Comments received for
ISO 639-3 Change Request
2011-175

Outcome: Rejected
Effective date: February 3, 2011
Registration Authority decision on Change Request no. 2011-175: reject requested split of Yalunka [yal] into Jalunga and Yalunka (new identifier)

The ISO 639-3 Registration Authority has determined that the requester for this split does not demonstrate adequately, either through evidence given in the change request, or based on evidence from other published sources, that Jalunga and Yalunka should be considered distinct languages. The anecdotal evidence presented—based on reported intelligibility by second language speakers of the language—does not constitute a systematic study appropriate as a basis for determining the extent of differences among the varieties. Some additional information about locations and populations has been presented, but without any lexical similarity or similar data. The development of separate alphabets presently taking place within each of the varieties proposed is noted, but again, is not sufficient grounds for splitting the varieties as two separate languages.

Other published research and statements, particularly those of Dr. Friederike Lüpke, do not support a split of Yalunka into two distinct, mutually unintelligible language varieties, nor does it demonstrate a strong sense of distinction between speakers of different varieties of Yalunka based on sociolinguistic grounds.

REFERENCES
