Comments received for
ISO 639-3 Change Request
2019-039

Outcome: Rejected
Effective date: January 23, 2020
Registration Authority decision on Change Request no. 2019-039: to create the code element [gii] for Girrira.

The request to create the code [gii] for Girrira is rejected. The request states that the People Groups of Ethiopia lists Girrira as a language, but does not show any information about how it is related linguistically to neighboring languages. After reviewing the dissertation (Mekonnen Hundie Kumbi. 2015. The Grammar of Girrira : (A Lowland East Cushitic Language of Ethiopia), Addis Ababa University), the review committee found several places where Girrira is mentioned as a dialect of Somali (see pp, 6-7). It does say that the relationship to Somali isn’t clear, but does not say that it is a separate language. Since the Change Request does not give further evidence showing that Girrira is a separate language, the request to identify Girrira is rejected.

The Registrar notes that more evidence on Girrira’s relationship to Somali may be available in the future. If it shows that Girrira is a separate language, a new request could be submitted at that time.