

Infoterm Annual Report 2006

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Introduction

Over the year 2006, Infoterm's activities concentrated on:

- Standardization activities especially geared towards fundamental methodology standards related to content integration and global semantic interoperability, integration/convergence of language and data, the emergence of the Social Web;
- Engaging in joint activities with UNESCO and WHO;
- Promotion of terminology as a subject field and in the form of terminological activities at international, regional and national levels;
- Assistance to terminology networks.

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

Foreshadows of the Semantic Web II: integration/convergence of language and data, content integration and global semantic interoperability, the Social Web

In the course of the development of the third generation mobile technologies, which is characterized by the convergence of mobile computing and mobile communication (MCC) necessitating the integration of systems and processes, globalization is accelerating. Complementarily to globalization, the need for localization is increasing – thus “*glocalization*” fosters decentralization and distributed methods also concerning content creation, maintenance and distribution. Social processes (i.e. web-based distributed cooperative work methods) and the integration/convergence of language and data pose new challenges with respect to global semantic interoperability. Increasingly it is recognized that *global semantic interoperability* has more than just a geographical dimension.

Before long, most of the data (reference data, instances, values, etc.) will consist of *structured content*, such as terminologies, typologies, classification schemes, product data, coding systems etc., many of which are – formally speaking – language resources. In the combination of globalized infrastructures and localized content resources, so-called federated content repositories will most probably be maintained most cost-efficiently by the respective user communities. Federation in this context also requires new workflow methods.

ISO Concept Database (ISO/CDB)

Infoterm assisted EAFTerm – the East Asia Forum on Terminology – in carrying out its first joint terminology project: making standardized terminologies of ISO on the one hand and from China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia multilingual and mutually accessible. The first phase consisted in recording all ISO standardized terminologies and handing them over to ISO/CS. In the second phase Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Mongolian equivalents will be added to – if possible all – ISO terminology entries. In the third phase the cooperation partners will exchange standardized terminologies beyond ISO terminologies and mutually add their language versions. This project thus comprises many advanced aspects of globalization and localization of terminology: from federated repositories and processes to “social” approaches to the preparation, maintenance and distribution of standardized terminologies. ISO/CS grasped this opportunity to plan in the framework of a newly established AHG “Standards as databases” not only a ISO/CDB (Concept Database for standardized structured content in ISO), but also system support for technical committees to prepare and maintain their terminologies.

Needless to say that the developments outlined above necessitate many new and new types of methodology standards, as only commonly accepted standards will ultimately guarantee global semantic interoperability. ISO/TC 37 is well on its track to face the new challenge in close cooperation with a number of *strategic liaisons*.

Standardization and related Activities

ISO/TC 37 “Terminology and other language and content resources”

In 2006, Infoterm continued to hold the secretariat of the ISO Technical Committee 37 on behalf of the Austrian Standards Institute (ON). ISO/TC 37 “Terminology and other language and content resources” held its largest meeting week ever in Beijing (China), 21-25 August 2006. 130 delegates from more countries than ever met in working groups and plenary meetings to discuss standards under revision and new items. Thus, ISO/TC 37 is gradually becoming a major player in the Web 2.0 development, bringing in its competence and experience in data modelling of terminological data and other language resources (LRs) from the point of view of ‘content’ in the domain experts’ understanding, which is complementary to the point of view of the ICT approaches.

TSTT’2006 - 3rd International Conference on Terminology, Standardization and Technology Transfer

The TSTT’2006 Conference was organized by Infoterm’s Member CNIS (China National Institute of Standardization) in Beijing, from 25 to 26 August 2006. The TSTT conferences are considered in China to be of great importance as far as terminology standardization is concerned. The first one was held on 1991 and marked the beginning of full range cooperation between China and the outside world in the field of terminology standardization. In 1997, the second TSTT conference demonstrated the prosperous development of terminology in China with the rapid growth of IT industry.

This year’s third TSTT conference focused on *terminology in the information society and for the emerging knowledge society* and aimed to further promote the application of terminology in various business activities and to strengthen the worldwide cooperation in this field. The reason for organization this conference was to meet the challenges of the development of new technologies and the growing demand from knowledge management, on the one hand, and to take advantage of the ISO/TC37 annual meetings, which were also held in Beijing, on the other.

The organizers of TSTT’2006 were confident that the conference helped to bridge and reinforce communications and collaborations in the field of terminology standardization and related fields of application.

OFMR 2006 – Open Forum on Metadata Registries

The 9th Open Forum on Metadata Registries: Harmonization of Terminology, Ontology and Metadata took place from 20 to 22 March 2006 in Kobe, Japan. It was jointly organized by ISO/IEC JTC1 SC32/WG2, ISO TC37 and ISO TC184 SC4. It had an attractive programme and its more than 60 participants engaged in lively discussions.

Bruce Bargmeyer from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (USA), Chair of ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 32 "Data Management and Interchange", welcomed the participants and presented the purpose and an overview of this Open Forum. He introduced the potential of Metadata Registries to register and manage data as well as the underlying semantics, which may be specified in terminologies, concept systems, ontologies, etc. This forms a basis for data/semantics lifecycle management and for semantics services. The intention of this Open Forum is to help align and harmonize metadata registry standards, terminology standards, and related registry/repository/metadata standards.

After that, Christian Galinski from Infoterm (International Information Centre for Terminology), Secretary of ISO TC 37 "Terminology and other Language and Content Resources", gave an

overview of methodology standardization in/for terminology and other kinds of structured content. He emphasized that ISO/TC 37 standards are fundamental for achieving semantic interoperability of structured content in the semantic web. His presentation highlighted potential areas of coordination between standardization activities of TC 37 and the ISO/IEC 11179 family of standards as well as other standardization efforts - especially with respect to emerging networks of federated repositories.

The presentation slides are all accessible under http://www.tiu.ac.jp/org/openforum2006/index_files/Page897.html .

OFMR 2006's purpose was to help align and harmonize metadata registry standards, terminology standards, and related registry/repository/metadata standards.

The JTC 1/SC 32/WG 2 community, which had initiated the series of the „Open Forum on Metadata Registries“ nearly a decade ago, is highly motivated to intensify the strategic cooperation with ISO/TC 37 and – upon the recommendation of Infoterm – also with ISO/TC 184/SC 4 “Industrial Data”. Thus, the three main communities developing fundamental methodology standards for data lexical semantics) met to discuss basic issues of semantic interoperability in the future semantic Web.

ISO-IEC-ITU-UN/ECE Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) concerning standardization in the field of eBusiness

The 17th Meeting of the Management Group (MoU/MG) was held at ITU Headquarters, Geneva, 16-17 October 2006.

Under item 5.8 the Director of Infoterm, Christian Galinski, reported that the new ISO/TC 37 title and scope were now approved (Terminology and other language and content resources), and outlined some of the complexity of “other language and content resources”. TC 37 emphasized that it would focus on human communication aspects and had no intention of overlapping with vertical sector such as TC154 or TC184/SC 4. Mr Vuilleumier of ISO/TC 154 noted with satisfaction that TC 37 intensified cooperation with its strategic liaisons, namely ISO/TC 46, ISO/TC 154, ISO/TC 184/SC 4 and ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 32 (especially WG 2). He further described the importance of linking the various codes (country, language, airport ...) and that of identity, which would come to involve many groups working on identifiers.

Among the Resolutions adopted were:

Resolution 05/11 – **Federation of dabatases defining terminology, properties, etc.**, whereby the MoU/MG supports the creation of an open, federated structure of definition databases, in particular for terminology and properties, and encourages signatory organizations to consider the business models to enable such a structure, including particularly resolution of intellectual property issues.

Resolution 06/33 – **Classification schemes**, whereby the MoU/MG recognizes that multiple classification schemes exist and will continue to be developed for different business functions. The MoU/MG encourages developers to base such schemes on a common set of product characteristics ideally based on common product ontologies such as those defined in PLIB (ISO 13584).

Resolution 06/54 – Cultural diversity, whereby the MoU/MG also adopted the ISO/TC 37 N 497 Statement on eBusiness Standards and Cultural Diversity (MoU/MG 05 N0222), and recommended use of its checklist to all MoU/MG participating organizations. Thus the second document which had been endorsed by ISO/TC 37 and submitted to the MoU/MG had been adopted in addition to ISO/TC 37/N496 “Semantic Interoperability and the need for a coherent policy for a framework of distributed, coordinated repositories for all kinds of content items on a world-wide scale” (MoU/MG/05 N0221), which had already been adopted in 2005. The second document prepared by the CEN/ISSS/CDFG, the Cultural Diversity Focus Group of the

Information Society Standardization System of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN/ISSS), will be further studied under the aspect of its applicability for “standards conformity and interoperability assessment” to ICT standards themselves. Thus, CEN/ISSS/CDFG, which links European and international standardization groups with projects relating to multilingualism and cultural diversity, may gain major influence on ICT standards.

ISO Concept Database (ISO/CDB)

The whole of ISO standardized terminology (amounting to around 150.000 entries) in English has been keyed in by CNIS (China National Institute for Standardization) within the framework of a project of EAFTerm (East Asia Forum on Terminology) as a contribution to ISO/TC 37 activities. This has triggered the establishment of an ISO/TMB Ad-hoc Group “Standards as databases”. General accessibility of these data may well have implications on the standardization process itself and on the business model of standardization in general.

In this connection it is worth mentioning that several standards bodies have started to record their national standardized terminologies and are looking for applications in support of boosting the sales of standards. They are highly interested in the emerging ISO/CDB. The Austrian Standards Institute (ON), for instance, has recently finalized the implementation of a terminology database of its standardized terminologies. It is planned to make it accessible to the general public via the ON website. Each terminology entry identifies the standard, from where it has been taken. By clicking on the standard’s number the user is directed to the ON-Webshop, where s/he could immediately order the standard. Thus standardized terminology is a direct marketing tool for standards sales.

WHO Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC)

WHO has designated a number of collaborating centres to work with it in the development, dissemination, maintenance and use of the WHO Family of International Classifications (WHOFIC) to support national and international health information systems, statistics and evidence.

The WHOFIC Network includes:

- all designated WHOFIC Collaborating Centres
- the WHO Regional Offices
- the responsible area of WHO Headquarters

and, recently, also Infoterm. The Network meets on an annual basis to discuss matters of mutual interest and to advise WHO. Its work is based on a Strategy and Work Plan, which is **being** implemented through a number of WHOFIC committees conducting their business outside the annual meeting.

The last meeting of the Network took place in Tunis (Tunisia), 29 Oct-04 Nov 2006, during which a Terminology Reference Group (TRG) was established to further look at the issue of a better coordination of classification and terminology activities, in order to improve knowledge representation, particularly with a view to increasing interoperability between health information systems. Furthermore, WHO founded an International Network for Health Terminology on 9 October in Geneva.

Infoterm was asked to provide guidance on various aspects of (multilingual) structured content, such as classification schemes and terminologies of WHO to be stored and maintained in federated repositories in the future and an general terminology policy for WHO and its Regional Offices. Recent aspects of solving legal issues (copyright, liability etc.) through a business model supported by a network of federated repositories, in which data were maintained on the basis of well-defined metadata, met with great interest.

Project activities

TDCnet – European Network of Terminology Information and Documentation Centres

Some members of the European Association for Terminology met on 7 November in order to discuss the relaunch of the project ETIS – the Electronic Terminology Information Server –, which was initiated some years ago by the TDCnet Consortium. A new special interest group was established (EAFT/SIG TermDoc) with a view to starting a new project called eTIS. A working paper on the feasibility of this project is under preparation and was submitted to the SIG sometime in spring 2006.

Eugen Wüster Special Prize

At its annual meeting in August 2005, the Executive Board of Infoterm decided to award in 2006 a Eugen Wüster Special Prize to a certain number of meritorious persons from Austria, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Mexico, South Korea, Mexico, Norway and Russia, in recognition of their continued efforts to promote the theory and methodology of terminology in their respective country and of their invaluable contributions to the advancement of terminology science.

