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## **Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names**

New York, 31 July – 9 August 2012 Item 7 of the provisional agenda Measures taken and proposed to implement United Nations resolutions on the standardization of geographical names, including the economic and social benefits

Report on the Implementation of UN Resolutions by New Zealand

Submitted by New Zealand \*\*

<sup>\*</sup> E/CONF.101/1.

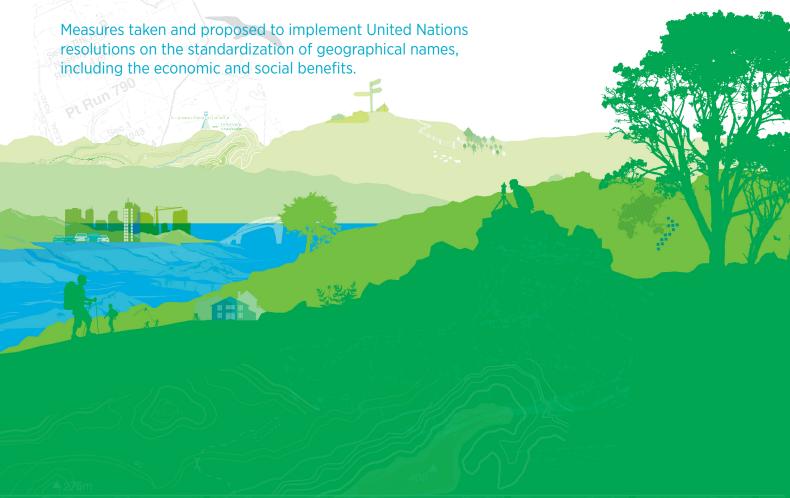
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# Report on the Implementation of UN Resolutions by New Zealand

Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

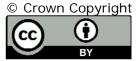
New York, 31 July - 9 August 2012



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#### **Summary**

This Report focuses on just five resolutions of the United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, made from 1967 to 2007, chosen for their current relevance to the work of New Zealand's national naming authority, the New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (NZGB). Twenty other relevant resolutions for New Zealand are also listed in the Report and these, together with details of how they have been implemented, will be reported on at future Conferences.

The NZGB has, through its policies, practices, processes, and protocols, proceeded to give practical effect to the application and adoption of relevant recommendations in the following five UNSCGN resolutions:

- 5. NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION
- 10. PREPARATION OF GAZETTEERS
- 13. AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING / DIGITAL DATA
- 17. MARITIME AND UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES
- 18. NAMES OF FEATURES BEYOND A SINGLE SOVEREIGNTY

Implementation of the relevant recommendations of the twenty-five UNCSGN resolutions has been ongoing throughout the NZGB's long history which began formally in 1946, following a twenty-two year period by the Honorary Geographic Board of New Zealand established in 1924. The NZGB's naming role has been developed and refined over the years to reflect lessons learnt, changing attitudes and to uphold best practice naming principles.

#### Implementation of Five Resolutions/Recommendations

The following reporting format is consistent with the format used by E/CONF.101/3, and informs of the status of actions taken by New Zealand on five UNCSGN resolutions and their relevant recommendations.

Refer to the full list of **UNCSGN** Resolutions.

Refer to Appendix A of this Report for the list of 25 UNCSGN resolutions/recommendations considered to be relevant to New Zealand.

FIVE	STATUS OF ACTION
RESOLUTIONS/RECOMENDATIONS	
5. NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION	
I/4 (A) NATIONAL NAMES AUTHORITIES	
I/4 (B) COLLECTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL	
NAMES	
I/4 (C) PRINCIPLES OF OFFICE	
TREATMENT OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES	
I/4 (D) MULTILINGUAL AREAS	
I/4 (E) NATIONAL GAZETTEERS	
II/27 that the authorities and countries that are in a position to do so should	✓ The NZGB does not have a programme of field collection of names, but office
give their full support to the	treatment of names is covered by the
establishment of a programme of field	NZGB Act 2008 and the NZGB can
collection of names and of office	regulate its own procedures, practices,
treatment of names	policies.
III/4 (1) that in geographical names	✓ Publication in the New Zealand Gazette
documents information be provided on	provides conclusive evidence of an
whether the names concerned have	official or proposed geographic name.
been approved by the national names	✓ Information on collection, source, and
authority or are in a provisional form.	special bestowal is included in the
In either event the maximum possible	proposal documentation, and reports to
information should be provided as to	the NZGB, as well as in the Gazetteer
the source of the names - for example,	(where available).

FIVE RESOLUTIONS/RECOMENDATIONS	STATUS OF ACTION
whether field-collected, gathered from documentary sources or specially bestowed.	
III/4 (1) that an assessment also be given of the degree of accuracy of the names, together with an indication of their completeness and currency and, if appropriate, a citation of previous documents that are now superseded as to names.	mapping capture specifications as well
<ul> <li>II/16 that any changes made by other authorities in the names standardized by the competent national geographical names authority should not be recognized by the United Nations.</li> </ul>	refers.
<ul> <li>V/15 those countries that do not yet have national geographical names authorities to proceed without delay to establish them, with the status, composition, function and procedures specified in resolution 4, recommendation A, of the first United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, using, where appropriate, the information collected in pursuance of resolution 12 of the fifth Conference and seeking, whenever necessary, technical assistance from countries of the region and from the United Nations</li> <li>VI/9 that geographical names given and/or standardized by a body other</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>✓ The NZGB was established under the 1946 Act and continues under the 2008 Act. Composition, purpose, functions, duties and procedures are defined in the Act as well as in other standards, frameworks, policies, practices, protocols. etc.</li> <li>✓ As a member of the Committee for Geographical Names of Australasia (CGNA), New Zealand is able to liaise with all authoritative naming authorities in Australian states and territories.</li> <li>✓ UNGEGN and UNCSGN participation has been growing since 1992.</li> <li>✓ See II/16 above.</li> </ul>
than that nationally authorized, should not be recognized by the United Nations.	
VII/5 (1) that measures be taken nationally to ensure that names yet to be collected are recorded, using the methods described in the above- mentioned recommendations.	✓ The new Gazetteer database will provide for collected names received to be recorded as unofficial, particularly for original Māori names for which the NZGB has a statutory function to collect.
<ul> <li>VII/5 (2) that, whenever possible, national standardization be based on current local usage of name forms, collected through field work.</li> </ul>	✓ Local usage is balance with the need to apply correct and standardised orthography.
<ul> <li>VIII/2 (1) that the appropriate national authorities discourage the use of personal names to designate a geographical feature during the lifetime of the person in question.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>VIII/2 (2) that the appropriate national authorities include in their guidelines clear statements on the length of the waiting period they wish to establish before using a commemorative name.</li> </ul>	✓ A minimum of two years is observed before the NZGB will consider a personal name.
VIII/9 countries that have not already done so, to undertake both the	✓ The NZGB has a statutory function (but no programme) to collect geographical

