Comments received for
ISO 639-3 Change Request
2022-026

Outcome: Rejected
Effective date: January 20, 2023
Registration Authority decision on Change Request no. 2022-026: to create the identifier [ohk] for Aokho.

The request to create identifier [ohk] for Aokho is rejected. The Registration Authority found that insufficient evidence was given to demonstrate that Aokho is a distinct language different from Ikhin. The lexical similarity range provided in the request, in the absence of additional information such as an indication of separate development from Ikhin, elaboration on the origin of the named identifiers and communities, or the perceived comprehension of the other’s speech including what language Ikhin and Aokho use to communicate, was not adequate support a new code element. The full survey report cited in evidence identifies Aokho and Ikhin as two small towns that were founded by brothers and separated by only 6 km on the same highway. It seems highly implausible that the speech varieties in these two towns would have diverged to the point of non-intelligibility. A successful request to treat these as separate languages would need to give evidence that residents of these neighboring towns must actually use a lingua franca to communicate with each other.