

Comments received for
ISO 639-3 Change Request
2009-089

Outcome:

Name change: Adopted

Code element retirement/creation: Rejected

Effective date: 2010-01-18



SIL International ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

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Registration Authority decision on Change Request no. 2009-089: to split the current code element [mdh] “Manguindanao” into [ill] “Iranun” (existing code element) and [mjf] “Manguindanaon” (new identifier)

The request to retire the current code element for Manguindanaon is rejected as being unnecessary, as it is based on an issue within the scope of *Ethnologue: Languages of the World*, and not directly on a problem within the ISO 639-3 standard itself. The error made in the *Ethnologue* is the improper assignment of the Iranun language community within the Philippines as being included within the Maguindanaon community of the Philippines, rather than being considered as part of a single Iranun community of the larger region (that is, including Iranun of both Malaysia and the Philippines). The ISO 639-3 RA therefore recommends that the code element [ill] “Iranun” with speaker populations in both the Philippines (the larger population and probable historical homeland) and Malaysia, and to modify the comment regarding the Iranun language within the entry for the Maguindanao language.

While the *Ethnologue* is very influential in the interpretation of the denotation of ISO 639-3 code elements, this would seem to be a clear case of misrepresentation within *Ethnologue*. Thus, users of the ISO 639-3 standard are better served by retention of the existing code elements and identifiers for both Iranun and Maguindanaon, coupled with this clarification of the intended denotation of each element. The ISO 639-3 RA therefore thanks the submitter of this request as taking an essential step to clarify the intended denotations, and commends the correction recommended above to the editors of the *Ethnologue*.

The name update from “Maguindanao” to “Maguindanaon” for the current code element is adopted.