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REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES ON THE WORK OF ITS FIFTEENTH SESSION

(held at the United Nations Office at Geneva,
11 to 19 November 1991)

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. In pursuance of Economic and Social Council decision 1988/116 of 25 May 1988, the Secretary-General invited the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names to convene its fifteenth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 11 to 19 November 1991.

ATTENDANCE

2. The session was attended by 79 participants from 39 countries, representing 18 of the 19 geographical/linguistic divisions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. In addition, two observers from two intergovernmental and international scientific organizations were represented. The list of participants is reproduced in annex I below.

3. The Chief of the Infrastructure Branch, Natural Resources and Energy Division of the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat, served as Secretary of the Group.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

4. The session was opened by the Secretary, Mr. Kadri El-Araby, who announced that the Chairman, Mr. Henri Dorion (Canada), had resigned, effective 28 October 1991, for health reasons. The Secretary proceeded to read Mr. Dorion's letter of resignation. He then announced that the Vice-Chairman, Mr. A. Tazi (Morocco), was unable to attend because of other duties. Similarly, Mr. P. J. Woodman (United Kingdom), the Rapporteur, was unable to attend the session. The Secretary, in accordance with rule 7 (Replacement), of the rules of procedure for the Group of Experts on Geographical Names, announced that there would be an election for a Chairman. After determining that a quorum was present, it was further announced that each Division would have one vote and that the Head of the Division must cast the vote. Mr. P. E. Raper (South Africa) was elected Chairman of the fifteenth and sixteenth sessions. Ms. Helen Kerfoot (Canada) was elected Vice-Chairman and Mr. R. L. Payne (United States of America) was elected for the office of Rapporteur. The session was formally opened by the Chairman.

AGENDA

5. The preliminary agenda was adopted as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Report of the Chairman.

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4. Report of the Secretary.
5. Reports of the Division.
6. Reports of the liaison officers.
7. Regional meetings.
8. Report of the Working Group on Evaluation:
 - (a) Factual assessment of the implementation of the resolutions of the five United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names;
 - (b) Action plan;
 - (c) Communication plan;
 - (d) Coordination with international organizations.
9. Report of the Working Group on Courses in Applied Toponymy.
10. Report of the Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers.
11. Concise national gazetteers.
12. Toponymic guidelines.
13. Report of the Working Group on Terminology.
14. Report of the Working Group on Romanization Systems.
15. Country names.
16. Standardization in multilingual areas.
17. Exonyms.
18. Sixth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
19. Sixteenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
20. Other matters.
21. Adoption of the report.

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REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

6. A statement of resignation for personal reasons, dated 29 October 1991, from the former Chairman, Mr. Dorion, was read:

"In the name of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, I would like to thank the toponymic authorities of the different countries who have contributed to this Bulletin. I do so for the very last time as I must, regretfully, for health reasons, resign as president of the Group of Experts as well as from many other parallel functions.

To my successor and to the Group of Experts as a whole I offer my best wishes in this undertaking - the importance of which is necessary for governmental authorities to understand if we want the international standardization of toponomy to reflect international comprehension and cooperation. This standardization, necessary for economical and technical reasons as well as for social and cultural ones, must lean on concrete actions at the national standardization level.

Broadcasting the accomplishments of different countries in this field is a useful means of exchanging experiences as well as being a stimulating inspiration for countries only starting in this area. In other words, this Bulletin is an efficient means of cooperation and constitutes as well, to a certain extent, a reference point for measuring the implementation of the resolutions and findings of the conferences and meetings of the Group of Experts. It has thus enlightened the outcome reached by the ad hoc Committee on Evaluation. These are good reasons to hope that more and more collaborators will benefit from the platform which this Bulletin offers."

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

7. The Secretary informed the Group that in Volume XXI of World Cartography presented, in chapter II, "A Manual for the Organization and Functions of a National Geographic Names Standardization Programme". 1/ He further announced that since the fourteenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, six issues of the Group's Newsletter, Nos. 2 to 7, had been published.

8. The Secretary reported that the Twelfth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific had taken place at Bangkok, from 20 to 28 February 1991. Two resolutions were adopted (see working paper No. 33). They were subsequently published in Newsletter, No. 6 (March 1991).

9. It was announced that the Sixth Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names would be held from 25 August to 3 September 1992, at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

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REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONS

Norden Division

10. Ms. Närhi reported, in working paper No. 14, that national standardization had been advanced according to the principles of the United Nations in each of the countries of the Division. Field collection had proceeded in Finland and Norway. Accordingly, training courses to assure proper field techniques were conducted at the University of Helsinki and at the Norwegian universities. On 20 February 1990, Norway had passed a law, which came into effect 1 July 1991, regarding the standardization and treatment of place-names. Mr. Helleland presented working paper No. 30, dealing with the matter.

11. Each of the countries of the Norden Division was in various stages of publishing gazetteers and populating toponymic data files. Specifically, Norway, Finland and Sweden had put considerable effort into current use of Sami names. Norway was also preparing a list of foreign geographical names, exonyms and endonyms to be used in Norway. It was further reported that in August 1990 the International Congress of Onomastic Sciences had been held in Finland, at the University of Helsinki. Participants from 31 countries had attended the Congress, where many papers dealt with topics relevant to the activities of the Group of Experts. Norway had hosted its Sixth National Conference on Names Research, as well as the Nordic Conference on Lexicography.

Romano-Hellenic Division

12. Ms. Lejeune reported that the Division had met in Paris in October 1990. Specific topics covered exonyms, concise gazetteers and automated data files. A document would be produced indicating exonyms used in Europe, a draft of which was contained in working paper No. 15. Numerical codes for countries had been adopted for the project according to the standards set forth by the International Standards Organization (ISO). The Division stressed the importance of establishing concise dictionaries. It was reported that France was preparing such a dictionary, which included about 4,000 entries on settlements with more than 10,000 inhabitants, as well as on geographical and historical areas. A similar compilation was under way in Quebec, Canada, which would include about 6,000 entries along with linguistic information. Quebec had an automated names database with over 500,000 entries, and France was compiling a database from maps at scale 1:25,000. France's database was expected to contain approximately 1.75 million entries.

Central, East and South-East Europe Division

13. Mr. Hornansky reported that the tenth meeting of the Division had been held in June 1990 and was attended by representatives from Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland. A written report was sent by the expert from Bulgaria, but there was no contact with representatives from either Albania or

Yugoslavia. A glossary of technical terms was examined, and toponymic guidelines as well as the use of exonyms were discussed. Considerable attention was devoted to romanization, and it was agreed that transliteration of place-names into the roman alphabet was most important. Most member countries acted upon items from the agenda of the Division's ninth meeting, but economic and political considerations had prevented full implementation of those items.

Asia South-West Division

14. Mr. Ganji reported that the Division had experienced some difficulty in convening a regional meeting. There had been much activity regarding national standardization. Academics were involved in the process and a great deal of effort had been expended in field collection. Some 4,000 names were processed during the past two years, and 41,000 of 60,000 existing name records were entered into an automated database. Most effort had been concentrated in the western region of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and work had been done on the various parts of that country's national gazetteer. Several general and specific atlases were published. The fourth regional meeting of the Asia South-West Division was held at Tehran in January 1991. Delegates from Afghanistan and Pakistan were present as well as observers from the Persian-speaking Tadzhik Soviet Republic (now Tajikistan) who participated for the first time.

United States/Canada Division

15. Ms. Kerfoot reported that both the United States of America and Canada had very active names programmes, and worked closely with authorities in their respective states and provinces (working paper No. 42). In addition, there was activity and cooperation regarding transboundary names. Items of specific interest to the Group of Experts included an automated printed collection of resolutions of the five United Nations Conferences on Geographical Names; evaluation and categorization of those resolutions; automated and conventional versions of national names authorities; study of the level of application of United Nations recommendations in atlases; and collection of certain documents to provide a "training kit" for toponymic courses.

