



## Economic and Social Council

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### Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

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Item 13 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Writing systems and pronunciation: romanization**

### Proposed romanization system for Persian

**Submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran\*\***

#### Summary\*\*\*

The Transcription Working Group of the Iranian Committee on Standardization of Geographical Names completed a new romanization system for Persian. The scientific and practical procedures were prepared based on the characteristics of the Persian language.

The tables of symbols necessary for the broad transcription alphabet, as well as their counterparts from the International Phonetic Alphabet and their equivalent letters in the Persian writing system, were provided by the Iranian Working Group.

The new system was mooted in the meeting of the Working Group on Romanization Systems at the twenty-sixth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. The work subsequently undertaken by the Working Group on Romanization Systems and the results of the meeting of the Convener of that Working Group, held in Tehran (minutes dated 25 April 2012) have contributed to improving the system significantly.

The new system was again brought up for discussion in the meeting of the Working Group on Romanization Systems, held in Gdańsk, Poland, in 2012. At that meeting, all the major questions were resolved based on an open and constructive approach.

Finally, tendency towards pronunciation (the spoken form) is an unavoidable fact. Currently, many unapproved romanization systems, based on transcription, are in use in the country, for instance, in geographical encyclopedias, books, and so forth. It is hoped that the use of this unique system will be widely extended throughout the whole country following its adoption by the United Nations.

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\* E/CONF.101/1.

\*\* Prepared by the Iranian Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names National Cartographic Centre.

\*\*\* The full report is available in the language of submission only from <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/ungegnConf10.html>.