Apart from Infoterm, the Prize was offered by the Department of Planned Languages and Esperanto Museum (at the Austrian National Library) and the Eugen-Wüster-Archive (at the University of Vienna) – both set up as a follow-up to Wüster’s activities – and co-sponsored by the City of Vienna and the Austrian Commission for UNESCO.

IN-SAFETY

Within the framework of the IN-SAFETY Project Infoterm has analysed the “content” occurring in traffic signs and especially in “variable message signs” (VMS). It was found out that all kinds of representations of concepts in traffic/road signage, whether verbal or non-verbal can be subsumed under “structured content”. Since local variants (“locales”) occurred even in pictograms and other visual representations, all content entities occurring in traffic signs can be treated equally at the same level of locales. The concept of term autonomy can be extended to visual representations to become representation autonomy. The resulting basic data model can be regarded as simpler than the basic terminology data model, and it can nevertheless cope with an even higher degree of complexity. The data model developed in this project became the conceptual data model for the ISO/CDB.

Co-operation with UNESCO

Infoterm was represented at the **ITU/UNESCO Global Symposium on Promoting the Multilingual Internet**, Geneva, 9-11 May 2006. The meeting was a follow-up to:

- 1) the Conference on “Multilingualism for Cultural Diversity and Participation of All in Cyberspace” that UNESCO, in partnership with the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN), the Agence intergouvernementale de la Francophonie (AIF) and the Government of Mali and other international institutions, organized in Bamako, Mali, on 6 and 7 May 2005.
- 2) Phase 2 of the World Summit on the Information Society (SIS). The [Tunis Agenda for the Information Society](#), adopted at the Tunis Phase of WSIS, highlights the importance of multilingualism for bridging the digital divide. It identifies ITU as taking the lead role in the implementation of information and communication infrastructure, ITU/UNESCO for access to information and knowledge, and UNESCO for cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content.

Chaired by Adama Samassékou, President of ACALAN, the introductory session of the event addressed topics such as the elements that are needed to include a language on the Internet,

culturally-appropriate local environments in a global internet and UNESCO's contribution for the inclusion of languages and local content in cyberspace: from oral languages to digital objects. During the ensuing sessions a number of presentations were made and discussions were held regarding standardization activities in the fields of terminology and language engineering, for equipping non-scripted languages to allow them to be present on the internet, the development and promotion of local contents and software, and measurements of the current linguistic diversity on the Internet. Perspectives of domain name registries and an overview of the associated intellectual property issues that arise when multilingual domain names are deployed were also discussed.

Infoterm was also represented at the Symposium "**Afrika - Kontinent der sprachlichen Vielfalt / Africa - a mosaic of languages**" which was organized in Vienna, 18-20 October 2006, by the Department of African Studies of the University of Vienna and the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture (BMWBK), in cooperation with the Austrian Commission for UNESCO on the occasion of the Year of the African languages, launched by the African Union. One of the reasons to hold this meeting was to convey to the public, that all languages of our world are equal, no matter where and by how many people a language is spoken. Africanists in Europe take themselves to task for the enlightenment of their own societies about language and languages in Africa and for the better understanding of the "other", which may not be that different from the "own".

One of the most pressing problems is to find the right approach to African multilingualism and in particular to the issue of literacy in pursuance of the UN target of "Education for All". An active language policy for the promotion of language diversity is an important issue on the agenda of the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture.

To mark the **60th anniversary of UNESCO**, the Austrian Commission for UNESCO, organized a ceremony in the Austrian Parliament on 16 November 2006, in which a member of Infoterm participated. In her opening speech, the President of the National Council, Ms. Barbara Prammer emphasized the important role UNESCO had played over 60 years in the service of education, science and culture – each an indispensable pillar of international understanding. The President of the Austrian Commission for UNESCO, Mr. Johann Marte, referred to the broad remit of UNESCO and in particular to currently dominating themes, such as the 'Intercultural Dialogue' and 'Education for Sustainability'. State Secretary Mr. Hans Winkler underlined the need for an on-going dialogue between peoples and cultures, expressing his belief in the crucial role UNESCO had to play in this context. Then the keynote speaker, the famous Austrian writer, Marlene Streeruwitz, emphasized the fundamental importance of cultural diversity, citing Austria's ball tradition to illustrate this tenet. Heribert Steinbauer, publisher and chair of the Working Party for Development Cooperation, paid tribute in particular to the founders of UNESCO who, in the forties of the past century, took the initiative and countered the disastrous reality of World War II by establishing a movement and a community in opposition to war and racism.

