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SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
London, 10-31 May 1972
Item 7 of the provisional agenda

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR
REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE FIRST UNITED
NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL
NAMES

Report of the Ständige Ausschuss für
Geographische Namen (StAGN)

Submitted by the Dutch-speaking and German-speaking Group

1. The Ständige Ausschuss für Geographische Namen, comprising geographers, cartographers and linguists of Austria, Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland is an advisory board with regard to geographical names.

2. One of the undertakings of the Ständige Ausschuss für Geographische Namen is the compilation of the world gazetteer Duden Wörterbuch Geographischer Namen. This work illustrates the correct writing of geographical names and German exonyms - as far as they exist - as well as the national standardized names. It gives the pronunciation and indicates the position of the features.

3. Volume I: Europe (not including the USSR) was published in 1966. Since the first United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, the following sections have been compiled: North and South America; Polar regions; the Arabic-speaking countries; Afghanistan, Iran.

Other sections are now in preparation.

4. The Ständige Ausschuss für Geographische Namen is submitting a provisional copy (without pronunciation) of sections dealing with the Arabic-speaking countries, Afghanistan, Iran and Israel to the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names as information papers.

5. In joint discussions with the German Hydrographic Institute (DHI) Hamburg, the Ständige Ausschuss für Geographische Namen has prepared a concordance of the English, French and German versions of the generic terms of undersea features, based on the gazetteer of the United States Board on Geographic Names (1969) and the French equivalent Cahiers Océanographiques 12 août 1970 and entitled Namengebung und Rechtschreibung Geographischer Namen (Bad Godesberg, Richtlinien und Mitteilungen, 11 January 1971; second revised edition 1972).

6. The Ständige Ausschuss für Geographische Namen has also participated in the discussions of the Dutch-speaking and German-speaking Group to help in the preparation of the working papers for the sessions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and for the present Conference.

7. Finally, the Ständige Ausschuss für Geographische Namen has assisted Professor Meynen to compile the "Bibliography of gazetteers, 1945-1970", as requested by the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
