## UNITED NATIONS

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



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Item 11 of the provisional agenda

## WRITING SYSTEMS

TRANSFER OF NAMES FROM ONE WRITING SYSTEM INTO ANOTHER

TRANSLITERATION OF SOMALI WRITING

LON.72-266

G. Gómez de Silva, Mexican Member of Working Group for a Single Romanization System of Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Geographical Names of the United Nations.

ROMANIZATION OF SOMALI

Somali is the national language of Somalia. Arabic, English and Italian are official languages of the Government, and all three are extensively spoken. Officially, Somali is not a written language.

The alphabet used in C.R.V.Bell's "The Somali Language" (London, 1953; republished 1968, 2nd impression 1969) is the following:

a e i o u aa ee ii oo uu ay ey aw ow oy b d t d g k q f s sh j l m n r kh n h h w y.

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