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## **Information processing — Arabic 7-bit coded character set for information interchange**

*Jeu de caractères arabes codés à 7 éléments pour l'échange d'information*

Reference number  
ISO 9036 : 1987 (E)

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council. They are approved in accordance with ISO procedures requiring at least 75 % approval by the member bodies voting.

International Standard ISO 9036 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 97, *Information processing systems*.

Users should note that all International Standards undergo revision from time to time and that any reference made herein to any other International Standard implies its latest edition, unless otherwise stated.

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# Information processing — Arabic 7-bit coded character set for information interchange

## 1 Scope and field of application

**1.1** This International Standard specifies a set of 120 characters (control characters and graphic characters such as letters, digits and symbols) with their coded representation. These characters are mandatory and unchangeable.

**1.2** This character set is primarily intended for the interchange of information using the Arabic language among data processing systems and associated equipment, and within data communication systems. The need for graphic characters and control functions in data processing has also been taken into account in determining this character set.

**1.3** This character set includes control characters for code extension where its 120 characters are insufficient for particular applications. Procedures for the use of these control characters are specified in ISO 2022.

**1.4** The definitions of some control characters in this International Standard assume that data associated with them are to be processed serially in a forward direction. When they are included in strings of data which are processed other than serially in a forward direction or when they are included in data formatted for fixed-record processing they may have undesirable effects or may require additional special treatment to ensure that they result in their desired function.

## 2 Conformance and implementation

### 2.1 Conformance

A coded character set is in conformance with this International Standard if it comprises the characters listed in clause 5 with the specified coded representation.

Equipment claimed to implement this International Standard shall be able to interchange information by means of this 7-bit coded character set.

### 2.2 Implementation

The use of this character set requires definitions of its implementation in various media. For example, these could include punched tapes, punched cards, magnetic media and transmission channels, thus permitting interchange of data to take place either indirectly by means of an intermediate recording in a physical medium, or by local connection of various units (such as input and output devices and computers) or by means of data transmission equipment.

The implementation of this coded character set in physical media and for transmission, taking into account the need for error checking, is the subject of other International Standards.

## 3 References

ISO 646, *Information processing — ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange*.

ISO 2022, *Information processing — ISO 7-bit and 8-bit coded character sets — Code extension techniques*.

Arab Standard ASMO 449.

*International Register of Coded Character Sets to Be Used with Escape Sequences*.