

New York, 5-16 March 1973

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON A SINGLE
ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR EACH NON-ROMAN WRITING SYSTEM

Dr. Breu, convenor of the Working Group, gave an account of activities since the London Conference and at this present session (Working Papers 26 & 28).

With regard to the amended Beirut system for the transliteration of Arabic recommended under Resolution 9 of the London Conference, the Working Group agreed a finalized text of the table to be annexed to the resolution in the printed Report of the London Conference.

The Working Group took account of the existence of four different systems for the transliteration of Arabic in Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia, and of the desirability of having a single transliteration system applicable in all the countries of the Arab world, and recommended that the Arabic Division should hold a further regional meeting to consider this problem. It was agreed that a possible solution might be found in modification of the amended Beirut system to accommodate a limited number of essential variants (see Annex A).

The Working Group considered the draft romanization system for the Greek alphabet (Annex B) prepared, in collaboration with Cyprus, by a special commission within the Greek Ministry of Culture, acceptable as an international system for the transliteration of Greek.

	Amended Beirut System letter:	<u>Proposed</u>	
		<u>Variant A</u>	<u>Variant B</u>
<u>Consonant</u>	8.	j	dj, j
	15.	s	s (ss)
	16.	sh	ch
	17.	ṣ	ç
	20.	z	d, z
	24(b)	-	g (gu)
<u>Vowel</u>	3.	u	ou
	6.	ū	oû
	4,5,6 (long vowels)	- (macron)	^ (circumflex)

Note

For particular purposes,
or in order to take
account of local
pronunciation, diacritics
may be omitted and
digraphs may be reduced
to the first principal
letter.

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