Arabic Character	chedda ou tachdid	Indique que la lettre arabe qui le supporte doit être prononcée redoublée	Notation	Examples		Remarks
ω			Redouble- ment de la lettre ou du digramme représen- tatif.	مَ <u>مَّ</u> مَ وُنِّذِ رِيِّار	ḥammâm qoubba biyyâr	
		Si la lettre arabe surmontée du chedda est un "yâ" ou un "ouâou" (semiconsonnes), et si elle est précédée de l'accent voyelle correspondant: kesra ou damma, il peut y avoir seulement indication d'une voyelle longue.	îy	کر زیده گرزیده	'arbîya kourzîya	
_	oueçla	Indique que l'alif qui le supporte ne doit pas être prononcé.	non noté	قَاضِي ٱلبلَر	qâdi el bled	Se place toujours sur un alif initial dit "alif d'union".
~	madda	Indique que l'alif qui le supporte doit être pro- noncé comme un a long.		آلِي آخِم	âli âkher	Le madda tient lieu d'ali de prolongation, Egalement âkhir,

### 6. The definite article

The Arabic definite article JI is invariable; it is attached, in the written language, to the word which follows it. In Roman characters, it should be represented by "el", which is written separately from the word with which it is linked in the Arabic text.

Examples: الجيار el bîr, الجيار el fâr. In the pronunciation of the article, however, the consonant "l" is assimilated with the following consonants:7

ت ث د خ ص ط ظ Dentals:

Sibilants: w w j

ج ش Palatal fricatives:8

Liquids: しし)

8 Sometimes "moon" letter.

when these stand at the beginning of the word which the article precedes. This consonant is then pronounced as if it was written twice.

It is customary to note this assimilation in the transliteration in Roman characters.9

الرَّويش ed derouîch الدَّّر رويش remla الشَّمس ech chems.

On the other hand, the changes in pronunciation are not noted in cases where the article precedes a word beginning with a vowel or with two consonants.

المدرسة الكبيرة Examples: المدرسة

Pronounced: le-mdersa le-kbîra, but must be written: el mdersa el kbîra.

### GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES IN CYRILLIC SCRIPT

### Paper presented by the International Committee on Onomastic Sciences (ICOS)1

Although not a Slavist, I should like to refer to the discussions which took place in the Cyrillic Sub-Committee of ICOS and to the resolution adopted by the Congress of Munich (1958) [see annexes I and II].

I consider it extremely unfortunate that at the present time a wide variety of spellings for the letters of the Cyrillic alphabet is customary in the Western countries. To take an example, the phoneme "f" is spelt variously as "ch", "sch", "sj", and "sh", the spelling "sh" being recommended by the Permanent Commission on Geographical

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The corresponding Arabic letters are referred to as "sun" letters.

<sup>9</sup> Assimilation may be indicated in written Arabic by the presence of a shedda over the initial letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The original text of this paper, prepared by H. J. van Wijer Secretary-General of ICOS, appeared as document E/CONF.53/L.82.

Names (PCGN) [London] and the Board of Geographical Names (BGN) [Washington].

I believe that I am not mistaken when I say that the Slavonic linguists use a single symbol with a diacritical accent, namely "\$", for this phoneme and that the same symbol and accent mark are used in Croatia for the transliteration of Serb names.

I further note that the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [Geneva], which has representatives in some fifty countries, proposes the same system for the transliteration of Cyrillic names.

Also, in its report to the Conference, the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, speaking on behalf of the official German body—the *Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen*—said that it had adopted the ISO system of transliteration, and it recommended the adoption of that system by the Conference.

The ICOS Sub-Committee (see annex I for its membership) has, moreover, taken a similar position (see the resolution in annex II).

We are faced here with a difficult and perhaps delicate problem, which must, however, as I see it, be dealt with objectively by the Conference—and perhaps kept in reserve until further information becomes available. The Conference will certainly provide an opportunity for direct contact with the representatives of ISO so that the different points of view can be compared and a satisfactory international solution can ultimately be arrived at.

