

Standardizing Information and Communication Systems

TC39 Chairman's Report to the Co-ordinating Committee 28th April 1998

There have been six TC39 meetings, one since the last GA:

First; Mountain View, CA, USA on 21^{st} - 22^{nd} November 1996

Second; Cupertino, CA, USA, on 14th - 15th January 1997 Third: Cupertino, CA, USA, on 18th - 19th March 1997

Forth: Mountain View, CA, USA, on 15th – 16th July 1997

Fifth: Nice, France, 16th Sept, 1997 Sixth: Mountain View CA Feb. 1998

The schedule has been:

1st draft: January 1997 Stable draft: early March 1997 Final draft: April 1997 GA vote: June 1997 Acceptance of name of standard by CC Sept 1997 Fast-Track submission to ISO/IEC JTC 1: Oct 1997 FT DIS Ballot complete April 1998 **Ballot Resolution** June 1998 Publication as ISO Standard: Summer 1998

The Scope and Programme of Work of TC39 was accepted by June 1997 GA:

Scope

To standardise the syntax and semantics of a general purpose, cross platform, vendor-neutral scripting language.

Programme of Work

Develop a scripting language standard, based on initial submissions by Netscape, Microsoft and Borland Contribute the ECMAScript Standard to ISO/IEC JTC1

Upon completion of 1, to investigate the further direction of the ECMAScript Standard, and to evaluate and consider proposals for complementary or additional technology

To maintain liaison with appropriate other ECMA TCs and TGs

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Officers

Chairman: Gary S. Robinson (Sun)

Vice-Chairman: Clayton Lewis (Netscape) Vice-Chairman: Andrew Clinick (Microsoft) Project editor: Mike Cowlishaw (IBM)

Latest Status:

The Project Editor Guy Steele had to give up his position in order to work on another important project, Java. M. Cowlishaw of IBM has taken over with the support of all including Guy Steele.

ECMA 262 was Fast Tracked in ISO/IEC JTC1 with an end of ballot date of 9 April 1998. A SC22 ballot resolution meeting is expected 15 June 1998 in the US. There are some NO votes with included comments. Most of these comments have been reviewed by TC39 at their last meeting and responses proposed. TC39 has also contributed a set of comments via ECMA. It is also expected that all of the changes are minor and that recirculation will not be necessary.

Work on version 2 will accelerate after the FT work is completed.

G. Robinson (Sun Microsystems) Chairman TC39