

Agenda Item 5

Standardization of Geographical Names in Cyprus

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Standardization of Geographical Names

Paper presented by Cyprus

1. Introduction

1.1. The Cyprus Permanent Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names, faithful in the resolutions of the United Nations Conference on the standardization of Geographical Names, has completed its work on the collection, standardization and transcription of the main Geographical Names of the Island, some 2,000, and published the "CONCISE GAZETTEER OF CYPRUS". The Gazetteer was submitted to the 4th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names held here in Geneva in 1982. A copy of the Gazetteer may be seen at the exhibition and copies may be obtained on application to the relevant committee in Cyprus.

1.2 It is worth mentioning that the Cyprus Permanent Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names has been set up by the Decision No.15.769 of the 21st April 1977, of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus. The transliteration system adopted for the production of the Gazetteer mentioned above has been agreed jointly between Cyprus and Greece both members of the Romano-Hellenic Linguistic Division.

2. Progress made

2.1 The Cyprus Permanent Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names is proceeding with the remaining part of the task of compiling a complete Toponymic Gazetteer of Cyprus, which will contain all the toponyms of the Island, amounting to

about 100,000 names. Needless to mention that the Geographical Names, forming part of the history and cultural heritage of the communities living in Cyprus, will be fully respected by the bodies concerned during the processes of the production of the Gazetteer. No reference to ^{their} derivation, historic or other elucidation will be made.

2.2. The task for the collection, standardization and transliteration of the Geographical Names of the Island has been entrusted to the Department of Lands and Surveys and the Cyprus Scientific Research Centre. The toponyms are collected by field methods and are being processed by glossologists of the Cyprus Scientific Research Centre. Thereafter the names are submitted to the Cyprus Permanent Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names for approval. Up to now about 60,000 names have been treated and it is envisaged that the work will be completed in the very near future. The Government of the Republic of Cyprus will be in the pleasant position to present the complete Toponymic Gazetteer of Cyprus to the next Conference of the United Nations for the Standardization of Geographical Names.

3. Compilation

3.1 The Toponymic Gazetteer of Cyprus will be composed of three parts.

(a) Part One. It will contain the names in lexicographical order by administrative district and by village for the purpose of easy reference.

(b) Part two. Each entry of the toponym in this part of the Gazetteer will involve six columns and will be in lexicographical order irrelevant to administrative district and village.

(c) Part Three. This part will contain in alphabetical order all Geographical Terms used in Cyprus with their respective interpretation in English.

3.2 Part One and Part Three of the Gazetteer referred to in 3.1(a) and 3.1(c) respectively require no more explanation. Regarding Part Two, 3.1.(b), which may be considered as the main part of the Gazetteer, the six columns already mentioned will have the headings,

- (i) Name
- (ii) Transliteration
- (iii) Description
- (iv) District.
- (v) Village
- (vi) Position.

A brief description of the entries to each one of this columns is given in the paragraphs 3.3 to 3.8 that follow.

3.3 Names column: In Cyprus we have two Official languages, Greek and Turkish. Since the Turkish language is in Roman Script no

transliteration is required. Therefore all names Greek and Turkish are entered in this column in lexicographical order in either Greek or Turkish as the case may be. Compound toponyms containing a generic term are entered in the order of the proper name.

3.4 Transliteration column: Only the Greek names are entered in this column after being transliterated according to the principles of the new romanization system. APPENDIX "A". The Turkish names being in Roman script are not entered in this column. They are left intact.

3.5 Description column: As the term indicates the description of the name, be it a town, village, river or mountain or any other form of natural or artificial feature known by this name, is entered in this column. APPENDIX "B" is the list of the Description Terms used for this column.

3.6 District column: The name of one of the six administrative districts to which the name belongs i.e Iefkosia, Lemosos, Larnaka, Pafos, Ammochostos or Keryneia is entered in this column.

3.7 Village Column: In this column the name of the village in which the name falls is stated.

3.8 Position Column: The location of each name is defined in this column by reference to the 1 km Grid Square of the map in which the name falls. The grid is on the Universal Transverse Mercator Projection Zone 36.

4. New maps

4.1. Under the item 5 of the provisional agenda Cyprus is submitting the following three new editions of maps, all in English, compiled and published by the Department of Lands and Surveys. The nomenclature is based on the new transliteration System.

(a) Cyprus Town Plans - Lefkosia East and Lefkosia West at scale 1:7,500.

(b) Cyprus Town Plans - Larnaka at scale 1:7,500.

(c) A Visitor's Map of Cyprus at scale 1:400,000.

