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**UNITED NATIONS  
GROUP OF EXPERTS ON  
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES**

*Newsletter*

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FOREWORD

This third issue of the Bulletin, as well as its publication date, prove that the challenge has been met to regularly produce an information tool useful to the international toponymic authorities preoccupied with normalization.

Once more, we can see that the cause of normalization of geographical names is advanced by different activities, productions and initiatives, but that, at the same time, problems and difficulties still exist.

It is to the evaluation and appraisal of the almost twenty-five years of activities of the United Nations to overcome these difficulties that the 14th Meeting of the Group of Experts for Geographical Names will be dedicated in Geneva starting May 16, 1989. The report of this meeting will be the topic of our 4th Bulletin.

I sincerely thank all those who have helped with this publication.

NOTE LIMINAIRES

Ce troisième numéro du Bulletin et sa date de parution prouvent que le défi a été relevé de produire régulièrement un outil d'information utile au réseau international des autorités toponymiques préoccupées de normalisation.

Une fois encore l'on voit que des activités, des productions, des initiatives diverses font avancer la cause de la normalisation des noms géographiques, mais qu'en même temps des problèmes ou des difficultés subsistent.

C'est à l'évaluation de ceux-ci et au bilan des quelque 25 ans d'activités des instances des Nations-Unies pour les vaincre, que se consacrera la 14e réunion du Groupe d'experts pour les noms géographiques, à Genève à partir du 16 mai 1989. Le compte rendu de cette réunion fera l'objet du 4e Bulletin.

Je remercie très vivement tous les collaborateurs.

Prólogo

Este tercer número del boletín y su fecha de publicación demuestran que se ha logrado producir con regularidad un instrumento informativo útil a las autoridades toponímicas preocupadas, en el ámbito internacional, por la normalización de nombres geográficos.

Una vez más, se puede establecer que el propósito de la normalización de los nombres geográficos se ha desarrollado a través de diversas actividades, producciones é iniciativas diversas, y que no obstante subsisten aún problemas y dificultades.

Es, así, que a través de la evaluación de dichos problemas y a la apreciación durante veinticinco años de actividades consagradas a éste propósito por la Naciones Unidas, para superar estas dificultades, que se organizará la décimacuarta Reunión del Grupo de Expertos para los Nombres Geográficos en Ginebra, a iniciarse el 16 de mayo de 1989. El informe que resulte de dicha reunión será el tópico del cuarto boletín.

Hago propicia ésta ocasión para agradecer a todos aquellos que han colaborado en ésta actividad.

Henri Dorion

INTRODUCTION

C'est à partir d'une série de trois que l'on peut parler de régularité. Ce troisième numéro confirme donc la réussite de l'entreprise amorcée lors de la 5e Conférence des Nations-Unies sur la normalisation des noms géographiques qui, notant la nécessité de disposer d'un réseau mondial d'information à cet égard, recommanda l'institution d'un bulletin semestriel visant à colliger et diffuser les renseignements liés aux progrès de la normalisation des noms géographiques. Réussite double puisque, d'une part, le défi de la régularité de la parution du bulletin a été tenu et que, d'autre part, son contenu révèle qu'à travers des activités et initiatives de divers ordres, des progrès ont été réalisés.

Certains sont systémiques et importants, d'autres, il est vrai, plus isolés et modestes. Mais cela même nous amène à nous convaincre de la nécessité de poursuivre le travail entrepris par le Groupe d'experts des Nations-Unies pour les noms géographiques. A cet égard, la quatorzième réunion, à Genève en mai 1989, aura entrepris le bilan de l'activité que mène depuis un quart de siècle l'organisation des Nations-Unies dans ce domaine. Le prochain Bulletin en donnera le compte-rendu.

Henri Dorion

NEWS FROM THE CELTIC DIVISION

From: Art O Maolfabhlai (Ireland)

An Coimisiún Logainmneacha (The Placenames Commission) made a significant clarifying decision when it recognized the increasing importance of streetnames as a category of placename. The basic argument for adopting this concept was that sooner or later the majority of citizens would have a personal association with these geographical names of an urban administrative nature, usually as part of housing estates, which also require attention to their naming. In order to promote standardization of terminology, orthography, grammar and of conventions generally in such names, and particularly in the Irish language, a subcommittee was formed which, with the co-operation of the Department of the Environment, has been having regular meetings with officials of major local authorities with the intention of drawing up guidelines for the use of all local authorities. Because streetnames and other such names are the responsibility of local authorities they frequently vary in convention. It is not intended to eliminate local character from such names and, in fact, the preservation and restoration of local historical names by their use in the naming of new urban areas is encouraged by instruction of the Minister for the Environment in a circular of 1986 to all local authorities.