Dutch and German-speaking Division

16. Mr. Ormeling reported that the Netherlands had not yet been able to organize a national names authority but was working towards this goal (working paper No. 44). A gazetteer had been produced based upon maps at scale 1:25,000. A list of exonyms in a standard orthography was being produced, and a list of country names was being reviewed before adoption. Minority names in Friesland were gaining importance, and names used on new map editions would reflect that movement. Mr. Ormeling added that there had been much activity over the past two years embracing both political and historical matters.

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17. The activities of the former German Democratic Republic had been integrated into one programme for Germany. Referring to working paper No. 45, specific accomplishments included a Gazetteer of America (1990), general guidelines for the orthography of geographical names, and preparation of new maps covering all of Germany. There had been cooperation with both Austria and Switzerland regarding German exonyms.

18. Referring to working paper No. 5, Mr. Raper elaborated on efforts towards the implementation of United Nations resolutions in South Africa. Those efforts included papers presented at two southern African Congresses. A list of official South African place-names was published, as well as a Dictionary of Southern African Place-Names with 5,000 entries. Work had been resumed on the concise gazetteer of South Africa. Mr. Raper announced that the orthographic rules for Zulu and for fused and separate names in Afrikaans had been revised, necessitating a third edition of the "Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors". A list of Afrikaans exonyms with English and national language equivalents was in preparation.

19. Mr. Jordan, referring to working paper No. 52, announced that two data files containing names of populated places and streets were available for Austria; and two additional files representing official Austrian names on maps, and names in East and South Central Europe, would be available soon. In addition, there was a new Austrian version of toponymic guidelines for country names. Slovenian names from Carinthia will now be represented in the official gazetteer for Austria in addition to the German form. An atlas had been completed with an index of exonyms and other names. The atlas of the Danubian countries had been completed with a separate names index of endonyms and exonyms.

China Division

20. Mr. Wang reported that names were a complex issue in China (working paper No. 18). Management of names had been simplified, and standardization advanced, by establishing regulations dealing with the legal system and administrative management. Recently, provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities under direct control of the central Government had adopted regulations regarding the management of names. Similarly, the National China Committee on Geographical Names was revising its procedures in order to enhance name standardization. In June 1991, a conference was held on names management and experiences exchanged. One result was the formulation of the technical criteria for management of names in China. It was further reported that it was desirable for each country to have an automated names system that could be integrated into a provincial system and ultimately into a national system, creating hierarchical automated names processing. Since 1989, five meetings on standardization had been held, with two sessions devoted to training. The first class concentrating on toponymy had graduated from Nanjing University and graduates had been assigned duties. In addition, gazetteer volumes were made available for the various provinces, and the Chinese magazine on toponymy was circulated.

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Celtic Division

21. Mr. O'Maolfabhlai stated that France was now a member of the Celtic Division and that one meeting had taken place between France and Ireland. Standardization of the genetic language forms of the names was progressing at national and at local levels. Standardization of the English language forms needed to be addressed, particularly at the national level. Close cooperation continued, both in the official mapping and in official geographical names research, between Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Latin America Division

22. Ms. Ortiz reported that the legal framework for names standardization in Venezuela had been accomplished, and would result in the establishment of a National Commission before the end of 1991. Names work fell into the categories of ongoing, specialized and pilot projects. A gazetteer would be published in 1992, based upon maps at scale 1:100,000, with about 61,000 entries. A gazetteer based on 1:250,000-scale maps would also be published. Toponymic dictionaries were being compiled and published for each Venezuelan state and included information on bibliography. It was also reported that work was continuing in the development of a standardization methodology.

Africa East Division

23. Mr. Pililao reported that there had been a great deal of toponymic activity in Mozambique carried out by the National Geographic and Surveying Office. The Geographical Dictionary of Mozambique, which had been published before the country became independent, was being brought up to date as the number of names changes of towns, villages and administrative divisions since 1986 was considerable. In 1986, the process of updating each geographical district began, and administrative classification was accomplished. Mr. Pililao also reported that he had conducted personal research that had resulted in a book on geographical names.

East Mediterranean Division

24. Mr. Kadmon reported that work on standardization was continuing in the Division, and that there had been no change in the conversion system for Hebrew names. Mr. Kadmon's names work had been carried on at the Hebrew University and was related to the concerns of the Working Group on Terminology.

Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division

25. Mr. Goodchild presented a divisional report from the Twelfth United Nations Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, held at Bangkok. He reported that the Division had held its fifth meeting in August 1990 in Perth,

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Western Australia, where the topics of discussion had included maps of the Division, regional gazetteers, a regional atlas and training courses. He then reported on the United Nations training course held in Indonesia from 16 to 18 October 1989. It was also noted that New Zealand had been admitted to the Division and that the sixth meeting would be held in Wellington, New Zealand. There was a National Committee in Australia made up of representatives from the states and territories, and although at present it had no legal basis, guidelines were being prepared by the various committees. Australia would soon make available a gazetteer in digital form, and work was continuing on the collection and processing of indigenous names. It was also reported that Thailand was studying the concept of creating a national names authority. Compilation had been completed towards publishing a gazetteer based upon the 1:50,000-scale map series in an automated database and a list of country names was being compiled. It was noted that compilation should not be completed dependent upon cartographic application. The divisional report was contained in working paper No. 70, prepared by Malaysia on behalf of New Zealand, the new divisional chairman.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division

26. Mr. Postnov reported that there have been and would likely continue to be numerous and major changes in toponymy because of far-reaching developments in the Soviet Union. To this end, a new map of the Soviet Union was being prepared. It was suggested that the name changes be reported in the Newsletter, and the Division agreed to keep the Secretariat informed to the extent possible in this regard. It was further noted that it would be useful for such a list to be expanded. Mr. Maimeskul commented on his country's perception of the importance of the work of the Group of Experts. Work in Ukraine had continued on standardization of geographical names in accordance with the principles set forth by the United Nations. It was specifically noted that on 24 August 1991 the country had adopted the name "Ukraine".

REPORTS OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS

International Hydrographic Bureau

27. Mr. Payne reported that Mr. Randall, as the liaison officer, had participated in the ninth session of the Subcommittee on Geographical Names and Nomenclature on Ocean Bottoms (SGN), which took place at Leningrad, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, from 5 to 7 June 1991. The meeting was part of a larger meeting of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO). It was noted that some organizations had authorized the use of certain names for undersea features, although nations should approve names through their national bodies and in collaboration with the Group's liaison officer. It was further reported that there was uncertainty as to which body had the authority for approving names of undersea features. Mr. Pallikaris stated that, according to the decisions of IHO and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), which was co-sponsor of the international project, General

Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO), the standardization of undersea feature names was performed by countries for their territorial waters and by IHO for international waters. He further stated that SGN was functioning under the Joint IHO/IOC editorial board for GEBCO.

International Cartographic Association

28. Mr. Ormeling reported that cartographers were probably the largest single professional group of users of geographical names. At the 15th Conference of the International Cartographic Association, held at Bournemouth, United Kingdom, in August 1991, five papers were presented: "Over 25 years of UNGEGN" (Mr. Lewis); "Toponymic education at university level for cartographers" (Mr. Kadmon); "The solution of toponomical problems on a regional basis: the functioning of language area groups with UNGEGN" (Mr. Bohme); "Increased attention to aboriginal names" and "Guidelines for map and other editors" (Mr. Ormeling). It was further announced that the third volume of Basic Cartography would include a chapter on toponomy.

The Pan-American Institute of Geography and History

29. Mr. Payne reported, on behalf of Mr. Randall, that the third course on geographical names had been held in Santiago, Chile, from 26 November to 7 December 1990. It was attended by 13 representatives from Chile, and one each from Bolivia, Paraguay and Venezuela. The course was highly successful, concentrating on the nature of geographical names, the importance and function of a national name authority, field techniques and collection, office processing, automated processing in a workshop environment and gazetteer and report preparation. It was further reported that the fourth course was scheduled for 25 November through 6 December 1991 in Aguascalientes, Mexico.

REGIONAL MEETING

30. The Chairman announced that since this topic had been covered in divisional reports no additional papers were required.

WORKING GROUP ON EVALUATION

31. Mr. Kofos presented working paper No. 55, "Report of the Working Group on Evaluation", on behalf of Mr. Randall and summarized its findings and recommendations.

32. Mr. Ormeling posed two questions: What did the Group of Experts hope to achieve by contact with other professional groups? and What approach should be taken, e.g. presentation of papers and sending of materials? An inventory of relevant technical and professional groups was presented, and it was noted that contact had been made with the International Cartographic Association

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(ICA); the International Geographical Union (IGU); the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS); the International Committee of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS); and the International Union of Surveying and Mapping. It was recommended that a booklet or pamphlet about the work of the Group should be made available. Mr. Ormeling indicated that any useful material to assist in the preparation of that booklet would be welcome.

WORKING GROUP ON TERMINOLOGY

33. Mr. Kadmon reported that a large volume of material had been forwarded by Canada, Czechoslovakia, the United States and the Dutch and German-speaking Division. A considerable amount of sorting, analysing and editing had been required and lengthy definitions had been made more concise. It had been agreed that, at this stage, only the English text would be prepared. Cross-referencing, precision, brevity, examples and other languages and scripts were all addressed. There was some discussion of treatment of synonyms, as well as translation, transcription, transliteration and exonymization.

34. A need had been stated for the list to be kept open for future additions and possible alterations. Where and how the list would be maintained and what would be the official procedure and mechanism for approval and authorization for additions and alterations had yet to be decided.

35. It was planned that the English version of the revised glossary would be submitted to the Sixth Conference, after which, the multilingual version would be prepared. Further contributions were possible, but only for a short time.

36. The Working Group had convened during the session. It was agreed that the scope of the glossary was satisfactory and that certain terms peripheral to toponymy should be included. The list should be updated on an ongoing basis. Appropriate refinement to definitions were to be submitted to Mr. Kadmon by 31 January 1992.

WORKING GROUP ON COURSES IN APPLIED TOPOONYMY

37. Mr. Dorion, the convenor of the Working Group, had retired and Mr. Ormeling was elected to that office. The new convenor announced that discussions were under way to organize a training course with the participation of the Government of the Netherlands and the United Nations.

38. Ms. Kerfoot (working paper No. 56) reported that Canada was developing a training kit suitable for use in the United Nations training courses, which would include papers describing national names programmes and assisting in establishing them. A list of these papers was submitted; they would be available in book form.

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39. Mr. Du indicated an overall need for training at staff level and requested that information on training in other countries be made available to the members of the Group. At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Ormeling agreed to provide a clearing-house for such material.

40. Mr. Pililao indicated that his country had developed a names standardization programme and needed training and resources.

WORKING GROUP ON TOPOONYMIC DATA FILES AND GAZETTEERS

41. Mr. Haack reported (working paper No. 47) that maps of landscape and borderlines existed for the Federal Republic of Germany and the former German Democratic Republic at scales 1:1,000,000 and 1:800,000 respectively. Work had begun to produce a combined map at scale 1:1,000,000. For regional names along the borderlines cooperative efforts with neighbouring countries were intended. With reference to working paper No. 50, it was reported that the unification of Germany had generated a great deal of names activity, especially with regard to name changes in the five new Länder which would have to be accomplished gradually. This effort would eventually include names of streets. It was explained that in the communes people were given the opportunity of voting on name changes. A simple majority would be sufficient for implementation of a name change.

42. Mr. Seel reported that, in the interest of promoting standardization, Germany had published a concise gazetteer of America (working paper No. 48). Considerable discussion ensued concerning the sources used, policy on exonyms, small-scale features, aboriginal names, transliteration systems and the alleged lack of attention to the correct form of the name. It was pointed out that the gazetteer was designed specifically for German-speaking people.

43. In response to Mr. Majid's inquiry, Mr. Kadmon replied that there were virtually no existing guidelines for data exchange, even though a resolution existed to promote digital toponymic data exchange. Mr. Payne offered to send the Secretariat a copy of the preliminary report of the Format and Attribution Committee of the Place Names Survey of the United States which would be presented in December 1991.

44. Mr. Payne reported on the status of the data compilation programme for names in the United States (working paper No. 58). He explained that it was a 25-year programme that had begun in 1976 and was scheduled for completion by approximately 2002. The first phase included names from the large-scale (1:24,000) topographic maps published by the United States Geological Survey. Since only about 20 per cent of the known names appeared on those maps, a second compilation phase was required. In an effort to be as complete as possible, approximately three years per state were allocated for data compilation, and all other known sources were researched, including federal, state and local materials, as well as historical documents. Upon completion of the second phase of compilation, virtually all names of features, except roads and highways, would be available from the Geographic Names Information

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System (GNIS), the automated national names depository of the United States. He further indicated that compilation was accomplished by contract on a state-by-state basis, and by simultaneous state contracts. Interactive access was available only to federal agencies, but might be made available to state agencies and other users in the future.

45. Mr. Payne introduced an information sheet (working paper No. 59) describing the basic structure and content of the automated names system of the United States. He noted that information was needed by a wide variety of users, including those engaged in emergency preparedness, local and regional planning, environmental analysis and transportation routing. He described the product availability and price list of GNIS and indicated that the data would soon be available on compact disc/read only memory (CD-ROM).

46. Referring to working papers Nos. 3 and 7, Mr. Jordan reported that Austria had implemented two toponymic data files and would implement another two. The data file of the official Gazetteer of Austria was completely revised every 10 years. The file GEONAM of the federal Office of Metrology and Geodesy would contain all names of the official map 1:50,000. The file at the Austrian Institute of East and South-East European Studies included Slavic, Hungarian, Romanian and Albanian areas as well as exonyms in English, French, Russian and German. Among other data, were the number of inhabitants and former names of settlements. Various experts commented on the inclusion or exclusion of attribute information on elevation and population in toponymic data files. Mr. Helleland asked if the content might include so much text that it would be more of a names dictionary than a gazetteer, but Mr. Jordan indicated that most of the text was bibliographical information, i.e., sources from which the historical data were derived.

47. In reply to an inquiry by Mr. Majid, it was stated that the Austrian file (GEONAM) was suitable for use in automated mapping.

48. Ms. Mattisson reported that the countries of the Norden Division were compiling a joint database of names, based on scale 1:2,000,000 and that Sweden had been elected to edit the data on behalf of all the Norden countries.

49. Mr. Bacchus reported that France had established a names database based upon maps at scale 1:25,000. He further noted that the database was 65 per cent populated, and that files were available only on disk according to the base map series.

50. Mr. Pallikaris reported that a names database had been developed and implemented in Greece, based on maps at scale 1:50,000. He further reported that the data were being formatted for transfer to a geographic information system (GIS) for thematic application and would be converted into the roman alphabet in accordance with the ELOT 743 transliterated system.

51. Mr. Mayrand reported that the province of Quebec, Canada, has had an operational names database for some time, and that it was available on disk. He added that there were numerous special projects where the data were available interactively to selected users.

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52. Ms. Kerfoot reported that Canada maintained a national toponymic database, which included information from those provinces that had already implemented their own databases, as well as complete records for provinces and territories without digital databases.

53. Mr. Goodchild reported that each state and territory in Australia had developed and implemented a names database, and that all would assist in establishing a national names database.

54. Mr. Raper (working paper No. 5) reminded the Group that South Africa had a national concise gazetteer in preparation produced by digital means.

55. Mr. Abdo (working paper No. 74) reported that numerous non-official gazetteers of Saudi Arabia were available of which one was automated. One of them was a voluminous dictionary of names, covering most of Saudi Arabia and including a wide variety of information. The gazetteer produced by automated means is based upon maps at scale 1:500,000.

56. In the absence of the convenor for the Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers, Ms. Kerfoot was elected interim convenor of this Group.

57. In the absence of Mr. Lewis, Ms. Kerfoot convened the Working Group during the session. The following points were raised:

(a) Using a questionnaire, the Group was to gather information on extant automated toponymic systems, as well as characteristics of hardware, software and data element requirements;

(b) The Group would also put together a package addressing the potential of preprogrammed toponymic databases;

(c) A recommendation would be put forward that toponymic training courses should include workshops for automated data processing.

58. Mr. Abdo presented working paper No. 68 in which he suggested that the Group of Experts consider advising authorities occupied with the standardization of geographical names to:

(a) Encourage serious research on geographical names by qualified scholars;

(b) Apply the findings of research to the education and training of personnel involved in field collection of geographical names, as well as to the office treatment of names, their writing and standardization;

(c) Use such research to promote public awareness and scholarly interest in the standardization of geographical names.

59. Mr. Al-Robaishy indicated that much effort in Saudi Arabia was directed to names research by private organizations and by the academic community.

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This research was always consulted for cartographic application on official maps serving as a vehicle for standardization.

60. Mr. Spiess presented working paper No. 76, on behalf of the Dutch and German-speaking Division. The current situation was reviewed. It was concluded that exonyms that were in daily use were difficult to eliminate. He summarized possible categories of exonyms.

WORKING GROUP ON ROMANIZATION SYSTEMS

61. Mr. Payne introduced a paper prepared by Mr. Quinting (working paper No. 63) addressing questions about romanization with regard to Greek, Korean, Russian and Thai. The basic questions included:

- (a) To what extent had the ELOT 743 system been applied to the Greek 1:50,000 scale maps and other official publications?
- (b) To what extent was the katharevousa form used as opposed to dimotiki in other than official publications?
- (c) What was the status of establishing one unified romanization system for both Koreas?
- (d) What was the status of the new edition of the Russian world atlas, since the GOST 83 would be used in that publication?
- (e) What was the status of the revised Thai system of transliteration?

62. Mr. Pallikaris stated that the Hellenic Hydrographic Service had applied the ELOT 743 system in all of its products for the past seven years. Further, ELOT 743 had been adopted for commercial use. The Hellenic Geographic Service had been using the ELOT 743 system since 1987, and was currently revising older maps using this system.

63. Mr. Kotsonis indicated that the ELOT 743 system of romanization was under full implementation in Cyprus, and was being used internally and for all government products, including all new and revised maps and charts such as administrative maps, street-names maps, civil aviation and hydrographic charts, thematic maps and the like. Also, the system was being introduced to cover postal services, statistics, communications, police, elections and other offices. The implementation of ELOT 743 included the concise and complete gazetteers of Cyprus. Several new projects were under development, including the collecting and converting of street names and present and ancient exonyms, and compilation of an index of antiquities and ancient monuments.

64. There was lengthy discussion regarding the extent of conversion using the Greek ELOT 743 system. Mr. Kofos stated that since the donor countries had shown that they were applying ELOT 743 as rapidly as possible, the recipient countries should also apply this internationally accepted system. Some

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experts present confirmed that their countries were in some state of implementing ELOT 743. Mr. Toniolo explained certain difficulties encountered in its use. Mr. Pallikaris commented that the internal determination of names did not affect transliteration and added that software conversion packages existed that accomplished the conversion automatically. The new Greek gazetteer would utilize ELOT 743 which would further aid users. He indicated that when a country used another country's maps and charts and reprinted them, with changes to the forms of the name, problems arose when Greek names were reinterpreted. The Greek Government cartographic agencies would be prepared to provide transliterated names to cartographers. Mr. Toniolo expressed his satisfaction with that offer, adding that a complete list would be needed.

65. Mr. Hornansky indicated that Poland and Hungary had not yet completed their romanization programmes. The conversion was being implemented gradually, especially with non-official products such as tourist maps and similar publications. He indicated that some problems had been encountered with the transliteration of Arabic.

66. Mr. Postnov expressed his country's gratitude at the acceptance and use of the GOST 83 romanization system. Any comments or criticisms should be communicated to the State Committee on Geodesy and Cartography. Comments received thus far indicated support for GOST 83, and continued support would be appreciated.

67. Mr. Kadmon posed a related question, namely, what official name was to be used by the United Nations? Specifically, it must be selected, then romanized. If the United Nations adopted an endonym, then it must use the official system to transliterate it. That, it would seem, would stimulate other countries to develop romanization systems and ask that they be officially adopted.

68. Mr. Al-Robaishy indicated that Gulf Arab States were using the modified Beirut system stipulated in the document ESA/RT/C/GN/12 for the transliteration of Arabic into roman characters. For Saudi Arabia it would be most difficult to use another system, since 90 to 95 per cent of the country was mapped using the Beirut system as the only official one.

69. Mr. Shin reported that in 1989, at the fourteenth session of the Group of Experts, both South Korea and North Korea had agreed that a uniform romanization system would be of benefit to all concerned. Both parties had further collaborated and, in May 1991, had developed a unified system for some characters. They agreed to meet again in Beijing in March 1992 for further consultations on the remaining characters.

70. Mr. Prasong reported that the Transliteration Committee in Thailand had decided upon two systems of romanization. The first involved transcription from Thai into roman according to pronunciation; that system was still being evaluated by users. The new, or second, system was transliteration, which converted the Thai writing system into the roman alphabet and permitted only transmission by automation for data exchange. The details of the new system

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could be found in working paper No. 41. Mr. Kadmon inquired as to whether there would be a simplified system without all of the diacritics, and adapted for computer use? He also asked whether there could be a pronunciation guide, and how similar symbols would be handled. The system had many character combinations, diacritics and special marks as a result of many different sounds in Thai. The new system was submitted to the International Standards Organization (ISO) in May 1991. It was hoped that it could be proposed for adoption in time for the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Geographical Names.

71. Mr. Seel reported (working paper No. 49) that the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names serving Austria, Germany and Switzerland had published a list of names of countries that required updating. Mr. Kadmon inquired as to the principle of endonym usage and assignment of exonyms. The response indicated that the spelling of country names and their derivatives, as well as of their capitals, was being used as indicated in the publications of the German Translation Service of the United Nations and the ministries for foreign affairs of the German-speaking countries. Mr. Wang asked why both forms of Peking/Beijing were present, since the United Nations recommends only one form - Beijing. Mr. Seel indicated that both were needed because the old form is still widely used and it would take time to change. Following the query by Mr. Wang, considerable discussion on the use of exonyms ensued, including the order in which they appear within a listing entry.

72. Mr. Bacchus (working paper No. 17) recalled that the Working Group on a List of Country Names (1973-1986) had collected a list of the official local names for 171 countries which contained both short and long forms, with romanization in accordance with local rules. The names were presented in the six official languages of the United Nations. The principles for establishing the list had been presented in 1982 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, but the 1986 document had not yet been published in complete form. United Nations terminology bulletin No. 342 gave the English, French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic forms of each country name. Endonyms, in romanized form only, were included in a list of names of countries and capitals, published by the French Institut géographique national. France had adopted, and had adhered to, the ISO 3166 document expressing a numeric code and two- and three-character codes for countries. Some obsolete French forms remained in a terminology decree promulgated by a Terminology Commission functioning under the foreign ministry, which gives the sole official list of country names for use in France. A version of that text was now being prepared. Evidently traditional and historical names were to continue in use; new terms were slow to be incorporated into common usage.

73. Mr. Payne commented that, generally, name changes were assimilated more slowly than names of newly created States or those of countries with large morphological changes.

74. Ms. Stanciu reported that the list was official for Romanian usage and had been prepared by the military topographic department.

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75. Mr. Hornansky indicated that the Czechoslovakian list had been prepared in 1982 and revised in 1988, and commented that Poland's 1991 list was for internal use only. He further commented that all countries of his Division used only the new form of Chinese names.

76. Ms. Kerfoot (working paper No. 64) commented that the Canadian names authority maintained a good working relationship with the Department of External Affairs. They had cooperated to identify differences between country names listed in the terminology bulletin No. 342 and Canada's usage for English and French language maps and publications. Some differences might exist through lack of understanding of the rationale of selection of the six language forms in the United Nations document. The Secretariat was requested to circulate the United Nations list of countries to all experts.

CONCISE NATIONAL GAZETTEERS

77. Mr. Haack reported (working paper No. 51) that in 1981 the Gazetteer: Federal Republic of Germany had been issued. German unification in 1990 had prompted work towards a supplementary volume for the five new Länder and the eastern part of Berlin. Work was begun on the new volume in April 1991.

78. Ms. Kerfoot (working paper No. 62) reported Canada's intention to publish a concise national gazetteer. She elaborated on the analysis of potential problem areas and factors determining the data to be included in such a volume. Ms. Kerfoot further elaborated on the criteria for selection of names, including systematic, quantitative, relative and cartographic approaches, as well as the various categories of names that should be included. She indicated that there had been discussion as to which data elements should be included. There would also be deliberation regarding the content of the introductory material. Mr. Haack expressed the need to include short forms of names for cartographic application. Replying to a query by Mr. Abdo, Ms. Kerfoot indicated that a glossary would be included defining entities of feature classes. Mr. Du inquired about native names in the Canadian concise gazetteer. Ms. Kerfoot indicated that native names that were approved would appear in the gazetteer and native generics would be appropriately explained in the glossary.

79. Ms. Lejeune (working paper No. 16) reported that France was preparing a concise gazetteer based on maps at scale 1:1,000,000, and research and compilation efforts were utilizing previous gazetteers and other source materials as well as maps. There was controversy concerning the inclusion of current and historical names. Efforts were being made to clarify these problems. Upon completion of the initial compilation, the data would be encoded for automation. The gazetteer would contain cross-references, for example, for regional names.

80. Mr. Kondracki reported that the recently published Gazetteer of Poland was being distributed to the Group of Experts. The Gazetteer contained about 28,000 names and could be used in conjunction with maps at scale 1:500,000.

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even though a variety of source materials was used. There were about 22,800 administrative entries, including populated places, post offices and tourist areas. About 5,200 entries referred to physical features.

81. Mr. Payne announced that the United States had published a Concise Gazetteer in late 1990 that contained about 40,000 entries, of which about 25,000 were populated places and about 8,000 were physical features. The remainder constituted parks and administrative and other features.

82. Mr. Haack pointed out that the introduction to the Polish Gazetteer did not completely reflect all of the appropriate guidelines. There was no response.

83. Mr. Ganji indicated that the Islamic Republic of Iran published two types of gazetteers: (a) a dictionary of inhabited places, based on a map scale of 1:250,000; and (b) a gazetteer with standard locative information.

TOPOONYMIC GUIDELINES

84. Mr. Raper reported that the third edition of "Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors" was recently prepared in South Africa. The orthographic rules had been revised for both Afrikaans and Zulu. Mr. O'Maolfabhalli inquired as to the use of capital letters, especially within a name. It was explained that that was generally applicable to the Nguni languages: specifically, the root must be written with a capital according to the old rule, but not with the new rule. Mr. Kadmon asked why the peculiar click sounds were not included. The response was that they had fallen into disuse because no Khoekhoe languages were spoken in South Africa. Ms. Kerfoot inquired as to the alphabetization of elements where click signs were present, and whether there was any policy regarding abbreviations such as "St." for "Saint". The reply was that normally the sorting ignores the special signs, and that there was no specific rule for abbreviations.

85. Ms. Kerfoot (working paper No. 39) reported that native names were of special interest in Canada. Guidelines had been developed by Professor Miller-Wille of McGill University for a structured approach to the collecting and treatment of native names. That methodology had been adapted by the Canadian Permanent Committee for Geographical Names to produce a practical field manual for technical use. Ms. Kerfoot explained that, although at present native geographical names had not been approved with diacritical marks (other than those found in the French language), that could well change in the future. In addition, systems of syllabics were used by some Innuitt and Cree populations, and postal facility signs in those communities showed names in syllabics as well as roman characters. Future conditions, particularly with regard to native names, would lead to a revision of the Canadian toponymic guidelines. New guidelines on the treatment of English language names in French language federal texts would be included. Mr. Payne stated that the United States Board on Geographic Names had published a pamphlet addressing guidelines for the use of native American

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names. He added that the formal principles, policies and procedures of the Board's Domestic Names Committee, were being reviewed for update.

86. Mr. Mayrand indicated that in Quebec there were about 1,600 official Innuit names, to which the Canadian toponymic guidelines had been applied. He further commented that while some groups were sceptical of names for some features and sometimes of the script and orthography used, no one had ever asked for a name to be removed from a map.

87. Ms. Närhi stated that in Finland minority names were most important and a structural approach was most useful. Both Finnish and Swedish names were used and, where applicable, Sami names considered. Both Finnish and Swedish names were used on maps and on road signs in bilingual areas of the country, while Sami and Finnish names were on maps and road signs in Lapland.

88. Mr. Goodchild indicated that Australia was currently formalizing guidelines that would soon be presented to the national committee for analysis and synthesis.

89. Mr. Hornansky reported that work was progressing in the East Central and South-East Europe Division, but adherence to each of the adopted toponymic guidelines had not been completely achieved. Ms. Kerfoot inquired as to the method of distinguishing between toponyms and other script. The response was that there were no such rules in the countries of the Division. Mr. Abdo asked if the guidelines distributed were official, and was informed that some guidelines were not official. In the Netherlands, there was no official names standardization body. Ms. Lejeune commented that, while France had submitted guidelines, there was no national authority in France. Mr. Jordan indicated that while not official by legal instrument, the Austrian names authority was an advisory body whose findings were usually implemented. Mr. Al-Robaishy indicated that the appearance of a name on an official government topographic map was the vehicle for standardization in Saudi Arabia, because the procedure of putting the name on the map established the name as official. Mr. Raper added that in South Africa the names body was of an advisory nature. Mr. Payne suggested that a list be prepared showing which countries had official names organizations, legally empowered to standardize domestic names, and which had advisory organizations.

90. The coordinator for toponymic guidelines, Mr. Breu, has expressed in a letter to Mr. Dorion the wish to stand back in favour of the younger generation; Mr. Raper was elected the new Coordinator.

STANDARDIZATION IN MULTILINGUAL AREAS

91. Referring to working paper No. 12, Mr. Jordan reported that based on an Austrian act of 1976 and on a decree of 1977, 91 settlements in southern Carinthia would officially bear the Slovenian name in addition to the German one. This was effective if the commune's population was at least 25 per cent Slovenian-speaking in 1976.

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92. Mr. Helleland stated that the Norwegian act of 1991 implemented names in multilingual areas and should be used in the official orthographic form of the language in question and be based on local pronunciation. The three forms of Sami (North, Lule and South) and Finnish were included in this ruling. Even Norwegian was divided into two forms and some Finnish names were prone to regional modification. Use of the local forms preserved local heritage. According to law publications even signs could have two, or possibly three names, in multilingual areas. Ms. Kerfoot inquired about the problems of cartographic modification. The response was that generally the oldest form was used, but parenthetical entries were possible.

93. Ms. Kerfoot (working paper No. 65) reported that Canada was attempting to develop principles for the application of native names. Specifically, a paper was presented outlining a recent pilot project in an area in the Northwest Territories of Canada where the Athapaskan language was spoken. Reference was made to sample maps where various methods of recording native names were presented; and those maps were sent with a questionnaire to various map users.

94. Several questions were posed about writing names and the language of generics. The initial results indicated that most respondents were interested in preserving native culture, but needed to be able to communicate in an unambiguous manner. Of the sample maps, no one map was clearly favoured as the best approach. However, pronunciation guides were suggested for inclusion on maps. More study was needed, and progress might be slow. In response to Mr. Abdo, Ms. Kerfoot indicated that most native names were descriptive, but that recording their meanings was not fundamental to that project.

95. Mr. Ganji indicated that the problem was complex and prevalent throughout the Americas. He suggested the formation of a working group for indigenous and multilingual names, Mr. Goodchild supported the suggestion, as it was a matter of great importance in Australia. Mr. Helleland commented that some forms should perhaps be treated as exonyms. He also suggested that perhaps the generic could be included in parentheses. Mr. Pililao commented that cartographic application brought about more and different problems. Applying two names could be overwhelmingly complex, requiring cartographic alternatives that were sometime unacceptable.

96. Mr. Payne reported that the issue of native American names was becoming exceedingly complex in the United States. There were many different groups, each with different approaches to recording and displaying their names. Except in the case of Cherokee, there was no alphabet or writing system, and special characters and diacritics must be employed. Also, not only were the technical issues problematic, but the uses of such names often created highly emotional issues. The United States Board on Geographic Names had published a pamphlet designed to assist anyone in recording and submitting native American names to the automated national names depository. The Board also encouraged the use of native American names whenever and wherever possible.

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97. Mr. Mayrand reported that Quebec, Canada, had established rules for the recording and cartographic application of native names and that the system was generally working.

98. Ms. Kerfoot commented that Canada was considering the development of videos for names programmes, including the collection of native names.

Ms. Närhi commented that Finland had made a video in Finnish and English giving instruction in the technique of collecting indigenous names, which was used primarily in universities for instructing students in the techniques of name gathering and field-work. Mr. Mayrand indicated that Quebec had used several videos for training purposes, and that it had proved successful.

99. Ms. Kerfoot presented a paper on behalf of Mr. Smart (working paper No. 72), reporting on the implementation of the French language service in Ontario, Canada, which would greatly affect the geographical names and mapping programme in that province. Although Ontario supported the principle of univocity, a list of suitable names must be prepared for use in provincial government French language publications. Names would be recognized for this purpose, but would not become official for cartographic use.

EXONYMS

100. Ms. Stanciu stated that Romanian cartographic studies indicated an increase in the use of exonyms, necessitating greater cooperation on cartographic data exchange. Several experts offered to provide lists of corrections and amendments.

101. Mr. Hornansky reported that the countries of the East Central and South-East Europe Division had been working towards the reduction of exonyms in pursuance of the United Nations resolutions.

102. Ms. Lejeune (working paper No. 35) announced that France had published a list of exonyms for Europe and the Soviet Union, in accordance with the principles of the Group of Experts. No historical exonyms were included. Part one covered populated places, and part two referenced the physical features. There was also a problem in achieving exonym reduction because of local pressure for retention, particularly in traditional cartography, education and various information media. However, in France the increasingly frequent use of local forms on tourist and highway maps was noted. Mr. Kofos raised the question of what constituted an exonym, and noted that the transliteration of a name did not really create an exonym. Mr. Kofos then put forward a proposal "identifying exonyms by new terminology", which would help to reduce the use and application of exonyms and solve the endonymic transliteration problem.

103. It was agreed that exonyms were not formed by the transliteration of endonyms. Various divisions and countries had met with different levels of success in the reduction of exonyms and it was felt that greater effort was

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required to implement the relevant resolutions in that regard. The question of inclusion of exonyms in domestic use for educational materials was also discussed.

SIXTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE STANDARDIZATION
OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

104. The Secretariat distributed documents E/CONF.85/INF.1 and E/CONF.85/I of 25 October 1991 on the Sixth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, which will be held from 25 August through 2 September 1992 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

105. The Secretariat was requested to prepare and distribute a logistics packet, including maps, accommodation suggestions etc. as soon as possible.

106. After some discussion and amendments, the provisional agenda of the Sixth Conference was approved, as amended, on the proposal of Mr. O'Maolfabhl and seconded by Mr. Spiess.

107. The Chairman read a letter presented by Mr. Ganji, on behalf of the Islamic Republic of Iran, offering to host the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in Tehran in 1997. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran was thanked for the invitation which will be brought before the Sixth Conference.

SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS
ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

108. The sixteenth session of the Group of Experts will be held on 24 August 1992, one day before, and 4 September, one day after the Sixth Conference in New York. The provisional agenda was approved as presented (annex III).

109. Report of the Working Group on Evaluation. The absence of Mr. Randall, the convenor, had prompted the selection of Ms. Kerfoot as temporary convenor for the Working Group. Ms. Kerfoot announced that the Working Group had met during the session and determined the following to be its present analysis and recommendations:

(a) The current aims and functions of the Group of Experts should be analysed and Mr. Randall's new version and the current version should be integrated. It was further recommended that the resulting new version be presented to the sixteenth session of the Group of Experts and to the Sixth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names;

(b) A structure based upon levels of extant names programmes and cartographic organizations had been proposed by Mr. Randall, in addition to the existing Divisional structure. Although this proposal was not found to be

satisfactory, support was given to a more concentrated focus on the primary objectives of names standardization and the development of a vision and strategy to guide future work;

(c) In the general discussion on elements in annex B of the Working Group's report, the following items were noted:

Item 1: It was agreed that more meeting time should be allocated to Working Group meetings during the time that interpretation facilities were available and that discussions should concentrate on practical or application-oriented matters. The effectiveness of meetings could be enhanced if the experts and the Secretariat made efforts to improve communications;

Item 6: Regarding the list of information on national names authorities, as presented in annex E, experts were requested to submit corrections and additions, including further information for columns on "comments" and "status" of national names authorities, to Mr. Randall by 1 April 1992;

Item 7: Coordination with other professional and technical organizations was stressed (see Mr. Ormeling's working paper No. 57). Ms. Närhi reported on initial coordination efforts with ICOS (International Committee of Onomastic Sciences) in August 1990. In response to Mr. Mayrand's proposal to have geographical names information published in The Courier of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Secretariat agreed to assist in contacting UNESCO for this purpose;

Item 9: Under the subject of publicity and production, the usefulness of the Newsletter was emphasized, and its wider distribution was recommended. Stress was laid on the personal responsibility of each member of the Group of Experts to promote the goals and activities of the United Nations in the standardization of geographical names. That could in part be accomplished through contacts with missions and foreign offices. It was further proposed that the Group publish information material on the importance of the standardization of geographical names. Key conference resolutions should also be published. A booklet with emphasis on resolutions regarding romanization and the associated conversion tables was definitely needed. Information sheets for public distribution would be a useful vehicle for promoting standardization. It was suggested that a new working group on information dissemination be formed. Mr. El-Araby added that a paper could be prepared for Natural Resources Forum, a widely distributed and very well respected publication, and he invited material to be submitted to the Secretariat.

110. There was further agreement that the Secretariat should maintain an automated database on working group membership, offices and activities. Members then addressed the information in annex D. Resolutions should be analysed as part of the Working Group's task and recommendations made to bring

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into focus the existing resolutions, particularly those that overlapped or contradicted each other.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STANDARDIZATION OF NAMES

111. Mr. Abdo presented working paper No. 74 in which he proposed that attention be given to recognizing non-official sources supporting standardization. Mr. Al-Robaishy indicated that much effort in Saudi Arabia was directed to names research by private organizations and by the academic community. This had resulted in cartographic application on official maps, which then served as a vehicle for standardization.
112. Ms. Ortiz indicated that the Latin American Division attached importance to name standardization. Considering the extent of the area, which demanded the integration of 21 countries, it was necessary to propose actions directed towards establishing working groups for the Division. At the same time, an effective exchange of information and documentation between the United Nations and other experts was required. Ms. Ortiz continued that the region shared common problems, including problems concerning automated data processing, official names authorities and assignment of names to unnamed features.
113. Mr. Jordan referred to working paper No. 13, noting the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Austrian names authority. The paper described the internal structure, methods of procedure, identification of membership and other matters concerning that authority.
114. Mr. Maimeshoul reported that the law on languages of Ukraine, adopted two years ago, contained a specific article that defined the language of use for toponyms on maps and related publications. That language was Ukrainian. It further stipulated that toponyms may also be applied in the languages of the majority population of areas within Ukraine. Toponyms of Ukraine are transliterated in transcription.
115. Recommendations for formulating proposals to be presented as resolutions at the Sixth Conference appear as annex IV to the present report.
116. Mr. Abdo suggested that one of the experts be asked to survey and compile previous working papers on field collection of place-names and their office treatment, for distribution to participants in the coming Sixth Conference.
117. The Chairman expressed a vote of thanks and gratitude to the Vice-Chairman, Ms. Kerfoot, and the Rapporteur, Mr. Payne. He continued with special thanks to the Secretary, Mr. El-Araby and the Deputy Secretary, Mr. Moskalenko, for their efforts. Thanks were also extended to Ms. Pastizzi-Ferencic, Director of the Natural Resources and Energy Division of the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development for her most encouraging and enlightening remarks. Special thanks were also extended to Mr. Jerald Shanon, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations Office at Geneva, for meeting the Group of Experts at an evening reception.

