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

*Newsletter*

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FOREWORD

It is often said that a meeting is considered successful if it ends with as many questions as answers and when one leaves the meeting with a work programme heavier than when he arrived. Such was the case at the last meeting of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names held in Geneva in May 1989.

The work programme which resulted is varied and demanding, as are the objectives pursued by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. I am sure that the working groups and regional divisions will contribute to progress in this field. To reach that goal, it is important that - as has been said many times before - communication be established between all members; hence the relevance of this Newsletter which serves as reference, reminder, example, inspiration and working tool.

On behalf of each recipient of this Newsletter, I would like to thank the members of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names who have contributed to this issue. The information supplied is precious in helping to evaluate how far we have come under the impetus of the work done by the Conference and the Group of Experts.

The usefulness of the information outlining the status of the question in no fewer than 10 countries, as shown in the report of the East Africa Division, leads us to hope that the 19 regional divisions will follow this example. In advance, I thank the people in each division who will add their co-operation to that of those already assuring us of theirs.

## NOTE LIMINAIRE

On dit souvent qu'une réunion est utile lorsqu'elle conclut à autant de questions que de réponses et lorsqu'on se sépare avec un programme de travail plus chargé qu'avant la réunion. Tel a été le cas de la dernière réunion du Groupe d'experts des Nations Unies pour les noms géographiques tenue à Genève en mai 1989.

Le programme de travail qui en est résulté est varié et exigeant, à la mesure des objectifs que poursuit le Groupe d'experts des Nations Unies pour les noms géographiques. Les groupes de travail et les divisions régionales contribueront, nous en sommes sûrs, à réaliser des progrès dans cette voie. Pour y arriver, il importe - cela a été dit maintes fois - que la communication soit efficace entre les nombreux intervenants, d'où l'utilité de cette Newsletter qui est à la fois référence, rappel, exemple, inspiration, outil.

Je remercie, au nom de tous les lecteurs de cette Newsletter, les membres du Groupe d'experts des Nations Unies pour les noms géographiques qui ont contribué à ce numéro. Les informations fournies sont précieuses pour évaluer le chemin parcouru sous l'impulsion des travaux des Conférences et du Groupe d'experts.

L'utilité des renseignements faisant le point de la question dans non moins de dix pays, comme c'est le cas du rapport de la Division Afrique de l'Est, nous amène à souhaiter que les 19 divisions régionales suivent cet exemple. D'avance je remercie aussi les responsables des divisions qui s'ajouteront à celles qui nous assurent déjà de leur collaboration.

Henri Dorion  
Président

## NEWS FROM THE AFRICA EAST DIVISION

### Kenya ( W.J. Absaloms)

There exists a statutory National Standing Committee on Geographical Names which is charged with the duties of processing geographical names used on maps sheets produced by the Department of Surveys.

Standardization is a continuous exercise and has continued to be done regularly during the map revisions for various sheets at 1:50,000 and 1:250,000. Most of the mapping in the country is done at the above two scales though there is still some areas mainly in the arid and semi arid North which are mapped at the scale of 1:100,000. The whole country is due to be covered by some 800 map sheets at the scale of 1:50,000. At present some 250 map sheets at this scale have been completed and during their revision some 9,000 names have been processed and compiled annually.

Currently the revision of the Gazetteer to produce the third edition is under way. The present Gazetteer was compiled with the help of the United States Board on Geographic Names and contains some 30,000 place names. During the ongoing revision of the Gazetteer errors in spelling of place names have been discovered, new administrative names have come up and other places have changed names. All these are being corrected so that the third edition will reflect up-to-date place names. The new and corrected names have also been depicted on the revised map sheets.

The United Republic of Tanzania is also co-operating with Kenya on the standardization of place names along the boundary between the two countries during the former's revision of map sheets around the boundary. Kenya has also been working toponymic guidelines for map, and other, editors; although some of guidelines have been in existence, none had been comprehensive. The revision of the National Atlas is currently being undertaken and has incorporated brief toponymic guidelines for

the production of the 4th Edition of the National Atlas. The guidelines have mainly concentrated on the spelling of geographical names as stipulated by the National Standing Committee on Geographical Names.