A concise bilingual national gazetteer containing about 3,500 geographical names has been compiled and is with the printers. The names range from those of major physical features to those of places which are centres of social importance solely by reason of the fact that they are the locations of post-offices. The preparation of this gazetteer presented some problems which were not always easy of solution, as for example, the larger number of places whose separate identity has been much eroded by their being engulfed comparatively recently in large-scale urbanization. It was decided generally to give such places separate entries in the gazetteer. The gazetteer is arranged alphabetically in two sections, one Irish-English and the other English-Irish. (It must be borne in mind that most names have two official forms, one in the English language and one in Irish.) Information

given in the gazetteer includes the county of location, and the co-ordinates on the national grid to the accuracy of one kilometre. As the Irish forms of geographical names consist usually of recognizable words and as the orthography of Irish is standardized and regular in the Roman alphabet, a standard pronunciation for the Irish forms has been provided in co-operation with Institiúid Teangeolaíochta Éireann (the Linguistics Institute of Ireland) using the symbols of The International Phonetic Association in a broad system of transcription devised by the Institute for the Department of Education. Due to the fact that most of the traditional geographical names of Ireland are mere ciphers in their English language forms and that the spelling of these forms is erratic, it was not found possible to give a standardized pronunciation in their case. However, an important innovation in this gazetteer is the indication in the English forms of the correct stressing of the name by use of the grave accent. The grave accent was chosen as being distinct from the acute accent which is the only diacritic used in the Irish language. The grave accent has the advantage also of being capable of use in text of any kind without causing distortion. It was not found necessary in every case to use the accent to indicate the correct stressing as it was possible to devise certain rules. For instance, initial syllables are usually stressed. These rules and other matters are covered in the parallel Irish and English prefaces.

Another publication which is with the printers and which is the first of its kind is an edited volume of the historic evidence for the names of one county. (Luimneach/Limerick). This volume contains c. 300 pages and covers 2000 names. It was found most useful to arrange the evidence chronologically in three vertical columns giving first the year, secondly the written form of the name, and thirdly the abbreviation for the source. It is estimated that the slight amount of extra space needed for this arrangement is more than compensated for by the visual clarity and ease of scanning. Much experimentation was required before the present format was accepted and the present volume will serve as a model for the other volumes which are being prepared.

Bilingual gazetteers of all the administrative names arranged by county are also in preparation and those for three counties are already with the

printers. Those contain only the names in their standardized form together with the reference numbers of the largescale map plans on which they are located (1:10,560, representing the scale of one inch to one mile, pending the completion of the new 1:2,500 series which is in progress). These bilingual gazetteers also are arranged in two sections similarly to bilingual dictionaries.

The year 1988 saw the publication in Northern Ireland of a bilingual map of the north of Ireland on the scale 1:250,000. This map bears both the Irish and the English forms of the names of about 450 settlements as well as the names of many physical features. The map has a bilingual English-Irish legend and is accompanied by an Irish-English/English-Irish gazetteer of settlements in Northern Ireland. The map and gazetteer were produced with the co-operation of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland.

In 1987 a project to research the origin of all names of settlements and physical features in Northern Ireland appearing on the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale map series was funded by the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland. This project was established in Queen's University, Belfast under the direction of the Professor of Celtic and will enable an authenticated Irish language version to be provided for most of these names. The project employs five fulltime researchers in addition to the Director. Co-operation between these and the Placenames Branch of the Ordnance Survey in Dublin will be most beneficial to the work of both groups.

NEWS FROM THE DUTCH-GERMAN-SPEAKING DIVISION

From: Josef Breu (Austria)

Private Publications

- (a) Lochner von Hüttenbach, F.: Etymologisches zu den Namen des Bezirkes Liezen. Beiträge aus dem Kulturleben des Bezirkes Liezen, vol. 9, fasc. 2 (1988), pp. 18-19.