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Further thanks were extended to all the secretarial staff, the translators and other United Nations staff for making the session possible. The Vice-Chairman, together with all the experts, would like to express thanks to the Chairman, Mr. Raper, who was asked to chair the session without any prior notice, for his excellent service.

Notes

- 1/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.I.12.

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para representantes das delegações nacionais que devem comparecer
e/ou participar no encontro para elaboração da Carta Geográfica
de África, organizado pelo **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS** acima mencionado, devendo ser
notado que os países que não fazem parte da conferência não devem ser incluídos

Africa Central Division

(Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Zaire)

Absent

Africa East Division

(Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe)

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Chief of Toponymy
Geographical Division
Mozambique

Africa West Division

(Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo)

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Institut Géographique
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/...

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(Republic of Korea)

Counsellor
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea
Geneva

Mr. Jhong Weon SHIN
(Republic of Korea)

Second Secretary
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Third Secretary
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Celtic Division

(France, e/ Ireland)

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For France, see Romano-Hellenic Division

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Programme Officer
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Dutch and German-speaking Division

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Amt für Militärisches Gewesen
Euskirchen Chairman
Permanent Committee on Geographical
Names

Mr. Jörn SIEVERS
(Germany)

Institut für Angewandte Geodäsie

Mr. Erfried HAACK
(Germany)

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Mr. Michael FLUGGER
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Mr. F. J. ORMELING
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Mr. Peter E. RAPER
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Professor of Cartography
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Department of Interior
Zurich

Mr. Rudolph KNOPFLI
(Switzerland)

Vice-Director
Federal Office of Cartography
Military Department
Wabern

East Central and South-East Europe Division

(Bulgaria, Cyprus, b/ Czechoslovakia, Greece, i/ Hungary, Poland, Turkey, b/
Yugoslavia d/)

Mr. Imrich HORNANSKY
(Czechoslovakia)

President
Slovak Office of Geodesy and
Cartography
Bratislava

/...

Mr. Pavel BOHAC
(Czechoslovakia)

Czech Office for Geodesy and
Cartography
Prague

Mrs. Silvia SEITZOVA
(Czechoslovakia)

Institute of Geodesy and Cartography
Bratislava
Member
Commission for the Standardization of
Geographical Names

Mr. Jerzy KONDACKI
(Poland)

Chairman
Commission for the Standardization of
Geographical Names

For Cyprus and Turkey, see Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)

For Greece, see Romano-Hellenic Division

East Mediterranean Division (other than Arabic)

(Israel)

Mr. Naftali KADMON
(Israel)

Professor of Cartography
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Hebrew University

Mr. Raphael WALDEN
(Israel)

Minister-Counsellor
Deputy Permanent Representative of the
Permanent Mission of Israel
Geneva

India Division

(Bangladesh, India, Pakistan c/)

For Pakistan, see Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)

Latin America Division

(Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, j/ Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela)

Mrs. Isabel Cristina ORTIZ
(Venezuela)

Servicio Autónomo de Geografía y
Cartografía Nacional

Mr. Carlos PESTANA
(Venezuela)

Secretary
Permanent Mission
Geneva

/...

Ms. Andrea Guerra GARCIA
(Mexico)

First Secretary
Permanent Mission
Geneva

Norden Division

(Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden)

Ms. Eeva Maria NARHI
(Finland)

Head
Onomastic Division
Finnish Research Centre for Domestic
Languages

Ms. Leni J. RIKKONEN
(Finland)

Permanent Mission
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Mr. Botolv HELLELAND
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State Adviser on Geographical Names
Department of Name Research
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Ms. Ann CHRISTIN-MATTISSION
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Head
Toponymic Division
National Land Survey

Romano-Hellenic Division

(Belgium, f/ Canada, k/ Cyprus, b/ France, e/ Greece, i/ Holy See, Italy,
Luxembourg, Monaco, Portugal, Romania, Spain, j/ Switzerland, f/ Turkey b/)

Mr. M. BACCHUS
(France)

Ingénieur en chef géographe
Institut géographique national

Ms. Sylvie LEJEUNE
(France)

Sécrétaire
Commission de toponymie
Institut géographique national

Mr. Philippe DELACROIX
(France)

Premier Sécrétaire
Mission permanente de la France auprès
de l'Office des Nations Unies à
Genève

For Canada, see United States/Canada Division

For Cyprus, see Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)

4...

Mr. Allessandro TONILO
(Italy)

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Mr. Marian ROTARU
(Romania)

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Ms. Alexandrina STANCIU
(Romania)

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Mr. Evangelos KOFOS
(Greece)

Minister Counsellor
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Mr. Athanassios PALLIKARIS
(Greece)

Head, Cartography Division
Hellenic Hydrographic Service

For Switzerland, see Dutch and German-speaking Division

For Turkey, see Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division

(Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)

Mr. Vadim POSTNOV
(USSR)

Chief
Cartography Section
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Andrei A. OZADOVSKI
(Ukraine)

Permanent Representative of Ukraine
Geneva

Mr. Mykola MAIMESKOUL
(Ukraine)

First Secretary
Permanent Mission of Ukraine
Geneva

United Kingdom Division

(Guyana, New Zealand, a/ South Africa, g/ United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

For South Africa, see Dutch and German-speaking Division

/...

United States of America-Canada Division

(Canada, k/ United States of America)

Ms. Helen KERFOOT
(Canada)

Executive Secretary
Canadian Permanent Committee on
Geographical Names
Department of Energy, Mines and
Resources

Mr. Reni MAYRAND
(Canada)

President
Commission de toponymie du Québec

Mr. Roger L. PAYNE
(United States of America)

Chief
Geographic Names Branch
United States Geological Survey

Division Membership not yet decided

Dr. Abdulla Hamad SABT
(Bahrain)

Dean
Faculty of Arts

Observers

Mr. Ala H. AL MOMAN

Attaché économique
Mission permanente auprès de l'ONU
League of Arab States

Mr. F. J. ORMELING

International Cartographic Association
(ICA)

United Nations

Mr. Kadri EL-ARABY

Secretary
United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names
Chief
Infrastructure Branch
Department of Technical Cooperation for
Development

Mr. Valeri MOSKALENKO

Deputy Secretary
United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names
Cartographic Unit
Department of Technical Cooperation
for Development

Mr. Miklos PINTHER

Secretary
Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation
Commission
Chief
Cartographic Unit
Department of Conference Services

Notes

a/ Member of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division and the United Kingdom Division.

b/ Member of the Asia South-West (other than Arabic) Division, East Central and South-East Europe Division and the Romano-Hellenic Division.

c/ Member of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division and the India Division.

d/ Member of the Asia South-West Division and the East Central and South-East Europe Division.

e/ Member of the Celtic Division and the Romano-Hellenic Division.

f/ Member of the Dutch and German-speaking Division and the Romano-Hellenic Division.

g/ Member of the Dutch and German-speaking Division and the United Kingdom Division.

h/ Member of the Dutch and German-speaking Division and the Latin America Division.

i/ Member of the East Central and South-East Europe Division and the Romano-Hellenic Division

j/ Member of the Latin America Division and the Romano-Hellenic Division.

k/ Member of the Romano-Hellenic and the United States of America/Canada Division.

