

Ad Hoc Group of Experts on
the Standardization of
Geographical Names

New York, 10-20 March 1970

MINUTE N° 3/Rev. 1

Meeting held on Thursday 12 March 1970

25. As a result of further discussion of agenda item 4a, it was agreed to set up working groups as follows :
- a) to prepare a draft statement of aims and functions of the Group of Experts (to consist of MMr. Gomez de Silva, Lewis, Meynen and Sharma);
 - b) to prepare a draft statement of modus operandi for the Group (to consist of MMr. Gall, Kemkov, Lewis, Meynen and Sharma);
26. With reference to Paragraph 17 of Minute N°2, Col. Ayoubi accepted that anglophone and francophone linguistic interests in the Arabic area could in fact be accommodated within the present structure.
27. Gen. Sadeghian drew the meeting's attention to the fact that the coming 6th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East was to be held in Tehran in October of this year. The agenda for this meeting included an item on geographic names. It was agreed that this offered a splendid opportunity to arrange a regional meeting of the SW Asia group. Mr. Ormeling drew the attention of the group to the fifth Technical Conference of the ICH to be held in Stresa, Italy, 3-10 May 1970. The agenda of this conference includes an item on geographic names. It was agreed that this offered a good opportunity to draw the attention of the cartographers attending the Conference to the work of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographic Names.
28. After prolonged discussion of the question of membership of the Ad-Hoc Group, the Chairman gave what he believed to be the consensus of the meeting:
- that membership be restricted to the existing fourteen groups; that those countries which have not yet chosen to affiliate themselves to one particular group should be invited to do so; that each country shall name a person to serve as contact; that the countries within each group should jointly nominate by methods of its own choosing, an expert to represent the group as a whole; that while no delegate from any country within a group should be excluded from meetings of any other group, it was desirable that the number of delegates from outside should never be such as to dilute the group character of these meetings.
29. There was a discussion on Minute 1, which it was agreed needed to be rewritten.
30. With regard to the rotation of officers, it was agreed that the Chairman vice-Chairman and Rapporteur should be elected by the Ad-Hoc Group itself at the closure of each General Conference, and should serve until the closure of the following General Conference. Voting should be in accordance with the procedure already agreed in modified articles 24 and 26 of the rules of procedure.
31. After discussion of item 4b of the agenda, a preliminary working group consisting of MMr. Delaney, Kovda, Kemkov, Burrill and Sadeghian, was set up to provide terms of reference for a special working group that would report to the next meeting of the Ad-Hoc Group on the subject of the international nomenclature of undersea features. Mr. Christopher noted that a United Nations Ad-Hoc Group of Experts on Hydrographic Surveying and Bathymetric Charting would be meeting in New York shortly and that some liaison with this group might prove advantageous.