The stand taken at the Conference by the representatives of the Soviet Union and other Slav countries in a question which primarily comes within their jurisdiction does, of course, have an important bearing on the solution of the problem. If the Conference should be unable to arrive at a solution, a regional conference of the Slav countries should, I believe, be organized by the United Nations in the near future. I should like, in this connexion, to draw attention to the conferences regularly held by the International Board on Slavic Onomastics, whose competence in this matter is, it seems to me, beyond question.<sup>2</sup>

The regular contact maintained by the secretariat of ICOS with the representatives of ICOS in the Slav countries might, if the Conference wished, be used to facilitate further contacts.

#### Annex I

## INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

In implementation of the resolution proposed by J. B. Rudnyckyj (Winnipeg) and E. B. Atwood (Austin) at the Congress of Salamanca, we have been able to set up two sub-committees.

The first, which will have to deal with the international transcription of geographical names in Africa south of the Sahara, is composed as follows: N. A. Tucker (School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London), chairman; P. J. M. Geelan (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, London), secretary; J. Berry (School of Oriental and African Studies, London), L. Houis (Institut français de l'Afrique noire, Dakar), G. P. Lestrade (University of Cape Town), and A. E. Meeussen (University of Louvain), members.

The other sub-committee will study the problem of the international transliteration of geographical names of the Cyrillic alphabet area and is composed as follows: M. Vasmer (Freie Universität, Berlin), chairman; R. Olesch (University of Cologne), secretary; E. Dickenmann (University of Bern), E. Meynen (Bundesamt für Landeskunde, Remagen), J. B. Rudnyckyj (Winnipeg) and W. Taszycki (Kraków).

The two sub-committees will work in close contact with the Board on Geographic Names, Washington (Meredith Burrill and J. Mutziger), and the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, London (P. J. M. Geelan).

The members of the first sub-committee have been able to meet several times and will submit final conclusions at the Congress of Munich, where a special section will be devoted to this question.

The conclusions of the Cyrillic sub-committee will be discussed at the next Congress and then referred to our Slavist colleagues, who will gather at Moscow at the beginning of September 1968 on the occasion of the fourth International Congress of Slavists.

We hope that an international agreement may soon be reached with regard to this difficult question. It cannot be denied that, for the solution of a problem of this nature, the guidance of linguists, and particularly of onomatologists, will prove to be quite indispensable.

### Annex II

Resolution der X. Sektion (Kyrillische Subkommission) [VIe Congrès—Munich, 1958]

Die Subkommission hält eine Vereinheitlichung der Wiedergabe der Eigennamen, insbesondere der geographischen Namen für notwendig.

Die Subkommission tritt für eine Transliteration (nicht Transkription) kyrillischer Schreibungen ein. Hierbei sollte die einheitliche, sprachwissenschaftliche Transliteration zugrunde gelegt werden

# SOME PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN RENDERING GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES FROM ONE WRITING SYSTEM INTO ANOTHER

### Paper presented by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics1

In recent years the problem of rendering geographical names from one language into another has become of greater interest to many countries. The convening of the present Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names is a proof of this.

The Soviet Union, too, at the present time, is giving much attention to this problem. There are several reasons for this. The Soviet Union is doing a great deal of mapping its vast territories with their multinational population.

<sup>1</sup> The original text of this paper, prepared by L. I. Rosova and V. I. Savina, Central Research Institute of Geodesy, Aerial Survey and Cartography, appeared as document E/CONF.53/L. 48.

There have appeared of late a great number of maps and atlases covering areas all over the world and varying as to theme and content. A number of cartographic works in foreign languages have been issued in the Soviet Union. Finally, new problems have arisen in connexion with rendering geographical names in the national scripts of Asian and some African countries into Russian.

Soviet cartography is faced with two immediate problems: to transpose foreign names into the Cyrillic alphabet, which has been adopted by most of the languages of the USSR territories; and to transpose foreign names into languages whose script differs from the Cyrillic, such as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The third session of this organization was held from 14 to 17 September 1960 at Liblice in Bohemia under the chairmanship of Professor Witold Taszycki, of the University of Kraków, who is a member of ICOS.