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Item 11 of the Provisional Agenda

Activities relating to the Working Group on Romanization Systems

Romanization of Iranian geographical names
(Implementation in the national and international level) *

Romanization of Iranian geographical names

Based on resolution X/8 adopted by the tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (New York, 31 July-9 August 2012), the new Persian romanization system is now being implemented in the national geographical names database and administrative divisions maps of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In order to extend implementation of the system, some other measures have been taken:

A) Implementing in national level
1. Issue an order by the Vice-Presidency of Strategic Planning and Supervision to the governmental sector for implementing the new system.
2. Produce an administrative divisions map in scale of 1:2550000 with romanized geographical names.
3. Prepare a brochure about the romanization system in Persian language.
4. Distribute the required documents on romanization of geographical names to academic institutions, government departments, cultural centers and executive agencies across the country.
5. Create a search ability based on romanized written forms in the geographical names database.
6. Plan to hold toponymy training courses for National Cartographic Center and other applicant organizations and agencies.

Now, some Iranian departments and institutions have begun to use the official romanization system, such as Statistical Center of Iran, Housing Foundation of Islamic Revolution, and etc.

B) Technical assistance for implementing in international level
To provide practical assistance on the Romanization of Iranian Geographical Names, virtual keyboard added to the database browser. This can facilitate incorporation of special characters in the query window.

C) Reversibility rule considerations
The original Persian script forms of Iranian geographical names are available in the national geographical names database. In addition, storage of the old romanized forms (transliterated forms) was begun in the same database. By searching a place name, transliterated form is displayed in the detailed search results.

These auxiliary data can be useful in the reverse transformation (Roman to Persian).