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STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
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Item 8 of the provisional agenda.
National standardization

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION AUTHORITIES*

Submitted by the Republic of Guatemala

* Prepared by Professor Francis Gall, Guatemala.

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

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SUMMARY

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION AUTHORITIES

Dr. Francis Gall, Guatemala

Guatemala is one of the countries which has a National Geographical Names Authority. In Guatemala everything relating to this subject falls officially within the competence of the National Geographic Institute (IGN), whose Chief is also ex officio Chief of the National Geographical Names Authority. That Authority was established in 1958 and has been in operation since 22 July 1960.

The report states that the modern pioneer in the standardization of Guatemalan geographical names is Alfredo Obiols Gómez, who has always been deeply involved in this matter. Next, the General Directors of IGN, Manuel Angel Castillo Barajas and Federico Hernández Cruz, as also the present Chief, René Aguiluz Morales, continuing the work begun by Mr. Obiols Gómez, have likewise always given their full support and decisive help with respect to the standardization of geographical names to Dr. Francis Gall, who is in charge, inter alia, of matters relating to national standardization by virtue of his position as member of the Board and Executive Secretary of the National Geographical Names Authority and of the Department of Human Geography of IGN.

As Guatemala has its own National Geographical Names Authority, the existing Guatemalan provisions with respect to this matter are indicated so that every free, sovereign and independent country, whose privileges include that of having access to whatever is most suitable from the standpoint of its national interests, may perhaps adopt some of the features of what is submitted here for purely informational purposes.
