

The Committee has established a sub-committee on geographical information which is responsible for considering questions on geographical names and toponymy, as well as related matters.

Within the framework of the IBGE Foundation, the Department of Geographical and Cartographic Documentation and Information considers and gives rulings on the spelling of geographical names and on toponymic matters.

The Department receives many applications for such rulings, particularly over the nomenclature of geographical features of direct concern to railways. The functions in question are co-ordinated by the Division for Information Co-ordination of the Department, which maintains specialized staff for this purpose.

Special mention should be made of the activities of the Brazilian Technical Standards Association, which since 1970 has been co-ordinating action by various public and private bodies in the field of geographical terminology.

In this connexion, the Association has established a committee to study urban planning terminology. The committee consists of representatives of the Institute of Architects of Brazil, the Brazilian Institute of Municipal Administration, the IBGE Foundation, the Engineering Association, the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Administration of the State of Guanabara, and other authorities; and also of eminent personalities connected with architecture and town planning, such as Lúcio Costa, Oscar Niemeyer, Burle Marx, Henrique Mindlin and Mauricio Roberto, to mention only a few.

The Brazilian Institute of Geography has prepared a paper entitled "Léxicos sobre urbanismo" (Urban planning glossaries) as a basis for the committee's work.

In 1970, the IBGE Foundation set up a committee to consider outstanding cases of disputed spellings of names of Brazilian towns and villages, on the basis of the work previously undertaken by the Foundation, and to submit suggestions for adoption as

the criteria to be observed in the examination of existing or future problems.

An index of the toponyms appearing on the sheets of the *International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale* which cover Brazilian territory was prepared by the University of São Paulo and published in 1968.

In 1971, the Brazilian Institute of Geography republished the index of toponyms in the light of more detailed research and in conformity with the agreements reached at the United Nations Technical Conference on the International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale held at Bonn in 1962.

Annex

DECISION No. 18/70, 3 NOVEMBER 1970, OF THE BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND STATISTICS

The President of the Foundation styled Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics, pursuant to the powers conferred on him by article 19 (e) of the Statute, and in the light of the contents of IBG Proceedings No. 1845/69, and further.

Considering the advisability and necessity of establishing rules to ensure the satisfactory standardization of spellings of names of Brazilian towns and villages appearing in publications sponsored by the IBGE Foundation.

Decides to appoint Professor Orlando Valverde, Assistant Professor (4-C), a former staff member of the National Geographical Council, of the Department of Geography of the Brazilian Institute of Geography, Henrique de Azevedo Sant'anna, Chief of the Division for Information Co-ordination, and Maria Baker de Andrade Botelho, Chief of the Map Library, both of the Department of Geographical and Cartographic Documentation and Information of the Brazilian Institute of Geography, Paulo Augusto de Alencar, Chief of the Documentation Division, and Nélia Leão Dos Santos, Chief of the Periodicals, Photograph and Records Section, both of the Centre for Statistical Documentation and Information of the Brazilian Institute of Statistics, to form a committee under the chairmanship of the first member above-named to consider outstanding cases of disputed spellings of Brazilian towns and villages, on the basis of the work previously undertaken by the IBGE Foundation, and to submit a detailed report on their findings in the form of suggestions for adoption as the criteria to be observed in the examination of existing or future problems.

REPORT PRESENTED BY GUATEMALA*

The following is a brief description of activities undertaken by Guatemala since the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held at Geneva in September 1967.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES AUTHORITY

The Joint Commission on Geographical Names was established in 1959 by Alfredo Obiols Gómez, who was then Director General of the National Geographical Institute, and laid the basis for the standardization of geographical names in Guatemala. On 2 March 1968, pursuant to note No. 420 of the Director General of the

National Geographical Institute, the name of the Commission was changed to the National Geographical Names Authority of Guatemala.

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION

National standardization is the responsibility of the National Geographical Names Authority of Guatemala. The standardization procedures introduced by Alfredo Obiols Gómez on 22 July 1960 have been up-dated and expanded in the light of resolution 4 adopted by the 1967 Geneva Conference.

