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Condolences and Obituary for Xolile Mfaxa

With enormous sadness, we write on behalf of the Executive Board, members and entire staff of the International Information Centre for Terminology (Infoterm) to convey our deepest sympathy upon the loss of your colleague, Director for Language Planning and Terminology Coordination, Xolile Telford Mfaxa, his wife Ntombekhaya Nomhi Lucia (née Siqwepu) and their children Oyisa and Umuhle who were killed in an accident on 1 May 2007.

Xolile’s death is a terrible loss to his family, to his colleagues at NLS and to his friends around the world. It is particularly devastating to the terminology, multilingualism and cultural diversity communities to which he showed such vision, leadership and commitment.

Xolile was an enthusiastic yet considerate colleague, with whom due to his wisdom, energy, wit and immense humour it has always been a particular pleasure to cooperate with. He brought through his work the issues of South Africa as a rainbow nation close to the international communities and colleagues in all parts of the world and vice versa, with his immeasurable love for the people and beauty of his country of the Republic of South Africa brought us all closer to it.

Above this he was a good friend, warm-hearted, soft-spoken and gentle and we all share dear and happy memories of our various encounters in South Africa and Europe. His untimely passing away fills us with deep sadness. He was one of a kind and will be acutely missed.

We hereby offer our condolences to his family and colleagues.
News from members

China requests the Olympic terminology from Catalonia on the occasion of the Beijing Games 2008

At the suggestion of the Director of Inforterm the China National Committee for Terms in Sciences and Technologies (CNCTST) approached the Catalan Centre for Terminology TERMCAT in order to obtain the famous Olympic Terminology that TERMCAT had prepared on the occasion of the Barcelona Games in 1992.

Consequently, an agreement was signed on 7 May 2007 between Liu Qing, Vice-president of the China National Committee for Terms in Sciences and Technologies and Rosa Colomer, Director of TERMCAT.

Chinese authorities are working to develop their own terminology for all the Olympic events with a view to next year’s Olympic Games. The data handed over by TERMCAT include terms in Catalan, Spanish, English and French, corresponding to all the Olympic events in existence nowadays (athletics, badminton, boxing, football, gymnastics, judo, swimming, pentathlon, taekwondo and shooting, among others). These data, especially the English equivalents, will be useful to the Chinese committee in establishing the Olympic terminology in their own language.

The TERMCAT Olympic Terminology has been the object of different requests from several Olympic Games organizing committees:

- Atlanta: Olympic Games 1996
- Sidney: Olympic Games 2000
- Seoul: Football World Cup 2002
- Winter Olympic Games 2006

Currently, TERMCAT is finishing the elaboration of a general dictionary to be published in 2008. It will contain about 15,000 denominations in Catalan, with definitions, and equivalents in Spanish, French and English relating to all the Olympic and non Olympic sports events.

Terminology Science and Methodology

… so ordne zuerst die Begriffe", meinte schon Konfuzius. Das gilt auch für die Normung. Nicht zufällig gibt es daher - neben eigenen Begriffsnormen - in nahezu jeder Norm einen eigenen Abschnitt, der die verwendeten Fach-Termini genau definiert. Mit [term-lex], der neuen Terminologie-Datenbank des ON, lassen sich nun Norm-Begriffe rasch auffinden.

Wien (ON prn, 2007-02-06) Normen regeln - auch - eine Vielzahl von Begriffen. Denn einheitliche Termini sind Voraussetzung dafür, dass alle Beteiligten, konkret die Normanwender, wissen, was womit gemeint ist.

Um rascher zu den gewünschten Begriffen und ihren Definitionen zu gelangen, hat das Österreichische Normungsinstitut ON nun eine eigene Online-Datenbank entwickelt. Sie ist seit kurzem unter dem Namen [term-lex] im Internet abrufbar: www.on-norm.at/term-lex.


Fachkommunikation
Die Datenbank umfasst die gesamten für die Fachkommunikation benötigten und in Normen enthaltenen Begriffe (Benennungen und Definitionen) mit textlichen terminologischen Inhalten.

Bildquelle: ON prn
Diese Begriffe stammen aus allen gültigen nationalen ÖNORMEN, Europäischen Normen (ÖNORM EN), Internationalen Normen (ÖNORM ISO) sowie Normen der Elektrotechnik (ÖVE/ÖNORM). Das sind nicht weniger als 28 000 Einträge mit ca. 226 000 Begriffsbestimmungen.

Benennungen und Definitionen sind - soweit in der Norm enthalten - auch in Englisch und Französisch angeführt. Die Datenbank wird laufend aktualisiert und erweitert, so dass für den Benutzer sichergestellt ist, immer die Begriffsdefinitionen der gültigen Normen abrufen zu können.

Einfache Benutzung – deutsch-englisch


Als Abfragesprachen sind Deutsch und Englisch verfügbar. Die Ergebnisse der Suche können in beiden Sprachen oder auch getrennt angezeigt werden. Das Suchergebnis zeigt dann die Benennung mit Definition sowie einen Hinweis auf das Ursprungsdocument. Diese können bei Bedarf als Volltexte durch einfachen Klick über den ON Shop www.on-norm.at/shop online bestellt werden.

Benutzung im Jahresabo

Die Benutzung von [term-lex] ist im preisgünstigen Jahres-Abonnement uneingeschränkt und rund um die Uhr möglich.
Der Preis: EUR 120.- (zzgl. 10 % USt.)

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**eBSN Workshop: eBusiness Solutions and Standards for SMEs - State of Play and Perspectives**

Berlin 2007-05-24/25

The 13th eBSN Workshop in Berlin was jointly organized by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology and the European Commission. It took place at the nicely renovated premises of the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology. The eBSN Workshop (eBSN = European eBusiness Support Network) was addressed to policy makers, SME support agencies and standardizing initiatives with practical experience in standardization activities and in the application of standards in business processes, especially notably of SMEs.

The first goal was to establish the state of development of standards in various areas, its further perspectives and any problems encountered. Secondly, the Workshop was supposed to provide evidence of the extent to which these standards are being adopted in business processes, particularly by SMEs, and of the obstacles and beneficial factors that exist. Thus the main objectives of this workshop were:

- to identify beneficial factors and hurdles to the application of standards in the eBusiness of small and medium-sized enterprises,
- to determine sensible procedures for promoting the use of standards in business procedures, particularly of SMEs,
- to ascertain the type and state of play in developing different standards in the EU and world-wide as well as problems of interoperability and other problems,
- to show how SMEs or their interests could be better taken into account in standardization activities.

In this connection, a severe communication and terminology gap between large industry and R&D, on the one side, and SMEs, on the other side, was addressed.

The Workshop was opened by the German Parliamentary Secretary of State Ms. Wörle and the representative of the EU Commission. An excellent Keynote Speech was held by Mr. Raymond Betz, who is well known from the CEN/ISSSS/eCAT Workshop on „Multilingual Product Classification and Cataloguing“ followed.
Session 1: „Setting the scene in eBusiness standardization” introduced various standardization initiatives for eBusiness, including their future perspectives, questions of coordination as well as the interoperability of standards. In the afternoon, Mr. Galinski chaired the session under the topic of „Product description, classification, cataloguing and identification”.

Session 2: „Assisting SMEs in applying standards in their business processes” was about the efficient use of standards to open up new opportunities and potentials also for SMEs. These potentials were identified as well as instruments for getting SMEs involved in the process. Good policy examples were also presented.

On the following day, Session 3: „Public policies helping SMEs apply standards in their business processes” presented best practices from

- Germany: PROZEUS project: the German experience with application of standards in SME business processes;
- France: TIC-PME 2010: a French good-practice model;
- Denmark: From simple e-invoicing to extended procurement processes – The Danish strategy and business case;
- Spain: Avanza PYME projects: promoting eBusiness solutions for SMEs.

It was followed by the concluding wrap-up session. The Workshop revealed the (so far hidden) strong relation between the field of terminology and other resources (multilingual and non-linguistic ones) in eBusiness. Semantic interoperability was mentioned more than once in this connection.

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**ILLI.CA: All there is to know on the Language Industry**

Created by the Language Industry Association (AILIA) and the Language Technologies Research Centre (LTRC) ILLI.CA is the gateway to our Canadian economically essential language industry.

**ILLI.CA: the Canadian language industry’s new portal**

To find all the information on translation, interpretation and terminology, to learn about the great challenges facing language schools, and to be on the cutting edge of language technology, you must visit!

**ILLI.CA: Latest news and more...**

This portal features: a national and international events calendar and an employment opportunities section. Students will find that they have not been forgotten, as a large section of this portal offers career and professional information.

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**Current Trends in Terminology - International Conference on Terminology**

Szombathely, Hungary
9 - 10 November 2007

Organized by the Department of Uralic Studies, the Department of Applied Linguistics and the Terminology Innovation Centre at Berzsenyi Dániel College (Szombathely, Hungary) in collaboration with the Hungarian Terminology Council (MaTT) and the Hungarian National Commission for UNESCO.

For more information, visit: [http://termik.bdf.hu/conf2007/](http://termik.bdf.hu/conf2007/)
Making eLearning more user-friendly

Supported by the instructional management systems learning design (IMS-LD) standard, an LD authoring tool has been designed to offer an easy and user-friendly interface to create and edit courses that will run in the Alfanet system.

An e-learning platform that makes extensive use of e-learning standards has been created. It integrates a series of components that support adaptive e-learning and includes components supporting different phases of the e-learning life cycle. These phases include design (authoring), publication and use of the e-learning system by learners as well as auditing and providing feedback of use to administrators and designers.

Furthermore, an instructional design package was created to include support for automated feedback to the authors on the course of their design. It consists of two components that are available under open source licences. These are the LD authoring tool in charge of creation of courses and the LD engine which provides the core learning management system (LMS) for learners.

The LD authoring tool allows authors to define course structure based on pedagogical methods. It is able to provide an easy and user-friendly interface for creating and editing courses that will run in the Alfanet system. The tool was developed in Visual Basic .NET (VB.Net) based on a peer-to-peer application offering several communication facilities. It is intended to be a collaboration platform for working teams. The tool is available at: https://sourceforge.net/projects/alfanetat.

Source: CORDIS focus RTD Results Supplement – N° 63 – May 2007

Phonogrammarchiv winner of the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize 2007

Upon recommendation of the 8th International Advisory Committee Meeting of the Memory of the World Programme, which took place in Pretoria, South Africa, from 13-15 June 2007, Mr. Koichiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO, approved the awarding of the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize 2007 to Austria's Audiovisual Research Archive, better known as the Phonogrammarchiv of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, for its substantial contribution to the advancement of audio and video preservation. Founded as the first sound archive of the world in 1899, the Phonogrammarchiv has expanded its activities to include, from 2001 onward, videographic research footage.

The UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize, consisting of US$ 30,000 and funded by the Republic of Korea, is awarded every two years to individuals or organizations which have made significant contributions to the preservation and accessibility of documentary heritage. The Prize was set-up in 2004 to commemorate the inscription of the Buljo jikji simche yojeol, also called Jikji, the oldest known book of movable metal print in the world, on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register. Jikji contains the essentials of Zen Buddhism compiled by priest Baegun in 1377, i.e. 78 years before Gutenberg.

UNESCO and infoDev conclude Memorandum of Understanding for future cooperation

9 March 2007 | Paris, France

Particular emphasis on providing education planners, policy-makers and practitioners with resources for the use of ICTs in education.

Paris - UNESCO and infoDev have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that lays the ground for future cooperation, particularly in in the areas of education and communication. The Memorandum foresees that UNESCO and infoDev will share ideas, resources, and expertise to launch joint projects and improve the impact of their action. In terms of the agreement, particular emphasis will be placed on providing education planners, policy-makers and practitioners with resources for the use of information and communication technologies in education.

http://www.infodev.org/en/Article.102.html
UNESCO High Level Group of Visionaries on Knowledge Acquisition and Sharing

High level experts in education and information and communication technologies (ICT) from government, civil society, academia and the private sector met in Kronberg/Taunus, Germany on 23 June 2007 to examine ways of harnessing the potential of these technologies for knowledge acquisition and sharing.

The meeting was based on the premise that knowledge is a key driver of social and economic development, including notions of cultural identity, empowerment, inclusion and human security and dignity, and that the construction of knowledge societies must therefore become a priority.

During the one-day seminar the following eight key subjects were addressed:

- The impact of emerging technology on models of learning;
- Teachers’ future roles;
- Future models of assessment;
- The future of classical education systems;
- The concept of universal “knowledge norms”;
- The role of the information technology private sector in learning;
- The future of e-education;
- And the impact of technology on the evolution of knowledge societies.

The meeting was organized by UNESCO’s Communication and Information Sector and the German National Commission for UNESCO, and sponsored by BASF.


In every issue Infoterm compiles the most interesting news clippings from the press. If you come across further sources, please let us know: infopoint@infoterm.org

Low-cost internet next step in closing digital divide, officials tell UN forum
02-03-2007 (New York) Bringing down the costs of internet access could set off the same wave of connectivity that has made mobile phone usage commonplace in developing countries, said innovators and corporate leaders from some of the world’s leading technology firms meeting yesterday in northern California with government leaders, activists and United Nations officials.