- (b) Pohl, H.D.: Abgrenzungsprobleme zwischen Toponymen verschiedenem Ursprungs in Kärnten (und Osttirol). *Onomastica Slavogermanica*, Band XVII, pp. 33-48, Berlin 1988.
- (c) Straka, M.: Book review of Amtlicher Gebrauch des geographischen Namensgutes. Beiträge der Toponomastiktagung in Bozen 1985. In: *Zeitschrift des historischen Vereins für Steiermark*, vol. 79, pp. 319-320. Bozen 1986.

Official Publications

- (a) The Federal Survey has published new editions with revised geographical names of the following sheets of the Austrian Map 1:50 000:

1, 2, 12, 13, 28, 29, 44, 45, 46, 80, 130, 131, 151, 154, 158, 159, 163, 178, 181, 195, 196, 197, 198, 206, 107, 208.

- (b) Publications of the Statistical Central Office:

Karte der Siedlungseinteilung 1:50 000, 65 sheets

From: Rolf Böhme (Federal Republic of Germany)

- (1) Regional Meetings:

The 84th meeting of the "Ständiger Ausschuss für Geographische Namen" (StaGN) (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names) has been held at Euskirchen (Northrhine-Westfalia) 11-12 October 1988. Among others on the agenda were:

Preparation of materials to be presented to the 14th session of the UNGEGN to be held in May 1989 in Geneva, based on the resolutions adopted on the 5th Conference, Montréal 1987 and the 13th session of the UNGEGN.

A report was given on the 20th meeting of SCAR (Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research) which was held in Hobart, Australia in September 1988. The FRG was represented by Dr. Jörn Sievers of the Institut für Angewandte Geodäsie (Institute of Applied Geodesy), Frankfurt a. Main.

The German list of country names based on the UN Terminology Bulletins has been finally edited. A German version of Glossary No. 330 is under elaboration.

(2) New Publications:

Rolf Böhme: Der Ständige Ausschuss für Geographische Namen (StAGN). Kartographische Nachrichten No. 4/1988, pp. 159-162.

NEWS FROM THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN DIVISION (OTHER THAN ARABIC)

From: Naftali Kadmon (Israel)

University Courses in Toponymy

The bi-annual course of lectures "Toponymy - the Theory and Practice of Place Names" is again being given in 1988/89 in the Geography Department of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. On request, and if the number of foreign applications is large enough, this course, which is directed at 3rd year undergraduates of the B.A. or B.Soc.Sc. programme, as well as at graduate (Master degree) students, can also be given in English, similar to other courses at this University.

Inter-Divisional Activity

In May, 1988, a talk was given by the representative of the "Eastern Mediterranean Division (other than Arabic)", at the Landesvermessungsamt (State Cadastral Office) of Niedersachsen in Hannover, Federal Republic of Germany. The speaker was Prof. N. Kadmon of Jerusalem, Israel, and the audience consisted of surveyors, geodesists, cartographers, and toponymists, including members of the Federal German Names Authority (StAGN). The talk was titled "Toponymy - serious aspects and light-hearted considerations of a relatively unknown discipline", and demonstrated some of the principles described through examples from the areas covered by the Dutch-German and the Eastern Mediterranean Divisions.

The talk started by voicing the opinion that few areas of human geographical activity raise tempers and emotions to such a degree as the dealing with place names, and this was underscored by various examples from UN Conferences. Then followed a listing of some of the main reasons for the applications of the standardization of geographical names. The speaker then addressed the main subject of his talk: activities of the United Nations in the field of standardization. If toponymy is a relatively unknown branch of science, the endeavours of the UN in this sphere are even less conspicuous. He began with a description of the composition of the UN organs and especially the 19 geographical-linguistic Division with their histories, including the latest two additions - the Celtic and the Eastern Mediterranean. The various working groups too were described.