FIVE			STATUS OF ACTION	
	SOLUTIONS/RECOMENDATIONS	31	AIGG OF ACTION	
•	systematic collection of geographical names and the promotion of a greater understanding among the wider public of the significance of inherited geographical names with respect to local, regional and national heritage and identity.  IX/4 the official bodies responsible for toponymy to: (a) Identify toponyms that meet the criteria for application of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage; (b) Submit them to the Committee set up by the Convention, for approval; (c) Prepare a programme to safeguard and develop that heritage in accordance with article 2, paragraph 3, and article 18 of the Convention; (d) Start implementing it.	×	names. Promotion has included factsheets, brochures, media releases, presentations, and posting information on the LINZ website. Future plans include Treaty names guidelines and presentations, as well as liaison with local Councils.  To be discussed by the NZGB and actions, if any, will be determined.	
10	PREPARATION OF GAZETTEERS			
•	I/4(E) (1) that each names authority produce, and continually revise, appropriate gazetteers of all its standardized geographical names.	✓	NZGB has a statutory requirement under S.13 of the NZGB Act 2008 to establish and maintain a publicly available Gazetteer.	
•	I/4(E) (2) that, in addition to the standardized names, each gazetteer include, as a minimum, such information as is necessary for the proper location and identification of the named features.  I/4(E) (3) that the following be included: (a) The kind of feature to which the name applies; (b) Precise description of the location and the extent, including a point position reference if possible, of each named feature; (c) Provision for the parts of natural features to be additionally defined by reference to the whole and for the names of extended features to be defined as necessary by reference to their constituent parts; (d) Such information on administrative or regional areas as is considered necessary and, if possible, reference to a map or chart within which the features lie; (e) All officially standardized names for a feature, if there are more than one; and provision for cross-references to be made to names previously used for the same feature.	✓	Under the NZGB Act 2008, the Gazetteer must include a record of the type of geographic feature or Crown protected area that is named; and the positional reference for the feature or area; and may include any background information relevant to the history and name of the geographic feature or Crown protected area that is named; and information on the spatial extent of the geographic feature or Crown protected area that is named. Additional fields of information apply to different categories of names (Antarctic, Undersea, Crown Protected Area, etc)	
•	I/4(E) (4) When national authorities determine it possible, both technically and economically, they may include such information on geographical names as gender, number, definite and	<b>✓</b>	Standardised orthography applies to New Zealand geographical names, including macrons on vowels for Māori names to denote long vowels and which change the meaning of the words.	

FI		ST	ATUS OF ACTION
RE	indefinite forms, position of stress, tone and pronunciation in the system of the International Phonetic Association and such other linguistic information as may lead to the better understanding and use of names both nationally and internationally.	×	Other IPA requirements are not included in the NZGB Gazetteer.
•	II/17 that before one country produces the gazetteer of another country there should be active consultations between the countries concerned.  V/16 (1) that each country prepare maps, as well as lists of standardized names, in accordance with resolution 35 of the Second United Nations  Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.	✓ ✓	New Zealand assisted with the production of a Regional Gazetteer for the SE-Asia SW-Pacific Division of UNGEGN, and each country supplied their own names. For Antarctic names, New Zealand consults with other naming authorities, eg US-ACAN, AAMNC. LINZ produces topographic maps and hydrographic charts that use official and recorded names.
13	. AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING / DIGITAL DATA		
•	I/3 (1) that all Member States already engaged in programmes of automatic data processing or which have been involved in discussions on automatic name data processing be requested to exchange information, for which purpose it would be useful to submit the reports in the official languages of the United Nations.	<b>✓</b>	The current NZGB Gazetteer (spreadsheets) is freely available and downloadable from the LINZ website. The new Gazetteer Database system will include a searchable WebApp with spatial view, as well as raw data layers that can be downloaded or WFS-G linked from the LINZ data Service.
•	I/3 (2) that names specialists establish and maintain working channels of communication with the equipment designers, and that the results be circulated promptly to the names authorities in the Member States.	✓	LINZ employs geospatial, GIS, infrastructure. Developers, business analysts, project managers and standards people to assist with the technical requirements of processing digital data. Primary users are regularly advised of updates.
•	II/30 that the application of data processing to geographical names be done carefully with close co-operation between the countries involved and with care being taken that the names are not distorted or shortened in any way, e.g., with regard to diacritical marks or signs, upper-case and lower-case letters, and special characters.	✓	Standardised orthography applies to New Zealand geographical names.
•	III/3 (1) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names consider the problem of compatibility of systems on geographic-name information (data elements) compiled by different nations for gazetteers and automated data processing systems.	<b>✓</b>	Currently the NZGB Gazetteer is maintained in six separate spreadsheets, which make machine to machine operability difficult. The new Gazetteer Database system scheduled for launch later this year will be integrated, comprehensive, and standards based, with open layers available via WFS-G.
•	III/3 (2) that the Group of Experts recognize the importance of the compatibility of output media generated by automated data	✓	All NZGB Gazetteer information is available electronically via the LINZ website, freely downloadable and in the future, exports will accommodate

FIV	Æ	ST	ATUS OF ACTION
RES	SOLUTIONS/RECOMENDATIONS		
,	processing (such as magnetic tapes) so that geographic-name information may be made available to international users in other than the printed form.		various user-configurable data forms for GIS users.
	IV/19 that all countries should send to the Cartography Section of the Natural Resources and Energy Division of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat reports concerning progress achieved in the collection, treatment, writing and publishing of geographical names, especially in the field of automated data processing, so that a compendium of information may be produced on an annual basis for dissemination by the Cartography Section as seen fit.	×	To be discussed by the NZGB and actions, if any, will be determined.
	V/17 that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, in consultation with countries that have already developed such methods, investigate the possibility of preparing guidelines for direct communication with, and exchange of toponymic information between, various computer systems.	<b>&gt;</b>	LINZ has done this and will continue to do this through its <u>Data Service</u> , and also the <u>New Zealand Geospatial Strategy</u> .
	VII/6 (1) that countries promote the international use of nationally standardized names through publication and exchange of digital toponymic data, utilizing international text-encoding standards and a digital gazetteer format based on recommendation E of resolution 4 (first Conference).	<b>&gt;</b>	See I/4(E) (4) above.
•	VII/6 (2) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names liaise with the Unicode Consortium in order to inform that body of the textencoding requirements found in the field of toponymy and to promote the development of computer tools to facilitate the digital exchange of geographical names information.	<b>√</b>	LINZ conforms with Metadata Standards, E-govt Web Standards, LINZ Enterprise Architecture, Web Service Standards, and Geographic Information Standards.
	VII/9 (1) that country toponymic Web sites be established and used for a variety of purposes, including: (a) Information on the standardization of geographical names; (b) Toponymic guidelines; (c) Information on training courses in toponymy; (d) Nationally standardized names; (e) Interactive capabilities for handling geographical names enquiries; (f) Facilitation of the international exchange of toponymic data.	<b>*</b>	See the NZGB webpages linked from a home page.
•	VIII/6 that standardized geographical	✓	LINZ will lead the delivery of a formal

FIVE	STATUS OF ACTION		
RESOLUTIONS/RECOMENDATIONS			
names data should be considered in the establishment of national and regional spatial data infrastructures and included in their design, development and implementation.	spatial data infrastructure (SDI) by 2014 – see the LINZ <u>Statement of</u> <u>Intent 2011-2014</u> and also a New Zealand <u>Country Report</u> presented at the October 2011 GGIM in Korea.		
<ul> <li>VIII/7 that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, through its established liaison relationships with standards organizations, vigorously promote the development of international toponymic data exchange standards.</li> </ul>	✓ LINZ promotes freely available and open access to its digital information via the <u>LINZ Data Service</u> .		
<ul> <li>VIII/10 that Governments expand their existing data-collection procedures for geographical names, and establish procedures for collecting names from all acceptable sources so as to be responsive to the needs of geographical names users.</li> </ul>	✓ The NZGB has not established a programme of field collection of names. However, the new Gazetteer database will provide for collected names received to be recorded as unofficial.		
IX/7 that, wherever possible, printed or web-based national gazetteers and databases should include information on the origin and meaning of geographical names, based on popular and/or scientific sources, along with the associated technical information.	✓ The new NZGB Gazetteer Database system, scheduled for launch later in 2012, will include details (where available) of history/origin/meaning, as well as a description of the physical feature.		
17. MARITIME AND UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES			
II/22 that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names study existing national and international practices concerning the delimitation and naming of oceans and seas, including their integral subdivisions, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, with a view to recommending improvements in current nomenclatural practices and procedures.	✓ LINZ is responsible for hydrographic charting in New Zealand waters. The National Hydrographer is aware of all IHO standards and is informed of any changes by way of circular letter, which require a vote from member countries. The National Hydrographer is also an ex-officio member of the NZGB. In addition, New Zealand has a member on SCUFN.		
II/23 (1) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names work on a model statement or statements on the treatment of undersea feature names that can be suggested for adoption by interested countries.	✓ The NZGB has established an interim standard for <u>Undersea Feature Names</u> <u>NZGBS60000</u> , which conforms with the <u>SCUFN Undersea Feature naming</u> <u>standard</u> . General information about the <u>NZGB's role</u> in undersea feature naming is online.		
II/23 (2) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names develop model forms for proposing names of undersea features and Antarctic geographical entities for consideration by national names authorities, patterned after those used by the United States Board on Geographic Names and by similar organizations in other countries, and a form or forms for use by a national names authority in notifying any	<ul> <li>✓ The NZGB proposal form for undersea feature naming is available online and is modelled on the SCUFN proposal form. General information about the NZGB process for undersea feature naming is online.</li> <li>✓ The NZGB proposal form for Antarctic geographic naming is available online. General information about the NZGB process for Antarctic geographic naming is online.</li> </ul>		

