

AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS ON
STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Information Paper No. 17

SHORT STATEMENT

ON ACTIVITIES IN THE NORDIC LINGUISTIC
COMMITTEES (DE nordiske språkmemnder)
ON ROMANIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
IN HON -- ROMANIC SCRIPT

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Short Statement on Activities in Norden

A.

As mentioned in Working Paper N^o 15 -New York, 10-20 March 1970 - The Nordic Linguistic Committees (Nordiske språk-nemnder) has in 1970 published an alphabetic list containing more than 2250 different russian (and slavonic) names in common nordic spelling (Russiske navn, Samnordiske staveregler, Navneliste, 1970. In danish: Stavning af russiske navne. In swedish: R, lista namn).

The Nordic Linguistic Committees working together since 1956 in the different discussions giving up special Danish, Swedish and Norwegian spellings very often combined with emotional questions, brought to an end and solved this common question.

The compromise printed and recommended concludes a simplifying and combination of the English and the ISO system. As can be seen in the enclosed list, the use of diacritical signs is brought down to a minimum to facilitate the ordinary and common use.

B.

Since the autumn 1970 The Nordic Linguistic Committees have started discussions how to solve a common nordic spelling of all non-romanic written names. The work is only at the beginning, and so far they are at the time not able to give any comments to all the different papers submitted by the members of The Romanization Working Group. Recognising from the discussions this romanisation will not be based on the ISO system alone or on the English system alone. They hope to bring forward special comments and proposals to the next meeting in London 1972, wishing that the nordic discussion in question can help to bring this very difficult problem closer to the solving.

Oslo, January 1971.

Per Hovda (sign)