

THE INTERPRETATION PROCESS IN THE 93RD REGULAR SESSION, INTERNATIONAL COCOA CONFERENCE: A CASE STUDY, ABIDJAN 2017

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Abstract

The paper addresses the nature of interpretation in the 93rd regular session of the International Cocoa conference. It mentions the relationship and the difference between interpretation and translation and discusses the issue of conference materials and interpretation. The paper mentions conference needs and interpretation, emphasizing on what is really the conference need, consecutive or simultaneous translation. It deals with agenda and lexical items featuring in the discussions. It also discusses individual speeches, intonations and the task of the Interpreter. Effective communication between the interpreter and the receptor depends on proper transfer of information from both sides. The research work mentions the condition of the interpreter and his technical knowhow. It states that the psychological nature of the Interpreter influences the quality of the translation. The work mentions English, French, Russian, and Spanish as the four languages used in the conference, it however emphasizes English and Russian lexical items. The paper draws conclusion based on analysis of data available. The author employs qualitative and quantitative methods to drive home his argument.

Key words: *interpreting, translation, interpreters, conference, intonation*

Résumé

Le document traite de la nature de l'interprétation lors de la 93^e session ordinaire de la conférence internationale sur le cacao. Il mentionne la relation et la différence entre l'interprétation et la traduction et aborde la question des documents de conférence et de l'interprétation. Le document mentionne les besoins de la conférence et l'interprétation, en mettant l'accent sur ce qui est réellement le besoin de la conférence, la traduction consécutive ou simultanée. Il traite de l'ordre du jour et des points lexicaux figurant dans les discussions. Il aborde également les discours individuels, les intonations et la tâche de l'interprète. Une communication efficace entre l'interprète et le récepteur dépend d'un transfert d'informations correct des deux côtés. Le travail de recherche mentionne l'état de l'interprète et son savoir-faire technique. Il indique que la nature psychologique de l'interprète influence la qualité de la traduction. Le travail mentionne l'anglais, le français, le russe et l'espagnol comme les quatre langues utilisées dans la conférence, mais il met l'accent sur les éléments lexicaux anglais et russe. Le document tire des conclusions basées sur l'analyse des données disponibles. L'auteur utilise des méthodes qualitatives et quantitatives pour étayer son argumentation.

Mots clés efficaces : *interprétation, conférence, traduction, interprètes, intonation*

1. Aims and Objectives of the Study.

The paper discusses major issues pertaining to interpreting services. It aims at bringing out the differences between translation and interpreting studies, it also brings out the relationship between translation and interpreting studies. It observes and study the nature of speeches and intonation of individual participants. This study is done during the interpreting process. This will enable the Interpreters plan for strategies to cope with the challenges in intonation. Particularly, the International Cocoa Organization will know the problems related with intonation, speech, and interpretation. This slowly enables us to compare the quality of interpreting without having any knowledge on conference materials and interpreting that is, when one is acquainted with conference materials before the conference. It aims at reminding interpreters to transfer their knowledge in translation studies to interpreting studies. It helps translation and interpreting lecturers to change their style of teaching interpreting studies, they need not separate interpreting studies from translation studies. It brings out the point that interpreting is an aspect of translation studies. Documents on the conference are in a translation form, and interpreters need these translated documents to enable them do a proper interpretation. In this discussion, the paper stresses on the fact that interpretation is just an oral form of translation, precisely oral translation; all theories in interpreting studies do not attempt to relegate translation theories to the past. This may prompt Students to change their various research agendas. The study emphasizes the role of interpreting studies in the global communication network and brings it out clearly. It aims at bringing this conference to the doorstep of researchers in interpreting studies. The conference will act as a model for researching into any other field that requires interpreting.

- While this deals with the cocoa industry and the International Cocoa Organization, the methodology used in this research could be applied to other fields.
- The other point is that most universities have departments already teaching translation studies and have presumed that a separate department of interpreting studies may not be

necessary since translation studies and interpreting studies are two inevitable bed fellows.

- This paper will ignite research momentum in interpreting studies, prompting some universities to establish separate departments for interpreting studies. The International Cocoa Organization (ICCO) will also focus on interpreting skills; provide funds for translation studies as well.
- The interpreting process will allow them insight into how to approach the translation of official conference documents and how to advise specialists who present special research papers in different areas of translation studies. Because interpreters are not familiar with such words, there were a few pauses which invariably affected the output of interpreters.

Research Questions

- i. What are the difference and similarities between interpreting studies and translation studies?
- ii. How does earlier acquaintance with conference materials impact interpreting?
- iii. How does individual intonation affect interpreting?
- iv. What is the relationship between the audience and interpreters?

1.1. Introduction and Theoretical Framework

According to Lederer (2010) The Interpretive Theory of Translation (ITT) is a coherent construct with high explanatory power, based on practical experience of both interpreting and translation. It was built up little by little, starting from the middle of the 1960s, both to answer the need to know more about the translating process (oral and written) and to meet the requirements of teaching the skills of T&I.

According to unsw.edu.au, Research in Interpreting and Translation Studies at UNSW concerns complex issues that affect real people in the real world. At local, national, and international levels, interpreting and translation are critical to intercultural communication, access to public services, trade, education, research and development, diplomacy, and cultural and societal exchanges.

While interpreting as a form of mediating across boundaries of language and culture has been instrumental in human communication since earliest times, its recognition as something to be studied and observed is relatively recent. In his introduction to the translation studies reader, Lawrence Venuti (2000) lists interpreting as an area of translation research whose “volume and degree of specialization demand separate coverage”. The present collection is an attempt to provide such coverage, spanning the multiple approaches to the phenomenon of interpreting in all its diversity and complexity. The growing academization of the field coupled with search for effective ways of teaching it – and the rapidly expanding use of oral translation in its various forms have provided the impetus for this work, which affords the reader a panoramic view of research on interpreting in its cognitive, social and communicational dimensions.

1.1.1. *Interpreting Defined*

Interpreting gained wide recognition as a profession in the twentieth century (Bowen et al. 1995; *interpreting 4:1*, 1999). Yet interpreting must have been practiced when ancient peoples were driven into exile, when explorers had to transact business, and when slaves were being put to work for the colonizer. Cast into their role by dint of their knowledge of languages, early practitioners did not have access to structured training courses or to associations capable of establishing standards of practice and working conditions. It follows that a comprehensive definition of interpreting cannot be confined to its later professional forms, just as it cannot exclude any of the modes or settings in which it is practiced. Interpreting, usually in the simultaneous mode, is carried out at international conferences and symposia; it is also carried out, however, more often than not on an ad hoc basis, by trained and untrained signed-language interpreters by tour guides and by countless others with widely varying levels of language and communication skills. Interpreting then can be defined most broadly as Interlingua, intercultural oral or signed mediation, enabling communication between individuals or groups who do not share, or do not choose to use, the same language(s). The word “interpret” is not without its problems, however, to the uninitiated, “interpreting” and “interpretation” sometimes evoke an imposition of meaning by someone who may expand, omit or otherwise filter the speaker’s

intention. Nor are the terminology difficulties confined to English. French, for instance has two variants – interpretation and *interprétariat*, and the choice between them underlines the distinction between prestigious and less prestigious forms of the activity. Lederer (2003) is of the opinion that to interpret include not only the way in which conference interpreters operate but also how a foreign text is fully understood and re-expressed.

Whatever the language-specific lexical gridding (for a lexicographic analysis, cf. Mead 1999), and whatever the overtones assigned to the terms available, we use the term: “interpreting” (rather than “interpretation”) in the reader to refer to the activity in all its ramifications, and “interpreting studies” as the name of the discipline.

Obviously, the development of translation theory and interpreting theory over the past decades is much too complex to be summarized in a couple of introductory paragraphs. Translation research and theory has undergone tremendous diversification by drawing on a wide range of **methods and models such as think-aloud protocols and text and discourse** analysis. While, in principle, the same diversity could be attested to recent work in interpreting research, interpreting studies on the whole seems to be a somewhat narrower field: The choice of a more rigorously scientific approach relegates “personal theories” like the *théorie du sens* (Gile 1990) to the status of mere hypotheses and untested assumptions, prompting scientist-observers to label interpreting studies as a field “with little theoretical development” (Dillinger 1990:43). Within interpreting studies as well there is considerable agreement that after decades of investigation interpreting theory and research is still “under-developed” (Gile 1990:38). More specifically on the relation of translation studies to interpreting studies, Matthews (1984:85) states that “if interpreting studies is considered as a separate discipline from translation studies, then it is lagging behind.”

Apart from the fact that, with few exceptions such as Stenzl (1983) and Shlesinger (1989a, b), interpreting research rarely draws on theoretical concepts developed for the study of texts and (written) translation, interpreting studies also tends to focus more narrowly on the cognitive “mechanics” of second-by-second processing rather than on holistic conceptions of text, situation, culture, and the entire course of action in

a professional interpreting assignment. One might construe an unbroken tradition from Lederer's (1978:333) concern with "the connection between thinking and speaking, as it materializes with each segment of speech" to Gile's (1991:15) overall impression that "the most fundamental and frequently discussed issues in interpretation theory revolve around the question: 'How does interpretation work?'" Clearly, the focus of conference interpreting research is on elucidating the micro-level processes involved in this complex cognitive task, hence the affinity for the research paradigms of cognitive psychology.

It is important to know what translation is really about since the paper is dealing with two inevitable bedfellows: translation and interpretation. It is important to unfold the concept of translation by the following scholars.

Translation is a mental activity in which a meaning of given linguistic discourse is rendered from one language to another. It is the act of transferring the linguistic entities from one language to their equivalents into another language. Translation is an act through which the content of a text is transferred from the source language into the target language (Foster, 1958).

Due to its prominence, translation has been viewed differently. According to Ghazala (1995), "translation is generally used to refer to all the process and methods used to convey the meaning of the source language into the target language" (P.1. Ghazala's definition focuses on the notion of meaning as an essential element in translation. That is, when translating, understanding the meaning of source text is vital to have the appropriate equivalent in the target text thus, it is meaning that is translated in relation to grammar, style and sounds (Ghazala, 1995).

Translation is a process and a product. According to Catford (1995), translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL) ", (p 20). This definition shows that translation is a process in the sense that is an activity. Performed by people through time, when expressions are translated into simpler ones in the same language (Rewording and paraphrasing). It can be done also from one language into another different language. Translation is, on the other hand, a product since it

provides us with other different cultures, to ancient societies and civilization when the translated texts reach us (Yowell and Mutfah, 1999).

1.1.1.1. The Relationship Between Translation and Interpretation

According to www.languaguagescientific.com, Interpreting and translation are two closely related linguistic disciplines. Yet they are rarely performed by the same people. The difference in skills, training, aptitude and even language knowledge are so substantial that few people can do both successfully on a professional level.

On the surface, the difference between interpreting and translation is only the difference in the medium: the interpreter translates orally, while a translator interprets written text. Both interpreting and translation presuppose a certain love of language and deep knowledge of more than one language.

There is a basic difference between translation and interpretation. The paper is looking at the two linguistic concepts within the framework of the conference interpretation. Interpretation semantically has other meanings.

Interpretation of dream, vision, and prophecies differs from the interpretation of message from a speaker in a conference. Interpretation of a dream, prophecy deals with two parts, the dreamer, the prophet and the interpreter on the other side. Interpreting studies deals with oral communication, whereas translation studies deal with writing.

The mental representation of an object or a noun in the course of translating does not differ from that of interpreting. A verb denotes an action that is represented in the speaker or translator's mind (Saeed 2012:33). The translator thinks of it and expresses the product by writing whereas the interpreter expresses the meaning verbally. In dealing with any foreign language, semantic elements are fairly universal. The words in the source language text are semantically equivalent to the translated text, So, words found in the translated receptor language and the interpreters receptor language, apparently has identical meanings. (Hoffman,Th.R ,1999)

In interpretation, there is the need to understand the speaker and interpret. Interpretation which depends on the experience of the interpreter, his knowledge in the area of study and the ability to coordinate conceptual structures of the two languages present a good interpretation. A translator equally requires a sufficient knowledge of both the source language (SL) and the translated language (TL) or the target language (TL). In dealing with the two situations, source language or source message (SM) in interpreting studies, and target language (TL) or target audience (TA) in interpreting studies.

The paper deals with transferring meaning from one source language to another. Whereas more emphasis has been placed on equivalence in translation studies, it is not so prominent in interpreting studies because it is not written but the concept exists in interpreting studies. The refusal of researchers in interpreting studies to shower much attention on this concept may seem to scholars and many readers as probably unfair scholastic attitude. There is the need to treat the phenomena with equal seriousness. This is because translation studies could be older than interpreting studies.

Concretely speaking on Interpreting studies, translation studies could be the universal set, whereas interpreting studies could be the subset of translation studies. Though interpreting studies has theories that may differ from the theoretical foundation of translation to some extent, there cannot be any serious departure from translation studies. Languages differ, but there are certain universal elements in one language that could be found in another language.

On the other hand, there is a certain type of phenomenon found in some popular languages which is extremely universal to the respective languages but differs in some language. The job of a translator or interpreter is to find a suitable and appropriate lexical item acceptable in the receptor language. For a translator or interpreter to convey meaning from the source language or source message (SM), it requires sufficient knowledge in the source language and the target language (TL). Technically it will be difficult to replace a source language (SL) with any other language, original language (OL), translated language (TL), target language (TL), are all a matter of semantics. There is no basic difference in respect to these terminologies to either translating studies or interpreting studies. Semantically a source language or

original message doesn't differ. These are two categories, original language, and source language.

The procedure for translating from "A" to "B" and the procedure for interpreting from "A" to "B" differ in their mechanisms, one in written form, and the other, in oral form. The mental activity required to translate from A to B and interpret from A to B differ a bit. The one that requires writing takes more time, you can pause and think over a word or sentence. The organization of mind differ a bit from interpreting from the original message which demands seconds in interpreting; it requires an activity of mindset that one should be able to organize himself in seconds. The interpreter is required to pronounce words correctly, in order to transmit the correct information to participants. The technical knowhow of the interpreter is an important ingredient in the interpreting process. One has to know when to change from one stage to the other. Lack of knowledge in the handling of the machines could cause a serious disruption in the transmission process. The condition of the interpreter in the booth impacts the interpretation process positively or negatively. The information flow demands the best-trained interpreter. The selection of an interpreter should not be based on a biased attitude; it should not be determined by relations, but rather on knowledge of the language and how to operate the machines in the small booth. A greater amount of energy is required in the interpreting process. One must be healthy and up to the task.

In the two processes, bilingual competence is required, a strong bilingual competence produces quality interpreting, and this applies to translation as well. In the interpretation process, skills learned from translation can be applied to interpreting studies. Bilingual competence in translation is related to bilingual competence in interpretation. A vital ingredient in the acquisition of proficiency in interpreting, is knowledge in translation. Every interpreter has a translation background. No matter how one is talented in translation or interpretation, one needs to learn his or her vocabulary. There is the assumption that some people are gifted with translation or interpretation. They are born with such a gift (Hervey and Higgins, 1999). This could be an assumption; it could be accepted to some extent. In the opinion of this author, one could be talented and have interest at the same time in translating and interpreting studies, one may have the talent and has no interest, the other may have the interest but not all that talented. In all these

categories one has to study the two languages very well, specifically with interpretation studies, interpreters should acquire knowledge in the technology needed to use, apart from having the talent. In the two cases, professionals need to develop interest in the job. The interest one develops in the job also assists the person to acquire more skills, “elements of enjoyment and job satisfaction. Such function plays a **vital** role in any skilled activity that might be needed as a career, from music to computed technology” (Hervey and Higgins, 1999: 14). The interpreter and the translator deal with texts. (in the case of the ICCO conference, and in any other translator activity, being it an individual assignment, business or in a translation bureau, one has to make two strategic decisions: the translator or interpreter has to make these decisions before starting the work, he has to consider the main characteristics of the text, then the genre and the intended audience. The other one is what we call the decision of detail. The strategic decisions give birth to the decisions of detail. Decisions of detail is connected with the actual problem of grammar, lexis, and so on, that has to deal with the translation of particular expression in particular context of the text (ibid 15)

In the case of the International Cocoa Conference under discussion, strategic decisions with regard to the linguistic characteristics of the texts could be taken prior to the interpreting activity. In most cases the texts are made available to the interpreter before the conference. One may not have the opportunity to read through the materials but have an idea of the texts and its characteristics. A fore knowledge of the texts assists the interpreter to strategize but whatever the case may be one must be knowledgeable and bilingually competent to convey appropriate meaning from source language to the audience.

2. Conference documents prior to the start of the conference.

Receiving conference materials before the conference and getting acquainted with the materials. Basically, it is proper to obtain conference materials before the commencement of the conference. Getting oneself acquainted with the conference materials gives an opportunity, materials delay is not a base or a sufficient reason for poor interpretation. The previous professional activities of every interpreter act as a springboard for subsequent conference interpretation. Simultaneous interpretation requires experience, the ability to give alternative words or synonyms to words at the source language text.

Receiving conference materials before the beginning is not intended to change the status quo of interpreting. The interpreter is assumed should be able to decode and encode without conference materials. Experience has shown that interpreters should construct their own sentences that are suitable for their audience. There's the need for flexibility and logic in the construction of these sentences. Attention should be drawn to the fact that sticking to conference materials without the basic understanding may lead interpreters do mechanical interpretation. There is the need for rationalization on the part of interpreters when transmitting information to their audience.

Table A

	Отчет о двадцать четвертом заседании экспертной рабочей группы МОКК по запасам	Report of The Twenty-Fourth Meeting Of The ICCO Expert Working Group On Stocks
1	Двадцать четвертое заседание Экспертной рабочей группы по запасам МОКК состоялось 26 января 2017 г. в пгтаб-квартире бирж ICE Futures Europe/ICE Clear Europe в Лондоне под председательством Стива Вотериджа (Tropical Research Services).	The twenty-fourth meeting of the ICCO Expert Working Group on Stocks was held on. 26 January 2017 at the Offices of ICE Futures Europe/ICE Clear Europe in London under the chairmanship of Mr. Steve Wateridge from Tropical Research Services.
2	Председатель напомнил условия соглашения о конфиденциальности, подписанного всеми участниками заседания, и, в частности, положения о том, что никто не может покинуть зал до окончания заседания, и что все средства связи должны быть помещены в розданные всем	The Chairman reminded the terms of the confidentiality agreement signed by all participants, in particular that no one was allowed to leave the room before the end of the meeting and that all communication devices should be put in the envelop made available to

	<p>конверты. Он также проинформировал всех участников о том, что в конце заседания МОКК выпустит пресс-релиз, содержащий отчет о результатах обследования и итогах данного заседания.</p>	<p>each. He also informed participants that at the end of the meeting, a press release will be made by the ICCO to report on the results of the survey and the outcome of this meeting.</p>
3	<p>Исполнительный директор д-р Жан-Марк Анга приветствовал всех участников заседания и выразил благодарность «ICE Futures Europe» за проведение у себя заседания в этом году. Он подчеркнул важность данного заседания для повышения прозрачности рынка какао и выразил признательность Организации Рабочей группе за оказанную ей поддержку в проведении этой работы. Он отметил, что процесс переезда штаб-квартиры МОКК из Лондона в Абиджан (Кот-д'Ивуар) близок к завершению. Вместе с тем, он выразил желание продолжить проведение заседаний этой Рабочей группы в Лондоне или в другой европейской стране в будущий период для обеспечения участия</p>	<p>Dr. Jean-Marc Anga, the ICCO Executive Director, welcomed all participants to the meeting and thanked ICE Futures Europe for kindly hosting this year's meeting. He stressed the importance of this meeting in improving the transparency of the cocoa market and expressed the gratitude of the Organization to the Group for their support in conducting this work. He noted that the relocation process of the ICCO headquarters from London to Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire was near completion. However, he expressed his wish to continue organizing the meetings of this Group in London or in another European country in the coming years to ensure participation from industry experts. He concluded that a request to that effect</p>

экспертов из отрасли какао.	would be submitted to the ICCO Council.
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The diagram above displays the source language and target language. English could be a target language and Russian could also be a target language depending on the speaker on the floor. The structural forms of the two languages differ. In translation or interpretation, the form of the source language is replaced by the form of the target language. The accomplishment of this change depends largely on the interpreter, even though the two texts exhibit some level of equivalence, nevertheless, the appropriate transfer of meaning to the audience to a greater extent depend on the lexical choices of the interpreter. (Larson 1984).

Table B

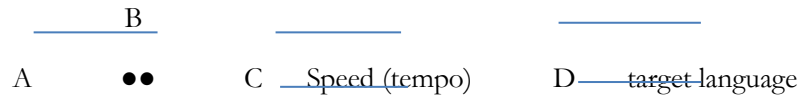
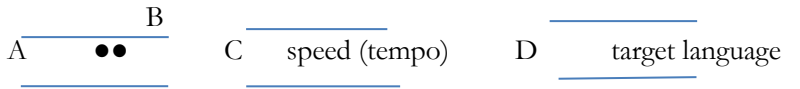
Экспертной рабочей группы мокк	Expert Working Group ICCO
января	January
ICE Futures Europe/ICE Clear Europe в Лондоне под председательством Стива Вотериджа	ICE Futures Europe/ICE Clear Europe in London under the chairmanship of Mr. Steve Wateridge
соглашения о конфиденциальности	confidentiality agreement
проинформировал всех участников	informed participants
Выразил признательность Организации	expressed the gratitude of the Organization
в Лондоне или в другой европейской стране	In London or in another European country

In table A the interpreter is obliged to a larger extent to transfer the meaning from the source language to the target language. Any attempt on the part of the interpreter to construct his own sentences may change the meaning and for that matter the communicative agenda. Even though the argument of the paper in this section stresses the need for interpreters to construct their own sentences suitable to their

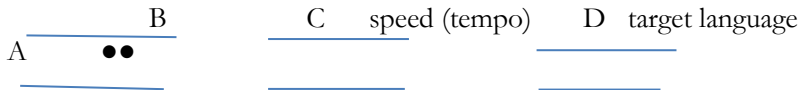
respective audience, nevertheless, there is the need for an abiding sense of a dependent on standard and acceptable expressions.

Diagram Indicating the Interpreting Process

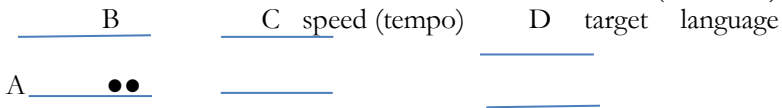
(Audience)



(Audience)



(Audience)



2.1. Explaining the Diagram

The diagram represents the interpretation process. There is not much difference between translation and interpretation, the only basic difference between the two linguistic processes is that, whereas one is written, the other one is oral. In the context of the interpretation, one is simultaneous and the other is consecutive. The conference under review required simultaneous interpretation.” A” represents the source language, then “B” represents the interpreters, “C” represents the flow of the language, or streaming as I have tagged it otherwise “D” audience or the target language. This is a case study, but all other international conferences operate on this model. Language flow

depends on the bilingual competence of the interpreter, the ability to pick statements from speakers, grasps the understanding then process the sentence into another language, taking into consideration, an interpretation acceptable to the receptor. About the target language, the receptor as well need a strong bilingual competence to understand the information being transmitted from “D”. The speed will also depend on the confidence level of the interpreter. In this conference, the confidence level of the interpreters was high.

The individual speakers defined the task of interpreters to some extent. A normal speed from D, depended on the coordination between the subject (interpreter) and the object, the target language. As there should be coordination between the source language text (SL) and the translated text (TL).

In the conference, all booths have two interpreters, meaning that the task demands that one interpreter cannot accomplish the interpreting. Interpreters are for French, English, Spanish and Russian. One booth depends on the other, meaning that there are cases that interpreters in a booth will have to take the information from the other booths. For instance, while the discussion is in French and Spanish, the Russian interpreters pick the information and translate to Russian.

Improper coordination interrupts the information flow and for that matter the interpretation process. Conference information from A, the booths to D indicates that interpreters were conscious of the assignment before them. The target language for the interpreter’s changes depending on the speakers. If a Russian representative speaks in the Russian language, it is translated into English. If Spanish is spoken, it is interpreted into English and both French and Russian interpreters pick the information from their booths. The conference was a five - day conference with representatives from exporting and importing countries. The conference adopted simultaneous interpretation and SI (simultaneous interpretation) was provided for all sessions” D” represents all participants being exporting and importing countries, observers, government representatives from the Ministries, Cocoa farmers and members from the various Cocoa Boards in Ivory Coast. The audience include exporting countries like Ghana, Ivory coast, Cote d’Ivoire, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brazil,

DR Congo, Republic of Congo, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Togo, and many others.

The importing countries include Great Britain, Germany, France, Switzerland, the Russian Federation, the Netherlands, representatives from the European Union and others. There were separate sessions that discussed cocoa prices the exporting countries required simultaneous interpretation, whereas the separate session organized by the importing countries did not require for simultaneous translation. This presupposes that about 90% of the exporting countries understood English.

The documents were in all four working languages of the conference. Research papers presented specific areas of the cocoa industry by specialists in those areas. The presentation had some lexical items which did not appear in the conference materials. The speed of the interpretation was not as fast as the normal presentations and discussions from the floor; it is because most of the words used were within the mainstream vocabulary exhausted by the conference documents. Interpretation by individual interpreters differed, this depended on how the interpreters are acquainted with the text type. There will definitely be pauses which will affect the input of the interpreters. This is not to say that interpreters could not do a proper interpreting but there could be some difference in the normal discussion and a case where special lexical items were displayed by participants.

The flow of information from “B” to “C” and “D” will depend on bilingual competence and discipline, the discipline implies how the interpreter conducts himself in the booth, how he handles the earphone and so forth and so on.

The conference discussed more than 15 documents for five days.

2.1.1. The Individual Intonation and The Interpretation

The interpreter’s assignment is to grasp the understanding of the speech by all speakers at the conference. The conference participants have different linguistic backgrounds. The interpreter would have to interpret statements made by people who have different pronunciations of certain words. The translator or the interpreter has no reason not to

be able to interpret statements made by speakers because of intonation. The interpreter would have to listen attentively, assess the statement, and interpret whatever be the case. In this conference there were groups of English-speaking countries, Asia, Africa and Europe. All European countries present could speak the English language. Though they have their own official languages, the only difference is that the English language spoken was closer to the British, in all the spoken languages; there was an indication that the language was **tainted** by the accent from the indigenous language speaker. In this conference, the language of the representative of the EU, representatives of Germany, Ghana, Nigeria, Indonesia and Switzerland was clear to Russian interpreters. The speech was systematically presented and gave an opportunity for interpreters to perform a clear and adequate interpretation to the representatives from Russia speaking countries and Spanish speaking countries attending the conference. The language flow depended on the understanding of the speaker. Interpreting is a professional job. One has to be adequately prepared before entering into the interpreting profession. We assume that the translator understands most of the lexical items being used in the communication. In the case of the International Cocoa Conference, most interpreters were not performing for the first time. Even performing for the second time does not pre-suppose that interpreting will be a smooth task. Individual information needs to be studied right from the first presentation so that subsequent presentation could be easily understood. As have been already explained there were categories of participants with different linguistic background but, different dialects influenced by their local languages, sometimes even if they are coming from the same country. These are constant words featuring in the conference, and on, cocoa-beans, season, producing countries, exporting countries, farmers, cocoa trees, tones, and many other words. Semantically the Russian translator in the booth understands these words and can deliver the interpretation without many problems. Intonation steaming from the pronunciation of words should not hinder the adequate interpretation, if the intonation has been accepted and adapted. On the other hand, there are fundamental differences in the pronunciation of certain words between countries, the Interpreter may not grasp the understanding, this will lead to pauses and

consequently interrupting the interpretation process. If for instance under normal circumstances an interpreter speed.

2. 1. 1. 1. Research Findings

Based on the analysis of the interpreting process of the conference, the following findings were unfolded; that though translating and interpreting studies are closely related, in terms of practice, the two phenomena should be treated separately. They are linguistically married, yet there are fundamental differences, orally transmitted message from a booth with earphones and subject to almost no correction. An interpreter cannot correct himself in the booth that will only cause embarrassment to himself and put the audience in a state of confusion. In this conference interpreting was smooth and there were few cases of pauses or misapplication in terms of the technical know-how. There was just one instance of a delay. This was just forgetfulness.

It was observed that knowledge in the contents of the conference material earlier received was helpful in the interpreting process. Though interpreters had knowledge of the translated conference materials prior to their entrance into the booth, they needed to construct their own sentences suitable to their various audiences. Interpreters however could not interpret certain words through their own construction. There were certain terminologies that needed no change. These special terms were found in the conference materials. The speed or the tempo of the interpreting depended on the interpreter's bilingual competence. Any complaint that came from the audience was technical and not the interpreter's professional standards. Pauses in the interpreting process fueled anxiety among the audience. There were few cases of such nature. There was an excellent coordination among the interpreters.

The technical know-how of interpreters was excellent. The technicians were up to the task and there were no problems with connections or contacts.

Individuals who dominated the discussion had clear voices; their intonations differed but they were closer to the intonations of the indigenous speakers. For interpreters, intonations aid them to complete the interpreting process. Words per second (W.P.S.) were not measured. The language flow was satisfactory. This was compared by

the feedback received from participants after each session. There were some participants who spoke on certain issues more than once; this gave the interpreters the opportunity to master the language of those individuals and master as well lexical items used in those discussions. For instance, the discussion on the transfer of the ICCO headquarters from London to Abidjan and the falling cocoa prices took a central stage of the discussions. Personal or individual approaches did not change the required standards of language usage. Because some of these discussions surfaced more than once, interpreters found themselves repeating the same interpretation, so there was no need to task the mental faculties of interpreters. Interpreters analyzed the inputs from the participants from the floor and provided equivalent interpretation. Concepts in translation theory are brought to bear on interpreting studies. Messages are adequately interpreted, meaning that messages from speaker from the floor are only adequately interpreted.

Fundamental principles such as fidelity to grammatical structures and norms of the source language (SL) and interpreted language (IL) is identical to the two processes.

The form of one language or the source language is transferred to the form of the target or interpreted language.

3. Interview Questions for Participants of The Conference

Seven Participants from The Exporting Countries and Seven Participants from The Exporting Countries Were Interviewed on The Quality Of The Interpretation

3.1. Interactive Questions

- 1) How will you assess the bilingual competence of the interpreters?
- 2) What is your opinion on the tempo of the transmission for earphone?
- 3) How do you assess the vocabulary flow of the interpreter?
- 4) How would you evaluate your interpreter?
- 5) Since you understand English, French, Spanish, Russian, would you have preferred listening to the second or third language directly instead of depending on translators?

- 6) What is your overall assessment of the interpretation process at the conference?

On question one, both exporting and importing countries accept the fact that the interpreters were bilingually competent. All the 14 people interacted with accepted that interpreters have the necessary interpreting skills.

On question two, all the 14 people from both sides importing and exporting countries indicated that tempo was normal and that interpreters conveyed accurate information to their hearers. The machines were up to date and participants they did not experience or feel there was any technical problem. The technicians were up to the task.

On question three, all the participants I interacted with confirmed that interpreters displayed expertise. Some of the participants had the conference materials prior to the conference and noted that the lexicon was in place, the needed words were used. Interpreters were reasonably flexible with the use of vocabulary, they displayed maturity in the use of lexical items.

On question four, participants for both sides admitted that the interpreters executed their duties professionally. The needed information from speakers were adequately interpreted to them.

On question five, majority of the participants, though understood some of the mentioned official languages the conference adopted, they still preferred a professionally interpreted version.

On question six, interpreters were up to the task. There were no interruptions in the interpretation process. They gave a vivid interpretation which gave life to the conference. They adapted to the individual intonations and were able to do a perfect interpretation irrespective of the sociolinguistics background of participants.

3. 1. 1. Conclusion

Interpreting and translation studies are inevitable “bed – fellows”. The principles and concepts in translation theory are applied in the interpreting studies. The issue of equivalence, adequacy in translation omission and substitution are all characteristic features of both translation and interpreting studies. The source language text in interpreting and translation must be equivalent to the target language (TL) or the receptors language. With regards to the International Cocoa Conference (ICCO) in Abidjan, interpreters were active bilingual with strong bilingual competence as required by simultaneous interpreting. All the eight translators were professional translators; there were no “amateur”. They were all bilinguals thoroughly fluent in their various areas, fluent in the source language and the interpreted language, seven^{8th} person belonged to a language group closer to Russian. There are still some of the languages to be considered dormant interpretation, French speaking and English-speaking countries considered French and English as their dominant languages, native Ukraine’s or Russians considered Russian as their dominant languages. (Barik 1969, 1973).

The document was a special document that required a real professional approach. The speed and the tempo of the interpreting process depended on the bilingual competence of the interpreter. Knowledge of the translated documents on the conference was unequal for the process. It made the process easier once the interpreters had a fore knowledge of the document. Lexical choices made by the interpreters were independent of the main document; however, there were certain lexical items that could not be substituted. Interpreted texts were still identical to the conference earlier received.

The discussion indicated that there is always a link between lexical items of the previous conference under discussion. Certain words or phrases will. Words like cocoa price, cocoa beans, farmers, session, producing countries, exporting countries, tonnes and many other words.

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