FI	FIVE		STATUS OF ACTION	
	SOLUTIONS/RECOMENDATIONS	•		
	interested countries or institutions of its			
	intention to name an undersea or			
	Antarctic feature.			
•	II/26 (I) that the United Nations Group	✓	Responsibility of LINZ's National	
	of Experts on Geographical Names, in		Hydrographer. <u>IHO Standards</u> are	
	co-operation with the appropriate		adhered to and listed online.	
	national and international organizations			
	and, in particular, with the			
	International Hydrographic Organization, draw up a system for			
	naming undersea features beyond a			
	single sovereignty and propose it as a			
	basis for preparing an international			
	convention on the subject.			
•	II/26 (II) that the United Nations Group	✓	The generic terms for undersea feature	
	of Experts on Geographical Names, in		names are listed in the NZGB's	
	co-operation with interested national		<u>Undersea Feature Names NZGBS60000</u> .	
	names authorities and international		These generally align with the list in the	
	organizations, attempt to standardize		SCUFN Undersea Feature naming	
	the definitions of undersea feature		<u>standard</u> .	
	terms and definitions and to promote			
	their acceptance and use by names authorities.			
	III/21 (2) that the United Nations	<b>√</b>	Responsibility of LINZ's National	
	Group of Experts on Geographical	,	Hydrographer.	
	Names co-ordinate its programmes		, a. og. ap.i.e. i	
	with those of the International			
	Hydrographic Organization.			
•	III/22 (I) that the principles and	✓	See the <u>SCUFN Undersea Feature</u>	
	policies, as well as the name proposal		naming standard.	
	form put before the Conference, be			
	submitted to the International			
	Hydrographic Organization for the purpose of developing an agreed			
	statement to meet requirements for an			
	internationally acceptable set of			
	guidelines designed to ensure			
	maximum standardization of undersea			
	feature names.			
•	III/22 (II) that the Group of Experts, in	✓	The NZGB has generally aligned its	
	collaboration with the International		generic terms with SCUFN – see II/26	
	Hydrographic Organization, develop, for		(II) above.	
	international use, a joint list of terms			
10	and definitions for undersea features.  NAMES OF FEATURES BEYOND A			
ıg	SINGLE SOVEREIGNTY			
•	I/8 (A)(1) that it is preferable that a	<b>√</b>	The extent of the NZGB's naming	
	common name or a common		jurisdiction is defined in the NZGB Act	
	application be established, wherever		2008 under Section 8.	
	practicable, in the interest of			
	international standardization.			
•	I/8 (A)(2) that the geographical names	✓	The NZGB has a Relationship Protocol	
	authorities of the nations concerned		with the USBGN for Antarctic names.	
	attempt to reach agreement on these			
	conflicting names or applications.		TI NZCD:	
•	I/8 (B)(1)(c) develop procedures for	✓	The NZGB is currently developing an	
	international standardization of naming		Undersea Feature Naming Agreement	
i	new undersea features as they are		setting out the NZGB's process and	

FIVE	STATUS OF ACTION
discovered, defined and identified in the future.	seeks to collaborate with other countries who propose undersea feature names to SCUFN, that are within the NZGB's naming jurisdiction.
I/8 (B)(1)(d) continue to consult with and, as appropriate, to use the facilities of IOC, IHB, IAPO and other relevant bodies to further United Nations objectives in international standardization of names of maritime and undersea features.	✓ The NZGB's decisions on undersea features names are submitted to SCUFN. See II/23 (1) above.
II/24 that a special document elaborated under the auspices of the United Nations might provide a general base for adopting technical rules and procedures for the naming and renaming of various kinds of extraterrestrial topographic features and geographical features beyond a single sovereignty.	? Progress with this recommendation unknown.
II/24 that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names give consideration to the elaboration of such a document in collaboration with the corresponding United Nations bodies and other international organizations competent in this problem.	? Progress with this recommendation unknown.
<ul> <li>II/25 (1) (reworded by III/20) that countries sharing a given geographical feature under different names should endeavour, as far as possible, to reach agreement on fixing a single name for the feature concerned.</li> </ul>	✓ The NZGB Relationship Protocol with the USBGN (US-ACAN) for Antarctic names seeks to agreement of parties on one name.
II/25 (2) (reworded by III/20) that when countries sharing a given geographical feature do not succeed in agreeing on a common name, it should be a general rule of international cartography that the name used by each of the countries concerned will be accepted. A policy of accepting only one or some of such names while excluding the rest would be inconsistent in principle as well as inexpedient in practice. Only technical reasons may sometimes make it necessary, especially in the case of small-scale maps, to dispense with the use of certain names belonging to one language or another.	✓ Where the NZGB and USBGN (USACAN) are unable to agree on one name for a feature, then two different names from each respective country may be assigned, but this is very uncommon.
V/25 (1) that Member States systematically inform future United Nations conferences on the standardization of geographical names of their achievements in this field.	✓ The NZGB has regularly reported to UNGEGN and UNCSGN on New Zealand's standardization of geographical names.
<ul> <li>V/25 (2) that those national geographical names authorities that have not yet done so establish with</li> </ul>	✓ The NZGB has established or is establishing Protocols and Agreements for Antarctic and undersea feature

FIVE	STATUS OF ACTION
RESOLUTIONS/RECOMENDATIONS	
neighbouring authorities joint or	names.
interrelated programmes for the collection and treatment of names of	
features extending across their	
common borders.	

## Twenty Other Relevant Resolutions to be Reported on at Future Conferences

Res	Resolutions			
1.	Un Conferences On The Standardization Of Geographical Names			
2.	United Nations Group Of Experts On Geographical Names			
3.	International Co-Operation In The Standardization Of Geographical Names			
4.	Toponymic Guidelines For Map And Other Editors			
6.	Regional Meetings			
7.	Education And Training In Treatment Of Geographical Names			
8.	Terminology (Including Glossaries)			
9.	List Of Country Names			
	Bibliographies			
12.	Exchange Of Experience			
14.	Exonyms			
15.	Romanization/General			
16.	Romanization By Languages			
	Extraterrestrial Feature Name			
20.	Geographical Names From Unwritten Languages			
21.	Manual Of National Name Standardization			
22.	Aids To Pronunciation			
23.	Minority Languages			
24.	Physiogeographic Names			
25.	Geographical Names On Tourist Maps			

For more information about geographical naming in New Zealand, contact:

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#### **Appendix A**

This following list includes the total of 25 UNCSGN resolutions with specific recommendations that are considered to be relevant to New Zealand.

#### 1. Un Conferences On The Standardization Of Geographical Names

- Twelve Resolutions noted.
- There are no specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Conference, 1967, Geneva: not attended by New Zealand
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference, 1972, London: not attended by New Zealand
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference, 1977, Athens: not attended by New Zealand
- 4<sup>th</sup> Conference, 1982, Geneva: not attended by New Zealand
- 5<sup>th</sup> Conference, 1987, Montreal: not attended by New Zealand
- ✓ 6<sup>th</sup> Conference, 1992, New York: attended by New Zealand (Bill Robertson)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Conference, 1997, New York: not attended by New Zealand
- ✓ 8<sup>th</sup> Conference, 2002, Geneva: attended by New Zealand (Rowland Woods)
- ✓ 9<sup>th</sup> Conference, 2007, New York: attended by New Zealand (Wendy Shaw, Geoff O'Malley)

#### 2. United Nations Group Of Experts On Geographical Names

• Thirtythree Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

- IV/21 that the Group of Experts should continue its efforts to standardize geographical names at the national and international level.
- IV/24 (1) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names should continue to encourage the Geographical/Linguistic Divisions to be more active in implementing the decisions of the United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names, as applicable, in working out reporting schedules on their activities to all States within their Divisions and to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
- IV/24 (2) that the Divisions should promote the exchange of information among them and, for this purpose, should make available to the other divisions, as frequently as possible, the results of their work in the way deemed appropriate.
- VI/12 (a) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names Recognize the working procedures on Antarctic place-names being established by the Working Group on Geodesy and Geographic Information of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research.
- VI/12 (b) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names Establish liaison with the Committee for the purpose of promoting communication between the two bodies and providing the Group of Experts periodically with a written report on relevant activities of the Committee.
- VIII/5 the continued organization of joint meetings of the linguistic/geographical divisions and the working groups of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names to address substantively regional needs in the areas of toponymic training, data files and gazetteers, romanization systems, publicity and funding, and terminology.
- VIII/8 (1) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names collaborate with the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group in the design and construction of the toponymic component of the United Nations spatial data infrastructure.
- VIII/8 (2) that the Group of Experts, through its structure of working groups and divisions, actively facilitate the provision of standardized geographical names information from appropriate national authorities to the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group.

## 3. International Co-Operation In The Standardization Of Geographical Names

• Five Resolutions noted.

- II/31 (1) the following general definition in connexion with the continuing study by the Group of Experts of the field of application of international standardization: "International standardization of geographical names is that activity aiming at the maximum possible uniformity in the form of every geographical name on the earth and of topographical names on other bodies of the solar system by means of national standardization and/or international agreement, including the achievement of equivalences between different writing systems".
- II/31 (2) that, as far as possible, the standardized local names should be used in maps and charts which are intended for international use and also in all international publications in which geographical names do not appear in the running text, such as international time-tables or tables of international statistics. Where geographical names appear in the running text in international publications in a given language, exonyms may be used, but in such cases it is desirable that the standardized local geographical names should also appear in brackets.
- IV/2 that the standardization of geographical names should be accelerated by all possible means.
- V/6 that State authorities be encouraged to provide appropriate support to standardization activities and that the standardization of geographical names be recognized as an important part of their programmes of international co-operation and technical assistance.
- VI/8 that wherever possible, every six months countries transmit information regarding changes in geographical names to the Secretary of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names in order to enable the Secretariat to disseminate that information through the UNGEGN Newsletter or any other relevant publication, at its convenience.

#### 4. Toponymic Guidelines For Map And Other Editors

• Four Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

- IV/4 (1) that countries should be encouraged to publish and keep up-to-date toponymic guidelines for map and other editors which may enable cartographers of other countries to treat correctly all problems of cartographic toponymy of the countries that produced such guidelines, and which may be of help to all users in interpreting maps.
- IV/4 (2) that those guidelines contain, inter alia and as appropriate, the following items: (a) Legal status of geographical names in the respective languages of multilingual countries; (b) Alphabets of the language or languages and furthermore, in the case of non-Roman alphabets and scripts, the officially introduced romanization keys; (c) Spelling rules for geographical names; (d) Aids to pronunciation of geographical names; (e) Linguistic substrata recognizable in the existing place names, but only as far as their knowledge may be of benefit to the cartographer; (f) Relationship between dialect(s) and standard language(s); (g) Peculiarities of dialect and areal distribution of the main dialects; (h) Areal distribution of languages within multilingual countries; (i) Names authorities and measures taken in names standardization; (j) Source material; (k) Glossary of words necessary for the understanding of maps; (l) Abbreviations in official maps; (m) Administrative division
- V/11 (1) that a clear typographical distinction be made on national topographical maps between toponyms and text that serves other purposes.
- V/11 (1) that the methods of differentiation be explained in national toponymic guidelines for map and other editors.
- V/14 that countries be strongly encouraged to publish and keep up to date toponymic guidelines for map and other editors dealing, inter alia, with the items listed in resolution 4 of the Fourth Conference, and that the United Nations Secretariat provide appropriate assistance for the publication and dissemination of such guidelines.

#### 5. National Standardization

• Fourteen Resolutions noted.

- I/4 (A) NATIONAL NAMES AUTHORITIES
- I/4 (B) COLLECTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
- I/4 (C) PRINCIPLES OF OFFICE TREATMENT OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
- I/4 (D) MULTILINGUAL AREAS
- I/4 (E) NATIONAL GAZETTEERS
- II/27 that the authorities and countries that are in a position to do so should give their full support to the establishment of a programme of field collection of names and of office treatment of names
- III/4 (1) that in geographical names documents information be provided on whether the names concerned have been approved by the national names authority or are in a provisional form. In either event the maximum possible information should be provided as to the source of the names for example, whether field-collected, gathered from documentary sources or specially bestowed.
- III/4 (1) that an assessment also be given of the degree of accuracy of the names, together with an indication of their completeness and currency and, if appropriate, a citation of previous documents that are now superseded as to names.
- II/16 that any changes made by other authorities in the names standardized by the competent national geographical names authority should not be recognized by the United Nations.
- V/15 those countries that do not yet have national geographical names authorities
  to proceed without delay to establish them, with the status, composition, function
  and procedures specified in resolution 4, recommendation A, of the first United
  Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, using, where
  appropriate, the information collected in pursuance of resolution 12 of the fifth
  Conference and seeking, whenever necessary, technical assistance from countries
  of the region and from the United Nations.
- VI/9 that geographical names given and/or standardized by a body other than that nationally authorized, should not be recognized by the United Nations.
- VII/5 (1) that measures be taken nationally to ensure that names yet to be collected are recorded, using the methods described in the above-mentioned recommendations.
- VII/5 (2) that, whenever possible, national standardization be based on current local usage of name forms, collected through field work.
- VIII/2 (1) that the appropriate national authorities discourage the use of personal names to designate a geographical feature during the lifetime of the person in question.
- VIII/2 (2) that the appropriate national authorities include in their guidelines clear statements on the length of the waiting period they wish to establish before using a commemorative name.
- VIII/9 countries that have not already done so, to undertake both the systematic collection of geographical names and the promotion of a greater understanding among the wider public of the significance of inherited geographical names with respect to local, regional and national heritage and identity.
- IX/4 the official bodies responsible for toponymy to: (a) Identify toponyms that meet the criteria for application of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage; (b) Submit them to the Committee set up by the Convention, for approval; (c) Prepare a programme to safeguard and develop that heritage in accordance with article 2, paragraph 3, and article 18 of the Convention; (d) Start implementing it.

#### 6. Regional Meetings

Six Resolutions noted.

- I/7 (a) Regional and subregional conferences should be held at appropriate intervals to discuss common problems connected with, and to further the standardization of, geographical names.
- I/7 (b) Groups of nations having certain common interests and problems should be encouraged to meet at their own initiative and to report on progress made to the appropriate subregional or regional conferences and to the United Nations.

#### 7. Education And Training In Treatment Of Geographical Names

• Eleven Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

- IV/5 that each country should aim at providing training in cartographic toponymy at the university or corresponding academic level.
- VII/9 that country toponymic Web sites be established and used for a variety of purposes, including: (a) Information on the standardization of geographical names; (b) Toponymic guidelines; (c) Information on training courses in toponymy; (d) Nationally standardized names; (e) Interactive capabilities for handling geographical names enquiries; (f) Facilitation of the international exchange of toponymic data.

#### 8. Terminology (Including Glossaries)

• **Eight** Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

- I/19 (A) STUDY OF THE NATURE OF GEOGRAPHICAL ENTITIES
- I/19 (B) GLOSSARIES
- I/19 (C) DEFINITION OF "GENERIC TERM"
- I/19 (D) DEFINITION OF "GLOSSARY"
- II/14 that the Experts or other representatives of Member States should send to the Working Group on Definitions for consideration any additions or amendments which at any time they consider desirable to the list of terms.
- II/16 that (a) Each gazetteer or geographical dictionary should include: (i) An exhaustive alphabetized glossary of the designatory terms used in it, with a brief explanation of their meanings; (ii) An exhaustive alphabetized glossary of the generic terms occurring in it, with a brief explanation as to their meanings and their regional distributions, and with reference to the designatory terms under which they are headed; (iii) An exhaustive glossary of abbreviations of designations or of other codes used for them; (iv) An exhaustive alphabetized glossary of abbreviations used in maps on which the gazetteer is based; (b) Each gazetteer and geographical dictionary may include, where useful, a glossary of frequently recurring name elements other than generic terms; (c) The designatory terms and the brief explanations referred to in subparagraphs (a) (i) and (ii) above should be translated into one or more of the official languages of the United Nations, where the original document itself is not in one of those languages.

#### 9. List Of Country Names

• Seven Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

- III/17 that every country use in its language(s), for newly independent countries and for countries that adopt new names, those names that correspond, as far as possible, to the official local names of the countries concerned.
- VI/10 that a list of country names in their official language(s) be established and regularly updated.

#### 10. Preparation Of Gazetteers

• Six Resolutions noted.

- I/4(E) (1) that each names authority produce, and continually revise, appropriate gazetteers of all its standardized geographical names.
- I/4(E) (2) that, in addition to the standardized names, each gazetteer include, as a minimum, such information as is necessary for the proper location and identification of the named features.
- I/4(E) (3) that the following be included: (a) The kind of feature to which the name applies; (b) Precise description of the location and the extent, including a point position reference if possible, of each named feature; (c) Provision for the parts of natural features to be additionally defined by reference to the whole and for the names of extended features to be defined as necessary by reference to their constituent parts; (d) Such information on administrative or regional areas as is considered necessary and, if possible, reference to a map or chart within which the features lie; (e) All officially standardized names for a feature, if there are more

- than one; and provision for cross-references to be made to names previously used for the same feature.
- I/4(E) (4) When national authorities determine it possible, both technically and economically, they may include such information on geographical names as gender, number, definite and indefinite forms, position of stress, tone and pronunciation in the system of the International Phonetic Association and such other linguistic information as may lead to the better understanding and use of names both nationally and internationally.
- II/17 that before one country produces the gazetteer of another country there should be active consultations between the countries concerned.
- V/16 (1) that each country prepare maps, as well as lists of standardized names, in accordance with resolution 35 of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.

#### 11. Bibliographies

• Four Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

• V/24 that countries provide the United Nations Secretariat with information on their activities related to geographical names (for a seni-annual information bulletin).

#### 12. Exchange Of Experience

• Two Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

- I/6 (1) that in all cases where technical assistance experts in surveying and mapping are at work, due attention should be given to the standardization of geographical names.
- II/20 that exchanges of visits between members of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names should be encouraged.

#### 13. Automated Data Processing / Digital Data

Thirteen Resolutions noted.

- I/3 (1) that all Member States already engaged in programmes of automatic data processing or which have been involved in discussions on automatic name data processing be requested to exchange information, for which purpose it would be useful to submit the reports in the official languages of the United Nations.
- I/3 (2) that names specialists establish and maintain working channels of communication with the equipment designers, and that the results be circulated promptly to the names authorities in the Member States.
- II/30 that the application of data processing to geographical names be done carefully with close co-operation between the countries involved and with care being taken that the names are not distorted or shortened in any way, e.g., with regard to diacritical marks or signs, upper-case and lower-case letters, and special characters.
- III/3 (1) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names consider the problem of compatibility of systems on geographic-name information (data elements) compiled by different nations for gazetteers and automated data processing systems.
- III/3 (2) that the Group of Experts recognize the importance of the compatibility of output media generated by automated data processing (such as magnetic tapes) so that geographic-name information may be made available to international users in other than the printed form.
- IV/19 that all countries should send to the Cartography Section of the Natural Resources and Energy Division of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat reports concerning progress achieved in the collection, treatment, writing and publishing of geographical names, especially in the field of automated data processing, so that a compendium of information may be produced on an annual basis for dissemination by the Cartography Section as seen fit.

- V/17 that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, in consultation with countries that have already developed such methods, investigate the possibility of preparing guidelines for direct communication with, and exchange of toponymic information between, various computer systems.
- VII/6 (1) that countries promote the international use of nationally standardized names through publication and exchange of digital toponymic data, utilizing international text-encoding standards and a digital gazetteer format based on recommendation E of resolution 4 (first Conference).
- VII/6 (2) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names liaise with the Unicode Consortium in order to inform that body of the text-encoding requirements found in the field of toponymy and to promote the development of computer tools to facilitate the digital exchange of geographical names information.
- VII/9 (1) that country toponymic Web sites be established and used for a variety of purposes, including: (a) Information on the standardization of geographical names; (b) Toponymic guidelines; (c) Information on training courses in toponymy; (d) Nationally standardized names; (e) Interactive capabilities for handling geographical names enquiries; (f) Facilitation of the international exchange of toponymic data.
- VIII/6 that standardized geographical names data should be considered in the establishment of national and regional spatial data infrastructures and included in their design, development and implementation.
- VIII/7 that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, through its established liaison relationships with standards organizations, vigorously promote the development of international toponymic data exchange standards.
- VIII/10 that Governments expand their existing data-collection procedures for geographical names, and establish procedures for collecting names from all acceptable sources so as to be responsive to the needs of geographical names users.
- IX/7 that, wherever possible, printed or web-based national gazetteers and databases should include information on the origin and meaning of geographical names, based on popular and/or scientific sources, along with the associated technical information.

#### 14. Exonyms

• **Eight** Resolutions noted.

- II/28 that national geographical names authorities prepare lists of exonyms currently employed, review them for possible deletions, and publish the results.
- II/29 (I) that, within the international standardization of geographical names, the use of those exonyms designating geographical entities falling wholly within one State should be reduced as far and as quickly as possible.
- II/29 (II) (1) that in publications intended only for national use the reduction of exonyms should be considered.
- II/29 (II) (2) that in those cases where exonyms are retained, the local official forms should be shown in addition as far as possible.
- III/18 that (a) The countries concerned continue to work on the preparation of
  provisional lists of exonyms, singling out those suitable for early deletion; (b) The
  Group of Experts contribute to the exchange of information among the countries
  concerned on the results of the studies of different categories of exonyms made by
  those countries.
- III/19 that the lists referred to in resolution 28 should not contain the following categories of exonyms: those differing from the official name only by the omission, addition or alteration of diacritics or the article; those differing from the official name by declension or derivation; those created by the translation of a generic term.
- IV/20 that exonyms giving rise to international problems should be used very sparingly and published in parenthesis with the nationally accepted standard name.
- V/13 (1) a further reduction in the use of exonyms.
- V/13 (2) more specifically, that countries intensify their efforts to persuade private and public organizations, such as educational institutions, transport companies and

the media, to reduce the use of exonyms in their publications or, at least, to increase the use of geographical names in their local standardized form (that is, endonyms).

• V/13 (2) that, where exonyms are used in publications, maps and other documents, precedence be given to national official names.

#### 15. Romanization/General

• Seven Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

• I/10 that in international use all geographical names officially written in these alphabets by the countries concerned should remain unmodified and keep their distinguishing marks, even, and indeed particularly, when they are written in capital letters.

#### 16. Romanization By Languages

• Twentyeight Resolutions noted.

There are no specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account.

#### 17. Maritime And Undersea Feature Names

Six Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

- II/22 that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names study
  existing national and international practices concerning the delimitation and naming
  of oceans and seas, including their integral subdivisions, beyond the limits of
  national jurisdiction, with a view to recommending improvements in current
  nomenclatural practices and procedures.
- II/23 (1) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names work on a model statement or statements on the treatment of undersea feature names that can be suggested for adoption by interested countries.
- II/23 (2) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names develop model forms for proposing names of undersea features and Antarctic geographical entities for consideration by national names authorities, patterned after those used by the United States Board on Geographic Names and by similar organizations in other countries, and a form or forms for use by a national names authority in notifying any interested countries or institutions of its intention to name an undersea or Antarctic feature.
- II/26 (I) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, in cooperation with the appropriate national and international organizations and, in particular, with the International Hydrographic Organization, draw up a system for naming undersea features beyond a single sovereignty and propose it as a basis for preparing an international convention on the subject.
- II/26 (II) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, in cooperation with interested national names authorities and international organizations, attempt to standardize the definitions of undersea feature terms and definitions and to promote their acceptance and use by names authorities.
- III/21 (2) that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names coordinate its programmes with those of the International Hydrographic Organization.
- III/22 (I) that the principles and policies, as well as the name proposal form put before the Conference, be submitted to the International Hydrographic Organization for the purpose of developing an agreed statement to meet requirements for an internationally acceptable set of guidelines designed to ensure maximum standardization of undersea feature names.
- III/22 (II) that the Group of Experts, in collaboration with the International Hydrographic Organization, develop, for international use, a joint list of terms and definitions for undersea features.

#### 18. Names Of Features Beyond A Single Sovereignty

• **Eight** Resolutions noted.

- I/8 (A)(1) that it is preferable that a common name or a common application be established, wherever practicable, in the interest of international standardization.
- I/8 (A)(2) that the geographical names authorities of the nations concerned attempt to reach agreement on these conflicting names or applications.
- I/8 (B)(1)(c) develop procedures for international standardization of naming new undersea features as they are discovered, defined and identified in the future.
- I/8 (B)(1)(d) continue to consult with and, as appropriate, to use the facilities of IOC, IHB, IAPO and other relevant bodies to further United Nations objectives in international standardization of names of maritime and undersea features.
- II/24 that a special document elaborated under the auspices of the United Nations might provide a general base for adopting technical rules and procedures for the naming and renaming of various kinds of extraterrestrial topographic features and geographical features beyond a single sovereignty.
- II/24 that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names give consideration to the elaboration of such a document in collaboration with the corresponding United Nations bodies and other international organizations competent in this problem.
- II/25 (1) (reworded by III/20) that countries sharing a given geographical feature under different names should endeavour, as far as possible, to reach agreement on fixing a single name for the feature concerned.
- II/25 (2) (reworded by III/20) that when countries sharing a given geographical feature do not succeed in agreeing on a common name, it should be a general rule of international cartography that the name used by each of the countries concerned will be accepted. A policy of accepting only one or some of such names while excluding the rest would be inconsistent in principle as well as inexpedient in practice. Only technical reasons may sometimes make it necessary, especially in the case of small-scale maps, to dispense with the use of certain names belonging to one language or another.
- V/25 (1) that Member States systematically inform future United Nations conferences on the standardization of geographical names of their achievements in this field.
- V/25 (2) that those national geographical names authorities that have not yet done so establish with neighbouring authorities joint or interrelated programmes for the collection and treatment of names of features extending across their common borders.

#### 19. Extraterrestrial Feature Names

• Three Resolutions noted.

There are no specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account.

#### 20. Geographical Names From Unwritten Languages

• Three Resolutions noted.

- I/16 that for the purpose of recording geographical names of unwritten languages, the methods to be employed, in order of preference, will be: (a) Recording in a phonetic writing system; (b) Recording in the alphabet of the International Phonetic Association (IPA): (i) Where necessary, a narrow transcription of the pronunciation of the geographical name will be carried out in order to record as precisely as possible the full phonetic character of each name; (ii) In normal circumstances, the broad transcription of a name in the IPA alphabet will be carried out; (iii) The final writing of the geographical name will be in an appropriate conventional alphabet or script, to approximate as nearly as possible the sound represented by the IPA broad transcription; (c) Recording in the alphabet of a kindred language for which an alphabet exists; (d) Recording directly into a conventional alphabet or other writing system, if possible by a person familiar with the language from which the recording is made; if the person making the recording is unfamiliar with the language, as much information as possible will be recorded in order to assess the reliability of the names as finally written.
- I/20 (1) that, if they have not already done so, countries of complicated ethnic and linguistic constitution consider and attempt to solve the problems brought about by

the existence within their boundaries of geographical names from unwritten languages, or from minority languages (written or unwritten) or from dialects of the principal languages. Since the solutions of the problems brought about by the existence of names from unwritten languages or from dialects of the principal language may be exceedingly difficult, it is suggested that the countries concerned work together with, and profit from the experience of, other nations with similar problems, to bring about solutions satisfactory for their own needs. For the treatment of names from unwritten languages two stages are necessary. First, for recording names from oral evidence, one can develop an unambiguous phonemic notation for each language. Alternatively, where there is in use a phonetic alphabet adaptable to a number of unwritten languages, for example the International African Alphabet, it may be advantageous to apply it. Secondly, one can write the names in final form by means of regular correspondence established between that phonemic notation or phonetic alphabet and the writing system adopted by the country concerned for the language in question. Names from languages with different writing systems be rendered systematically by transliteration or transcription as appropriate.

#### 21. Manual Of National Name Standardization

• **Five** Resolutions noted.

There are no specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account.

#### 22. Aids To Pronunciation

Two Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

• III/7 the Group of Experts consider the nature and design of research and experimentation that may help to establish the ranges of comprehensible pronunciation.

#### 23. Minority Languages

Four Resolutions noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account (Noting that the Māori language is official and has equal status with English):

- V/22 (1) all countries having groups of aboriginal/native people make a special effort to collect their geographical names along with other appropriate information.
- V/22 (2) whenever possible and appropriate, a written form of those names be adopted for official use on maps and other publications.
- VIII/1 geographical names authorities throughout the world be invited to present a summary of such activities for inclusion in a general report, scheduled to appear in 2007, on these activities to be prepared by the United Nations for subsequent dissemination to all interested parties.
- IX/5 (a) That version 1 of the report as published in 2007 continues to be maintained and updated; (b) that a set of guidelines be compiled for field collection of indigenous, minority and regional language group geographical names; (c) that, utilizing the various experiences from different countries, a range of models (particularly with regard to legislation, policies and research procedures) for the promotion of the recording and use of indigenous, minority and regional language group geographical names be gathered; (d) that a dialogue between the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and other national and international groups and academic bodies involved with indigenous, minority and regional language group geographical names be initiated, to further the work on geographical names standardization.

#### 24. Physiogeographic Names

One Resolution noted.

- IV/7 (1) that named physiogeographic regions should be registered and characterized unambiguously.
- IV/7 (2) that the named physiogeographic regions should be listed in surveys and other documents along with locations and dimensions of the features, and that the

same procedures should be followed also with respect to regional features divided among two or more countries.

#### 25. Geographical Names On Tourist Maps

One Resolution noted.

Specific Resolutions for New Zealand to take into account:

• II/38 that the Group of Experts get in touch with the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO) and suggest that it should recommend all its members to use, in their tourist maps, geographical names standardized in accordance with the principles of national standardization endorsed by the work of the First and Second United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names.