

# ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

## Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

This form is to be used in conjunction with a "Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code" form

Date: 2009-6-29

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Names, affiliations and email addresses of additional supporters of this request:

Associated Change request number : 2009-037

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : ulw

(completed by Registration Authority)

PLEASE NOTE: This completed form will become part of the public record of this change request and the history of the ISO 639-3 code set. Use Shift-Enter to insert a new line in a form field (where allowed).

### 1. NAMES and IDENTIFICATION

- a) Preferred name of language for code element denotation:  
Ulwa
- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
- c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:  
Woolwa, Ulúa
- d) Reason for preferred name:  
Linguistic literature are more frequently written in English and they use Ulwa; even the Nicaraguan census uses Ulwa.
- e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):  
Karawala village with 351 Ulwa fluent speakers according to Green (e reference, page 18).  
The ethnic population is 698 persons according to Nicaragua 2005 Census.
- f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: [ulw]

Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. The identifier is not intended to be an abbreviation for a name of the language, but to serve as a device to identify a given language uniquely. With thousands of languages, many sets of which have similar names, it is not possible to provide identifiers that resemble a language name in every case.

### 2. TEMPORAL DESCRIPTION and LOCATION

- a) Is this a
  - Living language
  - Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival)
  - Recently extinct language
  - Historical language
  - Ancient language

- Artificially constructed language  
 Macrolanguage

(Select one. See explanations of these types at <http://www.sil.org/iso639%2D3/types.asp>)

For individual languages, also complete:

- b) Countries where used:  
Nicaragua
- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:  
Latitude 12°53'27.20"N; Longitude 83°34'42.32"W, spoken mainly at the village of Karawala, the municipal capital of the Desembocadura de la Cruz de Rio Grande municipality, RAAS (Autonomus Region of South Atlantic).
- d) For an ancient or historical language, give approximate time frame; for a recently extinct language, give the approximate date of the last known user's death

### 3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

- a) This language is:  Signed  Spoken  Attested only in writings
- b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:  
Misumalpan; the genetics of the language is given by Green (see reference)
- c) Closest language linguistically. For a Macrolanguage, list the individual languages (adopted and/or proposed) to be included in its group. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:  
Mayangna

### 4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:  
No
- b) Is this language officially recognized by any level of government? Is it used in any levels of formal education as a language of instruction (for other subjects)? Is it taught in schools?:  
It is recognize in Nicaragua's 2005 Census as a different language
- c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

You do not need to repeat sources previously identified in the form, “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code”

- a) First-hand knowledge. Describe:
  
- b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:
  
- c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):
  - (1) Green, Thomas Michael, A Lexicographic Study of Ulwa, Ph. D. dissertation, Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, September 1999;
  - (2) Houwald, Götz von, Mayangna, Apuntes sobre la historisa de los indígenas Sumu en Centroamérica, Managua: Fundación Vida, 2003;
  - (3) INIFOM (instituto Nicaragüense de Fomento Municipal), Caracterización municipal de la Desembocadura de la Cruz de Río Grande (see attached file); Dictionary of the Ulwa language at <http://www.slaxicon.org/files/ulwa/dict/index.html>

### Please return this form to:

ISO 639-3 Registrar  
SIL International, Office of Language Information Systems  
7500 West Camp Wisdom Road  
Dallas, Texas 75236 USA  
ISO 639-3/RA web site: <http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/default.asp>  
Email: [iso639-3@sil.org](mailto:iso639-3@sil.org)  
An email attachment of this completed form is preferred.

### Further information:

If your request for a new language code element is supported by the Registration Authority as a formal proposal, you may be contacted separately by researchers working with the Ethnologue or with LinguistList asking you to provide additional information.

### Sources of documentation for ISO 639-3 identifiers:

Gordon, Raymond G., Jr. (ed.), 2005. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Fifteenth edition. Dallas, Tex.: SIL International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com/> .

LinguistList. Ancient and Extinct Languages. <http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfAncientLgs.html>

LinguistList. Constructed Languages. <http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html>