INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO 639-3

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Codes for the representation of names of languages —

Part 3:

Alpha-3 code for comprehensive coverage of languages

Codes pour la représentation des noms de langues —
Partie 3: Code alpha-3 pour un traitement exhaustif des langues



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 639-3 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Terminology and other language and content resources*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Terminographical and lexicographical working methods*.

ISO 639 consists of the following parts, under the general title Codes for the representation of names of languages:

- Part 1: Alpha-2 code
- Part 2: Alpha-3 code
- Part 3: Alpha-3 code for comprehensive coverage of languages

The following parts are under preparation:

- Part 4: Implementation guidelines and general principles for language coding
- Part 5: Alpha-3 code for language families and groups
- Part 6: Alpha-4 representation for comprehensive coverage of language variation