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Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

A. Working papers

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3	A data file on toponyms of central, eastern and south-eastern Europe at the Austrian Institute of East and South-East Europe Studies (Peter Jordan and Elisabeth Tomasi, Austria)	10
4	Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors, South Africa (third edition) (Peter E. Raper, South Africa)	12
5	Report for South Africa (Peter E. Raper, South Africa)	5
6	Report of the fourth regional meeting of South-West Asia Division (Islamic Republic of Iran)	5
7	Report on toponymic data files for Austria (H. Desoye, Austria)	10
8	Overview of the communes (H. Desoye, Austria)	11
9	"Ortschaften" according to communes (H. Desoye, Austria)	11
10	Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors (J. Breu, Austria)	12
11	Austrian norm A 2659 (H. Desoye, Austria)	15
12	Standardization in a multilingual area of Austria (H. Desoye, Austria)	16

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13	The activities concerning geographical names of the Board on Geographical names (AKO) (J. Breu, Austria)	20
14	Report of the Norden Division (E. M. Närhi, Finland) (B. Hjørring Pedersen, Denmark) (Pozhaliur Viemundazsen, Iceland) (B. Helleland, Norway) (A. Mattisson, Sweden)	5
15	Compte rendu de la réunion de la Division Romano-Hellénique, Paris, 3-5 Octobre 1990 (Sylvie Lejeune, France)	5
16	Nomenclature nationale concise (Sylvie Lejeune, France)	11
17	Travaux menés par la France dans le domaine des noms pays (Sylvie Lejeune, France)	15
18	Paper submitted by China Division (China Committee on Geographical Names)	5
19	Information sur la réalisation d'un fichier toponymique pour le territoire de la Roumanie (Romania)	10
20	Guide toponymique national pour cartes et d'autres documents cartographiques (Romania)	12
21	Liste des pays et capitales du monde (Romania)	15
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27	Report of the Working Group on Latinization Systems (Central, East and South-East Europe Division)	14
28	Names of countries of the world (Central, East and South-East Europe Division)	15
29	Exonyms (Central, East and South-East Europe Division)	17
30	The new Norwegian place-name law (Botolv Helleland, Norway)	16
31	Report on the status of standardization of geographical names in the Republic of Kenya (Joseph R. R. Aganyo, Kenya)	5
32	Report on the status of standardization of geographical names in Africa East Division (Joseph R. R. Aganyo, Kenya)	5
33	Resolutions pertaining to geographical names adopted at the Twelfth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Secretariat)	8
34	Diccionario geográfico de Colombia (Subdirección de Geografía, IGAC, Colombia)	11
35	Liste des exonymes français d'Europe (Sylvie Lejeune, France)	17
36	Report on standardization of geographical names in Japan (Geographical Survey Institute, Japan)	5

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37	Statute and rules of procedure of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (Secretariat)	1
38	Report of the UNGEGN liaison with the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) (Richard R. Randall, United States of America (Liaison/IHB))	6
39	Guide to the field collection of native geographical names (Helen Kerfoot, Canada)	12
40	Report (Islamic Republic of Iran)	5
41	Transliteration of Thai	14
42	Report of United States/Canada Division (Helen Kerfoot, Canada)	5
43	Report of the International Cartographic Association observer (F. J. Ormeling, Netherlands)	8
44	Report for the Netherlands (F. J. Ormeling, Netherlands)	5
45	Report of activities on the standardization of geographical names in the Federal Republic of Germany pursued since the fourteenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (Institut für Angewandte Geodäsie, Germany)	5
46	Activities of the Working Group on Gazetteers and geographic names of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (Richard R. Randall, United States of America)	6
47	Preparation of a new map of landscapes, their names and borderlines of Germany at 1:1 million scale (H. Liedtke, Geographical Institute, University of the Ruhr, Bochum, Germany)	10

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48	Gazetteer America (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, Germany)	10
49	The spelling of state names and of their derivatives (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, Germany)	15
50	Revisions of administrative and other geographical names in the Federal Republic of Germany (Institut für Angewandte Geodäsie, Germany)	10
51	Gazetteer, Federal Republic of Germany (Institut für Angewandte Geodäsie, Germany)	11
52	Toponymic activities of Austria (Peter Jordan, Austria)	5
53	Projet de coopération du GENUNG avec l'UNESCO (Marc Richard, Canada)	8(d)
54	Omitted for technical reasons	
55	Report of the Working Group on Evaluation (Richard R. Randall, United States of America)	8
56	Canadian documents for United Nations toponymy training courses (Helen Kerfoot, Canada)	9
57	Report on coordination of UNGEGN with other technical and professional groups (F. J. Ormeling)	8(d)
58	Report on the gazetteer programme of the United States of America (Roger L. Payne, United States of America)	10
59	Geographical Names Information System: information report (Roger L. Payne, United States of America)	10

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60	Report on products of the Geographical Names Information System (GNIS) (Roger L. Payne, United States of America)	10
61	Report on toponymic data bases (Roger L. Payne, United States of America)	10
62	Towards a concise gazetteer of Canada (Helen Kerfoot, Canada)	11
63	Report of the co-convenor (G. Quinting, Defense Mapping Agency, United States of America)	14
64	Country names (Helen Kerfoot, Canada)	15
65	Native toponyms: pilot project 1990 (Helen Kerfoot, Canada)	16
66	National Gazetteer of Poland (Izabella Krauze-Tomczyk, Jerzy Kondracki)	11
67	Some stray thoughts about developing a base for cooperation between UNGEGN and ICOS (Eeva Maria Närhi, Finland)	8(d)
68	Research on geographical names and the UNGEGN (Ass'ad S. Abdo, Saudi Arabia)	20
69	Report of the Celtic Division	20
70	Report from the Division of Asia South-East and Pacific South-West	5
71	List of the old and new geographical names of the USSR (Vadim V. Postnov, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, USSR)	20

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72	Towards a new policy on the treatment of English and French language toponymy in Ontario (M. B. Smart, Ontario Geographic Names Board, Canada)	16
73	Informe relativo a las actividades de Venezuela en materia de nombre geográficos	20
74	The importance of non-official work on geographical names to the UNGEGN activities (Ass'ad S. Abdo, Saudi Arabia)	20
75	Draft provisional agenda for the sixteenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names	19
76	Guidelines for the preparation of lists of exonyms (Dutch and German-speaking Division)	17

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Annex III

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

First meeting

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Reporting of the Working Groups.
4. Organizational matters of the Sixth Conference.
5. Review of the Statute of the UNGEGN.
6. Other business.

Second meeting

1. Election of officers
2. Planning for implementation of the Sixth Conference recommendations.
3. Working Groups for future requirements.
4. Provisional agenda for the seventeenth session of the Group of Experts.
5. Other business.

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Annex IV

RECOMMENDATIONS

Romano-Hellenic Division

Recommendations

"Publication of the list of country names"

The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

Recalling that the Working Group on a List of Names of Countries, established at the fifth session of the Group of Experts, submitted to the Group at its twelfth session, in implementation of recommendations III/6 and IV/10, a list of country names in the official language(s) of each country (accompanied, in the case of languages not written in the Roman alphabet, by their transcription or transliteration) and appended, with the assistance of the Terminology Section, the names of the countries in each of the six official languages of the United Nations,

Noting that the Documentation, Reference and Terminology Section publishes and regularly updates a list of countries in all six official languages but that the list of country names in local languages is not disseminated or updated,

Recalling resolution IV/11,

Recommends that a list of country names in their official language(s) be issued and regularly updated, either in list form or as part of Terminology Bulletin No. 342.

Dutch and German-speaking Division

In order to make the "Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors" more available to a wider public, the Dutch and German-speaking Division proposes to request the Secretary to list all existing toponymic guidelines and to consider the possibility of publishing them in volumes edited by the United Nations.

USSR

The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

Having noted the positive results of using the GOST 1983 system as an international system for the romanization of geographical names in the Russian Cyrillic alphabet,

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Recommends the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division to continue its efforts in this field, and supports those efforts.

Dutch and German-speaking Division

Considering that there is still a major lack of experience in developing countries in the field of toponymy and having in mind the substantial financial help offered by the Dutch Government,

Urges that seminars on applied toponymy, such as the one held in Indonesia in 1989, be organized by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographic Names in the eastern or southern part of Africa and/or in Enschede (Netherlands) for participants from developing countries.
