Comments received for
ISO 639-3 Change Request
2021-037

Outcome: Rejected
Effective date: January 20, 2022
Registration Authority decision on Change Request no. 2021-037: to create the code element [wtb] for Matambwe.

The request to create the code [wtb] for Matambwe is rejected. The RA notes that Matambwe was adequately proved not to be a dialect of Makonde by means of a comparative wordlist. However, further investigation found that Matambwe is closer to Yao [yao], which is the closest coded language in the standard. In the review of information provided, the RA found that cognate percentages with Yao may be as high as 86%, although no formal analysis was done. Because of this, a new change request would need to be made showing the reasons that Matambwe differs from Yao sufficiently as to be considered a separate language. Therefore the request for a code [wtb] for Matambwe has been rejected.