Comments received for
ISO 639-3 Change Request
2016-008

Outcome: Rejected
Effective date: January 31, 2017

SIL International ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

Registration Authority decision on Change Request no. 2016-008: to create the code element [hkn] for Khaonh.

The request to create the code [hkn] for Khaonh is rejected. The RA notes that the New Code Request Form mentions that there are three known languages in the area, Khaonh, Mel and M'hun. The survey document cited in the request uses the village and district names, but it is unclear how these relate to the languages as named in the requests. The change request reports that comprehension testing found that people from Khaonh could understand about 80% of a story from Mel. By the criteria followed in the standard, this leads us to view Khaonh and Mel as varieties of the same language. The RA suggests that the situation for Khaonh, Mel and M'hun be reviewed and that any new request include reference to intelligibilities of all relevant dialects and languages. The requesters also requested codes for Mel and M'hun which were similarly rejected at this time.