Terminology Policies

Following the Terminology Summit of the European Association for Terminology (EAFT), which was held in Brussels, 13-14 November 2006, Infoterm organized in Antwerp, on 15 November, in collaboration with its members Lessius University College and TermNet, a Workshop on Terminology Policies, which preceded the International Conference on Terminology, organized by NL-Term, (the Dutch-Flemish Association for Dutch Terminology) and the Lessius University College in Antwerp, 16-17 November 2006.

Some 50 participants from almost all EU countries, Canada and Latin America discussed such topics as

- Terminology policies and planning in different environments
- Guidelines for the formulation and implementation of terminology policies
- Project management methods for the development of terminology policies
- Standardization strategies and terminology policies
- Copyright and other legal issues
- Standardization and business models

They particularly welcomed the idea to reformulate the UNESCO Guidelines for Terminology Policies - which address especially language communities and countries - with a view to adapting them to the needs of enterprises and specialized agencies such as WHO or IUPAC. Therefore, the papers presented by Pierre Lewalle (WHO) and Matthias Heyn (SDL Trados) met with special interest.

EuroTermBank (ETB)

Infoterm took actively part in the project “EuroTermBank – Collection of Pan-European Terminology Resources through Cooperation of Terminology Institutions”, co-funded by the EU Commission in the framework of the programme “European digital content for the global networks”, in cooperation with the Institute for Information Management (IIM) of the Cologne University of Applied Sciences. The main focus of Infoterm was in 2006 on international networking and the legal set-up of the further existence of EuroTermBank.

Infoterm and IIM organized a high-level meeting with representatives of ETB, ISO and German and Austrian Standardization Organizations DIN and ON in order to trigger the discussion on cooperation possibilities and business models for distributing terminology. Infoterm contributed significantly to ETB exploitation plan and business plan.

Again in cooperation with IIM, Infoterm drafted a Consortium Agreement providing the legal basis for the further operation and development of EuroTermBank in the long run. After revision by the project partners, the Agreement was signed in December 2006.

Part of the results of this Deliverable was presented at the “ISO-IEC Workshop on Patent and Copyright Policies”, Geneva (Switzerland), 1-2 June 2006 and was later used by ISO/CS as reference in connection with first efforts to establish an ISO/CDB in cooperation with ISO member bodies already having their standardized terminologies in database format.

Activities in Europe

AUSTRIA

[**term-lex**] is the name of the new online **terminology** databank of the Austrian Standards Institute (ON). It is conceived as Internet application for professional and private use. The databank includes all concepts (terms and definitions) contained in standards and necessary for technical communication, with terminological contents which can be represented in text form.

As at 30 September 2006, some 226.000 terms and definitions from valid standards were included in the databank. In total, it contains more than 280.000 entries. If specified in the standard, the terms and definitions are also given in English and French. The databank is being currently updated and extended offering the users the guarantee to always have access to the concept definitions of all standards valid at the time of search.

The use of [term-lex] is only possible within a personal password-protected area for each user. A comfortable search tool enables a quick and easy access within comprehensive data quantities (through the search fields "term" and "full text search in terms, definitions, remarks").

NORDTERM

Terminologins terminologi published in 1989 was the second publication of Nordterm, the Nordic cooperation organization in the field of terminology. Defining the terminology in the own field was seen as the second most important job after writing down the statutes – after all, a terminology helps to form the basis for fluent communication.

The renewal and revision of the old terminology was coordinated by the Swedish Centre for Terminology TNC, and members from all Nordterm countries and language areas participated in the project. In addition to the old terminology, the ISO 1087-1 Terminology work – Vocabulary – Part 1: Theory and application standard was used as the source material in the project. In Finland the TSK coordinated the project.

The new terminology, Terminologins terminologi på nordiska, contains 76 concepts related to terminology and terminology work. Concepts are defined in Bokmål, Danish, Finnish, Icelandic and Swedish. In addition to these languages, term equivalents have been gathered in English, Faroese, French, Greenlandic, Northern Sami and Nynorsk.

Nordterm will publish the terminology as a whole, but the TSK has already composed a Finnish version of the material called Terminologian sanasto. It will be published in PDF format on the TSK's web site so that everyone could use it. The Finnish version includes the definitions in Finnish and Swedish and terms also in English and French.

COUNCIL FOR GERMAN-LANGUAGE TERMINOLOGY (RaDT)

Infoterm was represented at and contributed to the meetings of the RaDT, in Weimar on 6 May and in Brussels on 18 November 2006.

The meetings in May and November focused on initiatives of the RaDT.

In particular it was discussed to submit recommendations concerning terminology aspects in:

- human capacity building and empowerment for preparing and using content with the right methodologies and skills (incl. soft skills) for the knowledge societies (which are characterized by linguistic and cultural diversity)
- a roadmap for strategic coordination of methodology standardization concerning content interoperability"
- the support for UNESCO's information efforts in the field of multilingualism and cultural diversity via its IFAP portal. See:

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=1627&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

The RaDT decided to present a paper on its activities during the EAFT Summit in November 2006 in Brussels.

SWEDEN

In spring 2006, the Swedish government decided to give the Swedish Centre for Terminology TNC a special grant for building a national term bank called **Rikstermbanken**. The idea is that Rikstermbanken will contain high-quality terminology from as many participants as possible, and also the TNC's own material. The term bank will mainly handle Swedish concepts, and therefore the Swedish language will form the centre. However, it will also contain term equivalents in other languages, including Finnish.

Activities in Central and Eastern Europe

ESTONIA

Conference on Language Planning and Terminology

Language planners and terminologists from Estonia, Finland, Lithuania and Sweden participated in the Conference on Language Planning and Terminology, Tallinn, 9-10 November 2006.

Since a new comprehensive dictionary on the Estonian language had just been published, it was the subject of many presentations. For example, Tiiu Erelts, the editor-in-chief, talked about the rights and obligations of the editors of the dictionary, and Argo Mund told about Estonian neologisms.

Markus Kolga presented the Estonian military terminology project based on the AAP-6 NATO Glossary of terms and Definitions. The project group checks the Estonian terms and definitions translated earlier, and after corrections publishes them in the public MILITERM term bank (<http://termin.eki.ee/militerm>).

Albina Auksoriūtė told about terminology work in Lithuania. The main three organizations working in the field of terminology are the Centre of Terminology at the Institute of Lithuanian Language, the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language and the Lithuanian Standards Board.

Activities in Asian Countries

EAFTerm

China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia concentrated their cooperation efforts on:

- the EAFTerm terminology project, which in its first phase yielded excellent results in 2006,
- the preparation of and participation to the annual meetings of ISO/TC 37 in Beijing (China) as well as the 3rd International Conference TSTT2006 “Terminology, Standardization and Technology Transfer”.

Special efforts were made to propose and carry out new working items for standards in ISO/TC 37 by China (including HongKong), Japan and Korea.

9th EAFTerm Meeting

The 9th annual meeting of the East Asia Forum on Terminology (EAFTerm) was held in the form of a dinner reception attended by delegates from all EAFTerm members: China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia – and representatives of ISO/TC 37.

Ms. Yu, representing CNIS, reported on the achievements in recording all ISO standardized terminology and handing it over to ISO/CS. She explained that several thousand “problem cases” had been detected, which should be revised or harmonized by the respective TCs prior to making the data generally accessible to experts in ISO standardization. Mr. Weissinger of ISO/CS explained how much ISO/CS is appreciating this project and what chances are in the coffer for the whole of the ISO framework. Prof. Choi of KORTERM reported on a new Korean law on terminology obliging all public institutions to take care of the terminology of their fields of specialization.

Activities in African Countries

Infoterm was involved in the organization and implementation of the TermNet project with UNESCO, “TermTrain”. 27-31 March 2006 in Pretoria, South Africa. A planned and prepared project proposal to establish an East African Network for Terminology, in cooperation with the Ethiopian Translators’ Association NATIE and the University of Dar es Salaam as well as UNESCO could not be realized.

Association Matters

Statutory Meeting

The 19th Meeting of the Infoterm Executive Board took place this time at the China National Institute of Standardization (CNIS) on 22 August 2006. Among the items discussed were the terminology infrastructures, the possible creation of an International Terminology Council as well as Infoterm’s activities related to UNESCO policies.

New Infoterm Office China

As a result of the good achievements of the cooperation between Infoterm and Chinese institutions over the years and in view of the great success of the annual meetings of ISO/TC 37 and the 3rd International Conference TTST 2006, CNIS has offered to host the future Infoterm Office China.

Conference Activities

Infoterm was actively involved in the following events:

Conference on the Interaction of Information Related Rights, Information Technology and Knowledge Management (KnowRight 2006), jointly organized by the Austrian Computer Society and the Internationales Rechtsinformatik Symposium (IRIS), Vienna, 16-17 February 2006

OFMR 2006 – Open Forum on Metadata Registries, Kobe, Japan, 20-22 March 2006

16th Meeting of the MoU/MG, Vancouver, Canada, 20-21 March 2006

Tekom spring session, Weimar, German, 4-6 May 2006

24th Meeting of the "Rat für Deutschsprachige Terminologie" (RaDT- Council for German Language Terminology) Weimar, Germany, 6 May 2006

ITU-UNESCO Global Symposium on Promoting the Multilingual Internet, Geneva, 9-11 May 2006

ISO-IEC Workshop on Patent and Copyright Policies, Geneva, Switzerland, 1-2 June 2006

Ninth International ISKO Conference. Vienna, Austria, 5-7 July, 2006

International Terminology Summer School 2006, Vienna, 10-14 July 2006

Conference of the East Asia Forum for Terminology (EAFTERM), Beijing, China, 20 August 2006

ISO/TC 37 Meetings, Beijing, China, 21-25 August 2006

TSTT 2006, Beijing, China, 25-26 August 2006

17th Meeting of the MoU/MG, Geneva, Switzerland, 16-17 October 2006 ,

Meeting of the Heads of WHO Collaborating Centres (WHOFIC), Tunis, Tunisia, 29 October – 2 November 2006

Workshop on Terminology Policies, Antwerp, Belgium, 15 November 2006

International Conference on Terminology, Antwerp, 6-17 November 2006

25th Meeting of the “Rat für Deutschsprachige Terminologie” (RaDT – Council for German Language Terminology), Brussels, Belgium, 18 November 2006

Semantics 2006, Vienna, Austria, 28-30 November 2006

Liaison Activities

Infoterm is in liaison with a number of ISO/TCs, such as

- ISO/TC 37 “Terminology and other language and content resources” (and its SC 1, SC 2, SC 3)
- ISO/TC 46 “Information and documentation”
- ISO/TC 154 “Graphical symbols”
- ISO/TC 173/SC 2 “SC on Classification and terminology of the TC on Technical systems and aids for disabled or handicapped persons”
- ISO/TC 176/SC 1 “SC on Concepts and terminology of the TC on Quality management and quality assurance”

It represents ISO/TC 37 on the MoU/MG (Management Group of the ITU-ISO-IEC-UN/ECE Memorandum of Understanding concerning eBusiness related standardization)

Infoterm is member or associate of:

- CEN/ISSS/EC – CEN/ISSS Workshop “Electronic Commerce”
- CEN/ISSS/eCAT – CEN/ISSS Workshop “Multilingual e-catalogues”
- RaDT – Council for German Language Terminology
- DTT - German Society for Terminology

It enjoys an official status with:

- UN/DPI (Department of Public Information of the United Nations in New York) as “Associate”
- WHO (World Health Organization) as “International Collaboration Centre for Terminology”
- ISONET (Information Network of ISO) as “Information Centre for Terminology Standardization”

and co-operates closely with:

- UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- ISO – International Organization for Standardization
- TermNet – International Network for Terminology
- IITF – International Institute for Terminology Research
- GTW - Association for Terminology and Knowledge Transfer

For further information, please visit the Infoterm Website <http://www.infoterm.info>

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