The actual activities were treated, as usual, under the headings of National and International. Among the first, the new "Guidelines for the Organization and Functions of a National Names Authority" by D. Orth was mentioned. The treatment of names in multi-lingual countries, national gazetteers (including the Automated Hebrew-Romanized gazetteer of Israel) and the necessity of formulating national toponymic guidelines were then covered. In describing international activities, the list of state names was mentioned, as well as the problem of names transcending national borders. The donor principle with its various problematics was exposed, as well as the question of exonyms and traditional names. Finally, the problem of writing systems was treated, with mention - and graphic examples - of logographic, syllabic and alphabetic scripts and some of their problems. Particular stress was laid on the question of names transformation, and especially transliteration and in particular romanization. Mention of the Glossary of Technical Terms in toponomy and the work on automation closed the talk, which was illustrated by numerous slides, many of them relating to the light-hearted aspect of the subject.

In the news media of the Federal Republic of Germany, but also in some of the otherwise excellent atlas work, a very high proportion of foreign place names are still rendered by exonyms or else by transcription and even translation. Indeed, in the discussion following the talk the opinion was

expressed by a member of the audience that standardization, including the standardization of geographical names, and especially in school atlases, is a sort of cultural extermination. In reply it was said, among others, that in this case the standardization of weights and measures, e.g. from lieues, parasangs, the numerous kinds of miles, yards, fathoms, etc. - to the metric system also came under the heading of "cultural murder" but, in the end, benefitted humanity!

#### Survey of Historical Names in Israel

Over the course of the past 50 years a not inconsiderable number of geographical names has been obliterated from topographic maps of Israel, for one reason or another. Therefore it was decided to make a survey of such names, and in particular those which might shed light on the historical-toponomastic process in the country. This list, when completed, will be put at the disposal of archaeologists and historians, as well as researchers in other disciplines concerned with the historical geography of the Land of the Bible. Moreover, after proper ratification by the Government Names Commission, they will be added to the "Toponomastikon", the computerized gazetteer of Israel.

#### Computer-Assisted Placement of Curved and Winding Geographical Names in Maps

Following two previous innovations from Israel (the bi-scriptual automated gazetteer and the computerized translation/transliteration/transcription of a world atlas), further technological progress can be reported.

Subsequent to the setting up of a geographical information system (GIS) in which the automated bi-scriptual toponymic gazetteer was incorporated, the Survey of Israel conducted experiments in the automated placement of geographical names. Toponyms are retrieved from the toponymic data base and automatically rough-placed horizontally with the aid of the co-ordinates stored with the name. Powerful Arc/Info software is then employed to string

curved or winding names into their proper geographical location - along a river or mountain range in a topographic map, or a street in a town plan. This is done interactively on the editing screen. A fuller account of the process will be given at the 14th Session of the UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

NEWS FROM THE LATIN AMERICA DIVISION

IV REUNION REGIONAL DE LA DIVISION IBEROAMERICANA DEL  
GRUPO DE EXPERTOS DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS EN NOMBRES  
GEOGRAFICOS

LIMA, 18 AL 20 DE OCTUBRE DE 1989

Este Certamen organizado por el IGN del Perú se celebrará en la ciudad de Lima, con un ciclo de conferencias y comunicaciones impartidas en jornadas de mañana y tarde;

PRESENTACION DE TRABAJOS

Los trabajos tendrán que ajustarse al temario siguiente:

- Historia y estructura de la lengua origen que generan los nombres geográficos.
- Procedimientos y aplicaciones de la nomenclatura a nivel municipal, nacional y regional.
- Integridad, credibilidad y conveniencia toponomástica en los documentos cartográficos oficiales.
- Los Nombres Geográficos en la Industria y Obras Civiles.
- Temas Libres.

La duración de las ponencias no excederá los 20 minutos; 10 minutos es para coloquio.

INSCRIPCIONES

Las cuotas de inscripción para participar en la reunión, así como el rol de los trabajos-ponencias serán dados a conocer con la debida oportunidad.

CRONOGRAMA DE RECEPCION DE TRABAJOS

Fundamentación y resúmenes hasta el 30 de Abril 1989.

El íntegro del trabajo compendiado hasta el 30 Julio 1989.

NOTA: Para poder reproducir el total de la ponencia en un volumen, rogamos nos envíen ajustándose al siguiente formato :

Título (Con letras mayúsculas).

Autor o Autores (en primer lugar, el nombre del expositor)

Papel tamaño DIN-A4 escrito a máquina a doble espacio en una sola cara, quedando la parte escrita en un recuadro de 17 cm x 25 cm, con márgenes de 2 cm.

COORDINACION

Para informaciones adicionales dirigirse a:

Instituto Geográfico Nacional-SECRETARIA EJECUTIVA IV REUNION  
Av. Andrés Aramburú N° 1198  
Apartado 2038-Lima 100  
Perú  
Telf.: 459583 - 452187

NEWS FROM THE ROMANO-HELLENIC DIVISION

From: A. Kotsonis (Cyprus)

1. The Cyprus Permanent Committee for the standardization of the Geographical Names continues its task within a framework of the decisions and aims of the United Nations. As a result of its activities and efforts, the Minister of Education submitted to the Cyprus Council of Ministers proposal No. 1441/88 seeking the official sanctioning and obligatory use of the approved by the Fifth Conference of the U.N. at Montreal, Canada, Romanization system of the Greek alphabet. The decision of the Council was published in the Official Gazette of the Republic (No. 2375, dated 7 January 1989, page 2, decision No. 2).
2. The approved system has been under implementation and is being used in all the official and semi-governmental editions regarding all new maps and charts in Cyprus such as Administration Maps, Street Names Maps, Civil Aviation Charts, Thematic Maps, etc.
3. It is worth noting that due to the conversibility of the approved transcription system, the automatic computerization of names has been made possible and as a result, the Committee has developed an efficient system of hyphenization of the Greek script which is being introduced in the process for the computerization of records by all Ministries and other Government Services.
4. Further, the Cyprus Permanent Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names prepared a booklet containing directions for up-to-date application of the new romanization system of the Greek alphabet and guidelines for the naming of chartographical and other geographical features.
5. Finally, the Cyprus Permanent Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names is planning to pave the way towards the introduction of the romanization system to Government Services and Semi-Governmental Organizations such as Cyprus Tourism Organization, Civil Aviation, Municipalities, Department of Ancient Monuments and others.

NEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/CANADA DIVISION

From: Helen Kerfoot (Canada)

**REPORT FROM CANADA / DOSSIER PRÉSENTÉ PAR LE CANADA**

**OCTOBER 1988 - MARCH 1989 / OCTOBRE 1988 - MARS 1989**

**1. CANADIAN MEETINGS / RÉUNIONS CANADIENNES**

The Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names continues to comprise 23 members (representing the provinces and territories, federal departments, and advisory committees).

The Advisory Committee on Glaciological and Alpine Nomenclature met in February. Items discussed included:

- the ongoing addition of generics used in official geographical names to those recorded in the CPCGN publication "Generic terms in Canada's Geographical Names/Génériques en usage dans les noms géographiques du Canada" (1987)
- modification of the CPCGN principle on the use of personal names, particularly in respect to commemorative naming
- text for a pamphlet for the general public on how to submit name proposals
- delineation of the extent of named mountain ranges to provide more accurate information for cartographers

At the end of February, a visit to Canada by the New Zealand Surveyor-General, who is also the Chairman of the New Zealand Geographic Board, allowed exchange of information on geographic board structures, data bases and recognition of names used by native people.

Information on the CPCGN and Canada's geographical names may be obtained from the:

CPCGN Secretariat  
650 - 615 Booth Street  
Ottawa, Canada, K1A 0E9

**2. PUBLICATIONS / PUBLICATIONS**

Publications of the CPCGN or its members / Publications du CPCNG ou de ses membres:

- **Gazetteer of Canada: Alberta / Répertoire géographique du Canada: Alberta, CPCGN and Canada Centre for Mapping / CPCNG et Centre canadien de cartographie**
- **Gazetteer of Canada: Yukon Territory / Répertoire géographique du Canada: Territoire du Yukon, CPCGN and Canada Centre for Mapping / CPCGN et Centre canadien de cartographie**

Le Comité permanent canadien des noms géographiques se compose toujours de 23 membres représentant les provinces et les territoires du Canada ainsi que des ministères fédéraux et des comités consultatifs.

