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: 2012-7-4

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Associated Change request number : 2012-142 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : unu (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:
      Unubahe

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

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

   d) Reason for preferred name:
      This language has not been attested in the literature outside one mention in a survey report as, "Unoba’i". A speaker of the language wrote down the name of the language as 'Unubahe' which more closely represents the way the name is pronounced.

   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
      Unubahe- 59 total speakers of which only 7 speak it as their primary language.

   f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: unu

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

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Artificially constructed language

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

For individual languages, also complete:

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:
   Milne Bay Province, Gumini village.

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, Central-Eastern, Eastern Malayo-Polynesian, Oceanic, Western Oceanic, Papuan Tip, Nuclear, Suauic

   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:
      Buhutu [bxh] and Oya’oya [oyy]

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?:
      Not officially recognised and not used in education.

   c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
      Since there are so few speakers domains of use are limited. There is only one marriage where both husband and wife use Unubahe as their primary language. So for the most part it can not even be said that Unubahe is used in the home domain. At this point it is used in
whatever context two speakers of Unubahe find themselves in and choose to use it together.
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):
All the information for this request comes from Mike Rueck's "Unubahe: A Nearly Extinct Language", soon to be published on pnglanguages.org

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: