

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO
233-2

First edition
1993-08-15

Information and documentation — Transliteration of Arabic characters into Latin characters —

Part 2:

Arabic language — Simplified transliteration

*Information et documentation — Translittération des caractères arabes en
caractères latins —*

Partie 2: Langue arabe — Translittération simplifiée



Reference number
ISO 233-2:1993(E)

AVA Documents
Document Sharing Hub

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 233-2 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 46, *Information and documentation*, Sub-Committee SC 2, *Conversion of written languages*.

ISO 233 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information and documentation — Transliteration of Arabic characters into Latin characters*:

- *Part 1: Arabic language — Stringent transliteration* (Actually published as ISO 233:1984, *Documentation — Transliteration of Arabic characters into Latin characters*.)
- *Part 2: Arabic language — Simplified transliteration*
- *Part 3: Other than Arabic languages*

Annex A of this part of ISO 233 is for information only.

© ISO 1993

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from the publisher.

International Organization for Standardization

Case Postale 56 • CH-1211 Genève 20 • Switzerland

Printed in Switzerland

Introduction

ISO 233 is one of a series of International Standards, dealing with the conversion of systems of writing. The aim of ISO 233 and others in the series is to provide a means for international communication of written messages in a form which permits the automatic transmission and re-constitution of these by men or machines. The system of conversion, in this case, must be univocal and entirely reversible.

This means that no consideration should be given to phonetic and esthetic matters nor to certain national customs: all these considerations are, indeed, ignored by the machine performing the function.

The adoption of ISO 233 for international communication leaves every country free to adopt for its own use a national standard which may be different, on condition that it be compatible with ISO 233. The system proposed herein should make this possible; and be acceptable to international use if the graphisms it creates are such that they may be converted automatically into the graphisms used in any strict national systems.

ISO 233 may be used by anyone who has a clear understanding of the system and is certain that it can be applied without ambiguity. The result obtained will not give a correct pronunciation of the original text in a person's own language, but it will serve as a means of finding automatically the original graphism thus allowing anyone who has a knowledge of the original language to pronounce it correctly. Similarly one can only pronounce correctly a text written in, for example, English or Polish, if one has a knowledge of English or Polish.

The adoption of national standards compatible with ISO 233 will permit the representation, in an international publication, of the morphemes of each language according to the customs of the country where it is spoken. It will be possible to simplify this representation in order to take into account the number of the character sets available on different kinds of machines.