A document entitled "National standardization", prepared by Francis Gall, has been submitted as a working paper of the present Conference under item 9 of the provisional agenda. It describes the procedure

* The original text of this report, submitted in Spanish, was contained in document E/CONF.61/L.72.

followed for the national standardization of geographical names, more than 120,000 of which have now been studied with a view to their inclusion in the second edition of the Geographical Dictionary.

In addition to the national standardization of geographical names, 19 of the major native languages of Guatemala, or rather of those of their alphabets which have so far been officially approved, are being standardized with the help of advice from the National Indian Institute and assistance from the Instituto Lingüístico de Verano (Summer Linguistic Institute). The officially approved alphabets will appear in an appendix to the Geographical Dictionary. The appendix will contain a general introduction to the Mayan scripts, a general explanation of Mayan graphic signs (vowels and consonants), and the Caribe alphabet. The appendix will also be published apart, as separates, for each alphabet as follows:

1. Achi;
2. Aguacateco;
3. Cakchiquel;
4. Caribe;
5. Chuj;
6. Ixil;
7. Jacalteco;
8. Kanjobal (two dialects);
9. Kekchi;
10. Mam;
11. Mopán Maya;
12. Pocomchi;
13. Pocoman;
14. Quiché (four dialects);
15. Rabinal Achi;
16. Tzutujil;
17. Chortí;
18. Itzá;
19. Uspanteco.

Terms and definitions are under consideration. A paper entitled "Some geographical terms and definitions used in Guatemala" has been submitted to the Conference as a separate document. These terms and definitions will appear in the second edition of the Geographical Dictionary.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE GEOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF GUATEMALA

In 1968, Guatemala published the *Suplemento del Diccionario Geográfico de Guatemala*, consisting of two volumes, 288 and 279 pages long. A copy of this work

has been provided at the present Conference for information purposes.

GEOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF GUATEMALA

A considerable demand exists for a new edition of the two-volume geographical dictionary of Guatemala, the first volume of which, containing 499 pages, was published in 1961 and the second, containing 450 pages, in 1962. That edition ran to 2,700 copies and is out of print. The material for the second edition of the *Diccionario Geográfico de Guatemala* is now in the final stages of collection.

The new edition, with accompanying maps, will consist of six volumes and will contain all the geographical names, numbering more than 120,000, which have so far been standardized, together with information drawn from the broad area of human geography.

To facilitate consultation, the dictionary will be cross-referenced to give both present and past names. Examples of the latter are Santa María Magdalena del Patulul, now Patulul, in the department of Suchitepéquez; Tecpán Atitán or Tecpán Atitlán, now the town of Sololá, capital of the department of the same name; San Sebastián del Texar, now the municipal capital of El Tejar, in the department of Chimaltenango; Thequaco, now San Juan Tecuaco, a municipal capital in the department of Santa Rosa; Trapiche de los Reyes, now the village of Lo de Reyes in the municipality of El Chol, department of Baja Verapaz.

It should be noted that the dictionary will not merely contain references to the principal chroniclers and historians from the middle of the sixteenth century onwards, but will also give quotations from their writings. This will provide the most accurate picture possible of populated places, their inhabitants at various periods, their principal industries, former routes of communication, traditions, and so on. Much of the information included will of course come from the General Archives of Central America, and use will also be made of a very rich collection of private records. Mention has been made elsewhere in the present report to other material which this important work will contain.

The questions of technical assistance to foreign countries and other aspects of standardization are dealt with in a separate report by the United Nations expert on geographical names for Latin America.

REPORT BY THE EXPERT FOR LATIN AMERICA OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES*

A brief account of activities which have taken place since the Geneva Conference of September 1967 is given below. It is expected that the Chairman of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and representatives of countries participating in the Second

Conference will provide additional information on national activities.

FIRST SESSION OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON GEOGRAPHY AND CARTOGRAPHY, SAN SALVADOR

The first session of the Central American Conference on Geography and Cartography, convened by the

* The original text of this report, prepared by F. Gall, submitted in Spanish, was contained in document E/CONF.61/L.73.