

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Organisation internationale de normalisation
Международная организация по стандартизации

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Title: Consensus on the name of U+FDFF

Source: Ad-hoc on the name of U+FDFF (Michael Everson, Roozbeh Pournader, Sarmad Hussain, Muhammad Afzal)

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With regard to the proposed solution to the Irish and Iranian comments on Amd. 2 of Part 1 of ISO/IEC 10646 (see N2565), further discussion has shown that despite the existence of a word *basmala* to describe the phrase, this word is not widely known and would not be an appropriate identifier for the character at U+FDFF.

Ireland and Iran provided conflicting comments on the spelling of the name of this character in the ballot on Amd. 2 of Part 1 of ISO/IEC 10646. Neither country thought that the spelling ARABIC LIGATURE BISMILLAH ARRAHMAN ARRAHIM was appropriate for this character name in the UCS.

Ireland proposed:

ARABIC LIGATURE BISMILLAH AL-RAHMAN AL-RAHIM

Iran proposed:

ARABIC LIGATURE BESMELLAH ERRAHMAN ERRAHIM

ARABIC LIGATURE BESMELLAHERRAHMANERRAHIM

Discussion of these options has yielded consensus on

ARABIC LIGATURE BISMILLAH AR-RAHMAN AR-RAHEEM

This differs from the balloted name in two particulars: it inserts a hyphen between the article and noun in the last two words (satisfying the Irish comment), and it distinguishes between [i] <I> and [i:] <EE> (as suggested by the Iranian comments), using the same convention for the long vowel as is used for naming MEEM, SHEEN, JEEM, and so on. It also retains the spelling BISMILLAH, which is widely recognized as an English loanword.