Le Comité consultatif de la nomenclature glaciologique et alpine s'est réuni en février. Les sujets discutés furent :

- la continue mise à jour de la liste des génériques utilisés dans les noms géographiques officiels et qui ont paru dans la publication du CPCNG "Génériques en usage dans les noms géographiques du Canada/Generic terms in Canada's Geographical Names" (1987)
- la modification du principe du CPCNG concernant l'utilisation des noms de personnes, plus particulièrement quant à la désignation commémorative
- un texte pour une brochure destinée au public qui décrit les étapes à suivre lorsqu'on propose des noms géographiques
- la délimitation des limites des chaînes de montagnes dénommées afin de munir les cartographes de renseignements plus précis

À la fin de février, une visite en territoire canadien de l'arpenteur général de la Nouvelle-Zélande, qui est aussi le président de la "New Zealand Geographic Board", a permis un échange d'informations sur la structure des comités des noms géographiques, les bases de données et la reconnaissance des noms utilisés par les peuples autochtones.

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Les renseignements concernant le CPCNG et les noms géographiques du Canada peuvent être obtenus auprès du :

Secrétariat du CPCNG  
650 - 615, rue Booth  
Ottawa, Canada, K1A 0E9

- **Geographical names and the United Nations / Les noms géographiques et les Nations Unies** (Papers presented by Canada and resolutions adopted at the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names / Communications présentées par le Canada et résolutions adoptées à la cinquième Conférence des Nations Unies sur la normalisation des noms géographiques, Montréal, 1987), CPCGN and Canada Centre for Mapping / CPCNG et Centre canadien de cartographie
- **Seigneuries et fiefs du Québec - nomenclature et cartographie**, Commission de toponymie du Québec et Célat (Université Laval).

Educational game / Jeu éducatif:

- **Seek 'n Name** (a game on names of places in Alberta), The Friends of Geographical Names of Alberta Society

Brochures / Dépliants:

- **Gazetteer of Canada / Répertoire géographique du Canada** (volumes and prices / volumes et prix), CPCGN Secretariat / Secrétariat du CPCNG
- **Gazetteer of Canada: Manitoba - Cumulative Supplement to December 30, 1988**, Manitoba Department of Natural Resources

Newsletters / Communiqués:

- **CANOMA** 14(2) December / décembre 1988 (News and views on Canadian toponymy / Nouvelles et commentaires concernant la toponymie du Canada), CPCGN Secretariat / Secrétariat du CPCNG
- **Le toponyme**, 6(2) novembre 1988 (Bulletin d'information sur les noms de lieux du Québec), Commission de toponymie du Québec
- **Origine de:** novembre 1988: Cherry River et Baie-Saint-Paul, Commission de toponymie du Québec

In preparation / En cours:

- Commission de toponymie du Québec

La Commission a commencé la recherche et la rédaction proprement dites de rubriques du **Dictionnaire des noms de lieux du Québec** au cours de 1987. À la fin de décembre 1988, près du quart des rubriques du corpus, qui contient 7000 rubriques, a passé le stade de la rédaction et de la vérification. La publication de l'ouvrage, qui sera illustré et édité en un seul volume, est prévue dans le courant de l'exercice 1990-1991.

La Commission publiera au mois de mai 1989 un dépliant illustré sur la politique, les procédures et le bilan de son programme de désignations commémoratives. La Commission a établi une réserve d'entités géographiques disponibles, où elle pourra puiser lors d'événements importants qui se dérouleront notamment dans d'autres pays.

Les Actes du stage de formation en toponymie qui a eu lieu à Québec en 1988 paraîtront en avril 1989.

- Manitoba Natural Resources

The Manitoba Geographical Names programme currently has a term employee editing the text for **Geographical Names of Manitoba**. Information on origins of names to be incorporated into this future publication was collected during field work and archival research in the 1970s.

**3. TRAINING PROGRAMMES AND COURSES / FORMATION EN TOPOONYMIE**

Le gouvernement marocain s'est adressé, en 1987, au gouvernement du Québec pour obtenir sa coopération dans la réalisation du **Répertoire toponymique du Maroc**. La mission doit être réalisée en deux phases. Dans la première, la Commission de toponymie du Québec assure, chez elle, la formation en toponymie, d'un cadre marocain. Le délégué du Maroc est en stage à la Commission au cours du mois d'avril 1989. La seconde phase qui fait l'objet du projet actuel prévoit l'encadrement au Maroc de cadres locaux par un expert québécois et l'évaluation de l'équipement informatique nécessaire à l'exécution du projet.

