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: 3 September 2011

Name of Primary Requester: Georges-Axel Jaloyan
E-mail address: jaloyangeorgesaxel at yahoo dot fr

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

Associated Change request number : 2011–176 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : hyt (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:
      Western Armenian

   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language: Arevmeda Hayeren (Արեվմտահայերեն)

   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Occidental Armenian, Western modern Armenian, Arevmedian aikhailrapar (Արեվմտահայերենախհախարապար), Mesrobian Armenian IETF code : hy-arevmda

   d) Reason for preferred name:
      The most common name, and most obvious name (the two other names are local names)

   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
      Armenian diaspora, from 3 to 10 millions, no statistics available

   f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: hyt

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

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Macrolanguage

(Select one. See explanations of these types at http://www.sil.org/iso639%2D3/types.asp)

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used:
United States of America, France, Syria, Lebanon, Argentina, Turkey, Bulgaria and more generally in the Armenian Diaspora.

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
United States: specially in California; France: Near Paris and Lyon; Syria: Alepo, Deir-Ez-Zor, Northern regions; Lebanon: Beyrouth; Turkey: Istanbul and some Armenians who still live in Eastern Turkey (historical origin of the language); Bulgaria: in major towns where Armenian diaspora is present.

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:
Indoeuropean → Armenian → Western Armenian

c) Closest language linguistically. For a Macrolanguage, list the individual languages (adopted and/or proposed) to be included in its group. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
Eastern Armenian (hyr)

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:

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?:
Western Armenian was formerly used in the Ottoman Empire, but after its collapse, it has no legal status. It is taught in some Armenian schools in the diaspora, but not in the republic of Armenia.
c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
Language spoken in the Armenian families of the diaspora, and frequently used in the diaspora. The major difference between the Eastern and Western Armenian is in the fact that the Eastern Armenian accepted a big reform during the early 1920's, whereas the Western Armenian language did not accepted that reform and still uses the traditional spelling.
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):

Kurkjian, Manuel pratique de la langue arménienne occidentale moderne, Beyrouth Պետրոս վարդան, Ճիշմէճեան, Dictionnaire de langue arménienne. [« Հայերէն Լեզուի Բառարան »], Alep, Syrie,Անի (Ani), 1954


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:

