

ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

This form is to be used in conjunction with a "Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code" form

Date: 2007-5-10

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Associated Change request number : 2007-026

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : afp

(completed by Registration Authority)

PLEASE NOTE: This completed form will become part of the public record of this change request and the history of the ISO 639-3 code set. Use Shift-Enter to insert a new line in a form field (where allowed).

1. NAMES and IDENTIFICATION

- a) Preferred name of language for code element denotation:
Tapei
- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
Tapei
- c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
- d) Reason for preferred name:
The name was given in Awim village as referring to themselves in contrast to the mountain or other river villages. (Tapei means "What?").
- e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language:
Tapei, population 286 (estimated, 2005)
- f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: afp

Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. The identifier is not intended to be an abbreviation for a name of the language, but to serve as a device to identify a given language uniquely. With thousands of languages, many sets of which have similar names, it is not possible to provide identifiers that resemble a language name in every case.

2. TEMPORAL DESCRIPTION and LOCATION

- a) Is this a
 - ☒ Living language
 - ☐ Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival)
 - ☐ Recently extinct language
 - ☐ Historical language
 - ☐ Ancient language
 - ☐ Artificially constructed language
 - ☐ Macrolanguage

(Select one. See explanations of these types at <http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/types.asp>)

- b) Countries where used:
Papua New Guinea
- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
East Sepik Province, Karawari Rural District. Villages of Awim and Imboin (part), along the Arafundi River. S4.75155, E143.57925
- d) For an ancient or historical language, give approximate time frame; for a recently extinct language, give the approximate date of the last known user's death

3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

- a) This language is: ☐ Signed ☒ Spoken ☐ Attested only in writings
- b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
Arafundi
- c) Closest language linguistically. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
Nanubae (61-74% lexical similarity) [The Tapei-speaking villages have 73-74% lexical similarity with the nearby Nanubae-speaking village of Yamandim, and therefore are likely to have exchanged some lexical items with it. The other Nanubae-speaking villages - Wambrumas and Imanmeri - show lexical similarity lower than 70% with Tapei.]

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
None.
- b) Is this language officially recognized by any level of government? Is it used in any levels of formal education as a language of instruction (for other subjects)? Is it taught in schools?:
No.
- c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
Tapei speakers were grouped together by self-identification, and by speakers of neighbouring languages. People in Imboin considered themselves a mixed village, with three varieties: Awim (Tapei), Namata (Andai) and Karamba (a dying language). Vernacular dominant in all domains of use. Very limited use of Tok Pisin in religious and governmental contexts.

5. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

You do not need to repeat sources previously identified in the form, "Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code"

- a) First-hand knowledge. Describe:
- b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:
- c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):
Survey report (refer form requesting change to ISO code "arf").

Please return this form to:

ISO 639-3 Registrar
SIL International, Office of Language Information Systems
7500 West Camp Wisdom Road
Dallas, Texas 75236 USA
ISO 639-3/RA web site: <http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/default.asp>
Email: iso639-3@sil.org
An email attachment of this completed form is preferred.

Further information:

If your request for a new language code element is supported by the Registration Authority as a formal proposal, you may be contacted separately by researchers working with the Ethnologue or with LinguistList asking you to provide additional information.

Sources of documentation for ISO 639-3 identifiers:

Gordon, Raymond G., Jr. (ed.), 2005. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Fifteenth edition. Dallas, Tex.: SIL International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com/>.

LinguistList. Ancient and Extinct Languages. <http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfAncientLgs.html>

LinguistList. Constructed Languages. <http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html>