Principles agreed at the second Cicipu orthography workshop

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Attendees

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Principles marked with an asterisk (*) were agreed at the workshop, but the Cicipu phrasing of the principle was written later by Stuart McGill.

1 Kadama koto, kohuyo koto

One word, one space.

In other words, as a general rule there should be a space between each word. This principle is really just intended as a reminder not to run words together (rather than anything that might be debated).

1.1 Examples	
Aza in kupilu	'Many people'
Oyũ koɗu	'They set their hearts'

2 Impese mikadama ádana mø mayapu

Long ('twinned') consonants should be written with two letters.

This applies whether they appear in the middle of a word (where they are easier to hear) or at the start (where sometimes the key clue is the pressure sensed by the speaker rather than the length of the consonant).

2.1 Examples

Kkungwa 'God'

Kka

'Woman'

3 Koggoonu kø-"ivø" kasihwaara n-impese

The agreement prefix for "you" starts with a long consonant.

3.1 Examples

Yyãa 'You did'

Vvasa 'You beat'

4 In kadama ka-"ce" ba kohuyo

The word "ce" follows immediately after the preceding word i.e. there is no space.

4.1 Examples

Indamace	'I didn't speak'
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Mindace 'I didn't see'

5 Oggoonu haahula ba kohuyo

Pronouns (apart from independent pronouns e.g. amu, ivø) are not separated from the verb by a space

5.1 Examples

Uvasa	'He beat'
Yakubu vasivi	'Yakubu beat him'
Ucetuwevuke	'He counted it for you'

6 Adama hana asisaaka kada ágamanu

When two separate words coalesce and influence each other, they should not be written together.

6.1 ExamplesIri yilleIri yimpaIri yinaWulle iriWumpa iri

Aza helle

Aza hampa

Aza hayapu

Aza hana

7 Llama mmøgøllø

Don't forget glottal stops.

7.1 Examples

Wu'eteĩ	'Fine'
Ø'øpø	'They hold'
Ku'øpu	'Fiancée'
Køkkø'ø	'Cup'

8 Kadama kana kalabana uhwaaruwaani áyãa llama

Sentences which haven't happened yet should be marked with a line above the first vowel.

8.1 Examples

Tívasa	'Let us beat'
Úcu'o	'Let him plant'
Índukwa	'Let me go'

9 Idan mø makadama maguyace u'isanu in katī keevi ágamanu

If a part of a word cannot stand by itself as a word, it should be combined.

The examples below are all associative markers.

9.1 Examples

Cikø'ũ tiKkungwa	'Before God'
Wukadama	'Of the word'
Ukøtuwø wuuya	'The end of the road'
Cime'ĩ tiwunto	'Inside the guest hut'

10 Ba mu mikadama ana hinde – "kwø"

There is no letter sequence kwø in Cicipu – only kø.

10.1 Examples

Cikø'ũ 'Front'

11 Kadama ka-"je" akwai "oo" yyapu

The word for "go" has a double oo

11.1 Examples

He went to Makuku (<i>Ya je Makuku</i>)	'Uyoo Makuku'
He is in Makuku (<i>Yana Makuku</i>)	'Uyo Makuku'
When he went to Makuku (Da ya je Makuku)	'Ana uyoono Makuku'
When he was in Makuku <i>(Da yake Makuku)</i>	'Ana uyono Makuku'

12 Ín akwai wasali in tigãi ádana impese mikadama (???)

If there is a long vowel then write a double vowel

12.1 E	Examples	
Kazũu	azũu	'Larva'
Cicĩi	Incĩi	'Forehead'

[There is much debate about this and it has still not been resolved. In particular, native speakers are unable to consistently distinguish vowel length in monosyllabic noun roots]

13 Ín akwai wasali in tigãi in kahũ saa 'diphthong', áyãa dɗana ggedu

viwasali vihwaara*

For long nasal vowels and diphthongs the nasal mark goes over the first vowel

13.1 Examples

Ayãa	'They did'
Луйй	incy ulu

'etẽi 'Fine'

14 Kadama kana kuuhwaaruwa áɗana impese mikadama 'uu' *

The future tense prefix has a long 'uu' vowel

14.1 Examples

Wuuvasa 'He will hit'

Huudukwa '*They will go*'

15 Kadama kuugamanu akwai kohuyo*

The copula is a separate word

15.1 Examples

Teene ti?	'How is it?'
Mawã me	'It's a dog'
lvø vi	'It's you'

16 Ádana 'see' baa 'sei' * Write 'see' not 'sei' 16.1 Examples

See ni ttoono! 'Until you come back!'

17 Ádana 'Wan-' in ddana in kucino *

Wan- 'Lord' is written with a following hyphen.

17.1 Examples

Wan-Kkungwa	'Lord God'
Wan-Korisinoo	'The chief of Korisino'

Appendix: *Idana yikadama* (Punctuation marks)

ukøtuwø wukadama	(.)
ɗɗana kkuheepiyu	(?)
ɗɗana ruhungwa	(,)
ɗɗana vuuyũu	(!)
ɗɗana kkadama ka-wuna zza	(")