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: 2007-9-24

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Names, affiliations and email addresses of additional supporters of this request:

Associated Change request number : 2007-183 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : zlm (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:
      Malay, Local

   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
      Melayu

   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:

   d) Reason for preferred name:

   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language:

   f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available:

Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. The identifiers 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)

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b) Countries where used: Indonesia (Sumatra, Kalimantan), Malaysia (Peninsular, Sarawak), Brunei. List of dialects by region (not exhaustive):
Sumatra: Tamiang, Deli, Riau mainland, Lubu, Akit, Sakai, Riau islands, coastal Jambi, and Belitung.
Kalimantan: Sambas, Pontianak and Ketapang.
Peninsular Malaysia: coastal Terengganu, inland Terengganu, Kelantan (evidently mutually intelligible with Patani Malay), Pahang, Southeast Island, Orang Hulu, Orang Kuala, Jugra-Muar-Melaka-Johor.
Eastern Malaysia and Brunei: Sarawak, and one or more local Malay dialects are spoken in Brunei alongside the national Standard Malay variety.
This listing does not include local Malay varieties deemed variant enough to be classified as distinct languages (and hence as distinct Ethnologue/ISO codes) such as Negeri Sembilan, Patani, Temuan, etc. in the Malay peninsula, Minangkabau and many others in Sumatra, Banjar and Kutai in Kalimantan, and many more.

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
Primarily the eastern seaboard of Sumatra, Riau Islands, much of the Malay peninsula, the west and northwest coasts of Borneo.

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:
Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayo-Sumbawan, Malayic-Chamic-Bali-Sasak-Sumbawa, Malayic, Malay

c) Closest language linguistically. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
Other local Malay varieties listed as separate entries (Kedah, Jambi, Banjar, etc.)

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
Local Malay dialects are typically similar enough to Standard Malay or Indonesian that speakers choose to write, etc. in the Standard.

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?:
Generally not.
c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
   As a generalization, speakers are often unaware that what they are speaking is different
   from the standard (court-Malay-derived) varieties, as the sociolinguistic connection
   between the local Malay and the Standard is so tight. However, linguistic differences are
   notable, particularly in the area of morphosyntax.

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:
   (see associated change request)

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give
complete bibliographical references):

   international conference on Austronesian Linguistics. Canberra, Australia.

   Gil, David. 2002. The prefixes di- and n- in Malay/Indonesian dialects. In The history and
typology of western Austronesian voice systems, ed. by Fay Wouk and Malcolm Ross.

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
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: