Comments received for ISO 639-3 Change Request 2016-020

Outcome: Rejected

Effective date: January 31, 2017



SIL International ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

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Registration Authority decision on Change Request no. 2016-020: to create the code element [twz] for Twa.

The request to create the code [twz] for Twa is rejected. The RA finds that the change request contains insufficient evidence on which to base a decision. It simply asserts that an unpublished language survey report finds that "there are both ethnic and linguistic realities that would suggest that Twa is indeed a separate language," but it does not present the evidence and argue the case in terms of the criteria of the standard. The RA has received a copy of the referenced report, but has found that it does not contain information on intelligibility between varieties. Neither does it describe the methodology used to calculate lexical similarity nor contain the wordlist data; thus we are unable to evaluate what degree of difference is indicated by the measures of lexical similarity.