At the Fourth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas, Canada filed a technical report in French and in English on the toponymy training course held in Québec, Canada, August 7-19, 1988.

À la quatrième Conférence cartographique régionale des Nations Unies pour les Amériques, le Canada a déposé un rapport technique, dans ses versions française et anglaise, sur le stage de formation en toponymie tenu à Québec, Canada, du 7 au 19 août 1988.

#### 4. DECISIONS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES / DÉCISIONS SUR LES NOMS GÉOGRAPHIQUES

On June 1, 1989, the Hamlet of **Eskimo Point**, N.W.T., will officially change its name to **Arviat**. This decision follows a plebiscite held in the community and approval of an Order of the Executive Council of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The community of approximately 1200 people is located on the west side of Hudson Bay at 61° 06' 40"N - 94° 03' 30"W. For over 500 years before permanent settlement in the 1920s, the Inuit of the area used this location as a summer camp. **Arviat** means literally "place of the bowhead whale".

À compter du 1er juin 1989, le hameau de **Eskimo Point**, T.N.-O., prendra officiellement le nom de **Arviat**. Cette décision fait suite à un plébiscite dans la communauté et à une résolution du Conseil exécutif du Gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

La communauté composée d'environ 1200 personnes est située sur la côte ouest de la baie d'Hudson à 61° 06' 40"N et 94° 03' 30"W. Les Inuit de la région ont utilisé cet endroit en tant que camp estival pendant 500 ans avant l'établissement d'une communauté permanente dans les années 1920. **Arviat** signifie littéralement «lieu de la baleine boréale»,

#### NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC BUREAU

##### Report on the Main Activities during the period 1 September 1988 - 1 March 1989

##### 1. IHO/IOC GEBCO Sub-Committee on geographical names and nomenclature of ocean bottom features.

The 8th meeting of the 'GEBCO Sub-Committee' will be held at the IHO Headquarters, Monaco, from 10 to 12 May 1989 under the chairmanship of Dr. Robert L. FISHER (from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California, USA).

Several scientists from parts of the world have been contacted and asked to identify significant features recently discovered and presently unnamed and to submit their proposed new names to the GEBCO Sub-Committee for clearance and inclusion in the Gazetteer. All these proposals, as well as the ones recently received by the Secretariat (the IHB) from other sources, will be examined during the 8th session of the GEBCO Sub-Committee.

2. International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB)

(a) The first edition of the BP-0008 'Gazetteer of geographical names of undersea features shown (or which might be added) on the GEBCO and on the IHO small-scale INT chart series (as Part 1) and Standardization of undersea feature names (as Part 2)' was published by the IHB in November 1988. It has been welcomed by the scientific and hydrographic communities, by combining the gazetteer of geographical names and the related guidelines, the BP-0008 gives the user a fine volume pertaining to this important field.

In accordance with Decision 46 of the I.H. Conference (IHO) and the Resolution adopted by the 14th session of the IOC Assembly, IHO and IOC Member States have been requested to give wide publicity to the availability of the publication BP-0008 and to encourage publishers of ocean charts and editors of scientific journals in their country to require compilers and authors to produce written evidence of clearance for their undersea feature names.

The publication BP-0008 (bilingual: English/French) is available from the IHB (price 200 FF) at the following address:

INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC BUREAU  
B.P. 445  
MC 98001 MONACO  
Principality of MONACO                      Telex: 479164 MC - INHORG  
    Telefax: (33) 93.25.20.03

Copies of the 'Undersea feature name proposal' form are also available (gratis) from the IHB, in Arabic, English, French, Greek, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish versions.

3. IHO Special Publication SP23 'LIMITS OF OCEANS AND SEAS'

The IHB has continued its efforts in revising this valuable publication to achieve a compromise which all concerned Member States can accept. By circular letter 45/1988 dated 7 October 1988, the IHB has submitted new proposals for each of the areas under discussion. In the spirit of the IHO tradition of generous co-operation, Member States have replied with wide acceptance of these new proposals. It is anticipated that the final compilation of the 4th Edition of SP 23 will start in the second half of 1989.