4.2 It is worth mentioning that the Department of Lands and Surveys has programmed the publication of town plans for the remaining towns in the area under the control of the Republic i.e. Lemesos and Pafos. Needless to mention that Ammochostos and Kerkyneia towns are inaccessible being ~~under the control of the Turkish invading forces~~ *unfortunately under foreign occupation*. In addition to the publication of new maps the Department is burdened with the task of revising the names on the existing editions of maps in order to conform with the accepted new transliteration system.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR THE GREEK ALPHABET

Greek Characters or their combination	Transcription	Transliteration	Remarks
A, α	a	a	
AI, αι	ai	ai	
AY, αυ	av	av	(1)
	af	af	(2)
B, β	v	v	
Γ, γ	g	g	
ΓΓ, γγ	ng	ng	
ΓΚ, γκ	gk	gk	
ΓΞ, γξ	nx	nx	
ΓΧ, γχ	nch	nch	
Δ, δ	d	d	
E, ε	e	e	
EI, ει	ei	ei	
EY, ευ	ev	ev	(1)
	ef	ef	(2)
Z, ζ	z	z	
H, η	i	<u>i</u>	
Hυ, ηυ	iv	<u>iv</u>	(1)
	if	<u>if</u>	(2)
Θ, θ	th	th	
I, ι	i	i	
K, κ	k	k	
Λ, λ	l	l	
M, μ	m	m	

Greek Characters or
their combination

Transcription

Transliteration

Remarks

ΜΠ, μπ	b	b	(3)
	mp	mp	(4) (5)
Ν,	n	n	
ΝΤ, ντ	nt	nt	
Ξ, ξ	x	x	
Ο, ο	o	o	
ΟΙ, οι	oi	oi	
ΟΥ	ou	ou	
Π, π	p	p	
Ρ, ρ	r	r	
Σ, σ, ς	s	s	
Τ, τ	t	t	
Υ, υ	y	y	
ΥΙ, υι	yi	yi	
Φ, φ	f	f	
Χ, χ	ch	ch	
Ψ, ψ	ps	ps	
Ω, ω	o	<u>o</u>	

- (1) Before the consonants β, γ, δ, ζ, λ, μ, ν, ρ
and before all vowels
- (2) Before the consonants θ, κ, ξ, π, σ, τ, φ, χ, ψ.
- (3) At the beginning of a word
- (4) In the middle of a word
- (5) At the end of a word.

Other characters of the Greek script are transcribed in the following form:

Name of Character	Symbol	Transcription
Accents		
Oxeia	'	'
Yareia	`	`
Perispomeni	~	~

The combination of the characters αυ, ευ, ηυ, which in the Greek script are accented on the second vowel, on transliteration receive the accent on the first character e. g. áv, áf, éf, ív, íf.

DESCRIPTION TERMS

Acqueduct	•Υδραγωγείον
Airfield	Δεσυλος
Airport	•Αερολιμήν, •Αεροδρόμιον
Ancient Monument	•Αρχαϊότης
Bay	•Όρμος
Bench Mark	•Υψομετρικόν Σημεῖον
Bridge	Γέφυρα
Cape	•Ακρωτήριον
Capital	Πρωτεύουσα
Castle	Φρούριον
Cave	Σπήλαιον
Cemetery	Νεκροτοφείον
Channel	Αδίαξ
church	•Εκκλησία
Cliff	Κρημνός
Dam	•Υδατοφράκτης
Forest	Δάσος
Fort	•Όχυρόν
Gulf	Κόλπος
Harbour	Λιμήν
Hill	Λόφος
Island	Νήσος
Islet	Νησίς, Νησίδι
Lake	Λίμνη
Mine	•Ορυχείον
Monastery	Μοναστήριον, Μονή
Mosque	Τέμενος
Mountain	Βουνόν, •Όρος
Peak	Κορυφή(βουνού)
Point	•Άκρον (μικρόν Ακρωτήριον)

Quarter	• Ένορτα
Range	• Οροσειρά
Region	Περιοχή
Reservoir	Δεξαμενή (ύδατος)
Ridge	Κορυφογραμμή, Ράχη (βουνού)
River	Ποταμός
Rock	Βράχος
Sag	Σέλλωμα (Κορυφογραμμής), ζυγός
Sea	Θάλασσα
Settlement	Συνοικισμός
Sheep Fold	Στάλη, Μάνδρα προβάτων
Slope	Παγιά
Spring	Πηγή
Stream	Ρύαξ
Toponym	Τοπωνύμιον, Τοποθεσία
Town	Πόλις
Trigonometrical Station	Τριγωνομετρικόν Σημεῖον
Valley	Κοιλιάς
Village	Χωρίον
Waterfall	Κατορρίτης
Well	Φρέαρ.