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**Eighth United Nations Conference on the  
Standardization of Geographical Names**

Berlin, 27 August-5 September 2002

Item 11 of the provisional agenda\*

**Reports on programmes to assist with pronunciation  
of names**

**Proposal for the establishment of a working group on the  
pronunciation of geographical names**

**Submitted by Israel\*\***

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## **Summary**

Transliteration can present the written form of the endonymic form of a toponym to readers who are unacquainted with its source script and language, but cannot convey the actual pronunciation of a name. Pronunciation tables are of importance to editors of maps, atlases and other documents involving geographical names, as well as to the general public. Including them in map legends, for example, enables drivers to pronounce foreign names correctly and ask for directions. Pronunciation tables can vary as to the number of scripts and languages involved. The present paper proposes establishing a working group on the pronunciation of geographical names within the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

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