Exchange platform for public TV channels in Portuguese-speaking countries in preparation
06-03-2007 (Paris) A project to establish an exchange platform for Portuguese-language public television broadcasters aims to favour communication, exchange, co-production and the promotion of dialogue and cultural diversity in Lusophone countries.

UNESCO invites development stakeholders to share training resources on the Web
07-03-2007 (Paris) UNESCO launches an online platform to make available training and capacity-building resources developed by a variety of stakeholders worldwide on a myriad of subjects, including literacy, computers, business, environment, community development and much more.

Third APIN session in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
14-03-2007 (Bangkok) The 3rd session of the Asia Pacific Information Network (APIN) was held in Malaysia from 26-28 February 2007. APIN is guided by the Information for All Programme (IFAP) and provides an opportunity for the countries to jointly work towards building knowledge societies.
UNESCO supports development of screen reader for visually handicapped students
21-03-2007 (Moscow) A UNESCO supported software to convert text to speech in Belarusian, Russian and English is now freely available for visually handicapped students.

Three nominations pre-selected for UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize
27-03-2007 (Paris) Three out of 23 nominations received from Member States for the second UNESCO /Jikji Memory of the World Prize were preliminarily selected by the Bureau of the Memory of the World Programme during its meeting at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 19 to 20 March 2007, one of them being the Phonogrammarchiv of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, the oldest sound archive of the world, which made substantial contribution to the advancement of audio and video preservation.

UNESCO’s audiovisual e-platform: User 3000 just registered
02-04-2007 (Paris) On 20 March 2007, the 3000th community member registered in UNESCO’s audiovisual e-platform. With this registration, the Organization celebrates an important expansion of this on-line community, set up in order to promote cultural and linguistic diversity through the audiovisual media.

New technologies bringing persons with disabilities into mainstream, UN forum told
02-04-2007 (Paris) On 20 March 2007, the 3000th community member registered in UNESCO’s audiovisual e-platform. With this registration, the Organization celebrates an important expansion of this on-line community, set up in order to promote cultural and linguistic diversity through the audiovisual media.

Listserv to create FOSS community in Maghreb
18-04-2007 (Rabat) The UNESCO office in Rabat has just launched a listserv to discuss the Miftaah project aiming at promotion of free and open source software (FOSS) in the Arab Region.

Official Launch of the World Centre for Language Documentation
16-05-2007 (Paris) The World Language Documentation Centre (WLDC), which comprises world-renowned experts in language technologies, linguistics, terminology standardization, and localization, was officially launched on 9 May 2007 at the offices of UNESCO in Paris.

IFAP encourages Governments to give more priority to the preservation of information
18-05-2007 (Paris) “Over 80% of the world’s audiovisual collections referring to cultural and linguistic diversity are not in professional care” observed the information preservation specialists who participated in the Thematic Debate of UNESCO’s Information for All Programme (IFAP) at the Bibliothèque nationale de France in Paris on 3 April 2007.

Building digital library with WINISIS
22-05-2007 (New Delhi) The Thapar University in Patiala, India, hosted a workshop on WINISIS, which was organized from 14 to 18 May 2007 in collaboration with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Government of India and the UNESCO Office in New Delhi.

Youth integration: breaking down language barriers
05-06-2007 (Kingston) Youth Portal has built a bridge between Latin America and the Caribbean.
New inscriptions for Memory of the World Register
20-06-2007 (Paris) Thirty-eight items of documentary heritage of exceptional value have just been added to UNESCO's Memory of the World Register, bringing the total number of inscriptions since 1997 to 158. The UNESCO/Jikji Prize for 2007 was awarded to Phonogrammarchiv, an institute within the Austrian Academy of Sciences by the International Advisory Committee, which met this year in Pretoria (South Africa) from 11 to 15 June.

New online tool charts cybersecurity standards developments
21-06-2007 (Geneva) ITU has developed a common interface to keep track of crucial ICT security standards work.

Building knowledge societies
25-06-2007 (Paris) UNESCO meeting examines knowledge acquisition and sharing. Experts in education and information and communication technologies (ICT) met in Kronberg (Germany) on 23 June to examine ways of harnessing the potential of these technologies for knowledge acquisition and sharing.