designing a web-publishing system to be implemented by TermNet and KORTERM.

The last hard-copy publications of Infoterm Newsletter (INL), BiblioTerm (BIT), StandardTerm (STT) and Terminology Standardization and Harmonization (TSH) were prepared. From 2002 on they will only be issued as e-journals.