#### Botswana

A presidential directive (CAB51/67) established the Place Names Commission on 11 October 1967 and the Surveyor General was appointed as Chairman. Between then and December 1970 the commission met 77 times and considered some 3,543 names. It published a second list of names and recommended spelling in July 1981.

#### Ethiopia

Although the topic of standardization of geographical names is a relevant subject and forms part of the list of priorities of the provisional military Government in Socialist Ethiopia, at the moment the Government is engaged in other more urgent development projects. The position therefore remains as it has been in the last few years.

#### Malawi

Due to lack of access to some of the original documentations and resolutions at previous or rather founding conferences and subsequent seminars or symposia has resulted in Malawi not setting up any National Committee on the standardization of geographical names. Very little interest has been shown on the subject. The enormity of the task complied with financial limitations might have caused this state of affairs. It is hoped that the commissioner of surveys will sensitize his Government to view the formation of a National Committee on standardization of Geographical names favourably.

#### Mozambique

Mozambique has not had a National Committee on Geographical names though it is very keen on international standardization of Geographical names, symbols, conventions and letters and hope that some day these will be done for Eastern Africa in particular and Africa in general. It is

experiencing difficulties with names along its borders where the neighbouring countries do not recognise their official version of the names and instead adopt their own. It is interested to publish a coded booklet in alphabetical order listing all the names in their national atlas which will be revised from time to time. They have also shown interest in short training on Toponymy and hope they will be invited to participate whenever one will be held.

#### Swaziland

The place names committee has not met for years. Its chairman is Mr. Matsebula, the well known historian of Swaziland.

The names compiled on some thirty one sheets at 1:50,000 in early 1950's are outmoded and have errors in spelling. It is the wish of the surveyor general to revise all the thirty one map sheets and thereby revise the place names. Thus it is hoped that the Swaziland place names committee will be revived, that the previous records of its previous meetings will be made available and accurate list of place names in Swaziland will be compiled. This list could also include translation of Swatzi names.

#### Tanzania

In 1982 the Survey and Mapping division of the Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Tourism managed to put through parliament legislation for the establishment of the National Geographic Names Standardization Committee. The committee was subsequently established on 13th June 1983. The committee so far has not published its recommendations.

#### Uganda

Uganda has been passing through a difficult political period for some time and has not been able to carry out any meaningful mapping programme.

### Zambia

A standing committee on Geographical names was established in 1978 with clear terms to advise the Government on matters relating to geographical nomenclature. Since then the committee has concentrated on the revision of the National Gazetteer of Geographical names which was published in 1966. At the same time the committee is working towards re-organization of local subcommittees at district and provincial levels. The committee plans to increase the number of place names from the present 35,000 in the 1966 edition to about 45,000 in coming years.

### Zimbabwe

The National Geographical Names Standing Committee in Zimbabwe is quite active. In 1987 it processed a total of 1,339 place names out of which 1217 were verified and 122 were referred back to the District Administration for more information.

### Other member countries of the Division

No information has been received from other member countries of the Division, (Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles) but it is expected that activities in standardization of geographical names are continuing.



## NEWS FROM THE CHINA DIVISION

### China (Zhao Dianguo)

An outline of the work on geographical names in China

The field work of general investigation of Tibetan place names was completed by the end of September 1989. Over 50 place name experts, selected by the China Committee on Geographical Names and the People's government of Tibet, came from the Liaoning and Jiling provinces and the Tibet Autonomous Region, to spend about 10 years investigating Tibetan place names. They have covered about 50,000 entries. Thus, the first general investigation of place names in the country (except Taiwan Province) will be completed.

2. The China Geographical Names Information System Technical Specification was examined and approved. In order to establish the system and modernize the methods of place names information management and technology, so that standardize place names information will be provided to the governments and departments concerned at all levels, China Committee on Geographical Names had the departments concerned study and work out the China Geographical Names Information Technical Specification. Views were sought, it was revised repeatedly and officially approved in August 1989 for issuance on a trial basis..

The Committee on Applied Toponymy of the China Society of Toponymy held a meeting, 18 to 20 August 1989, to discuss urban toponymy. The questions discussed were the naming urban place names. Over 50 experts attended the meeting.

3. The Committee on Basic Toponymy of the China Society of Toponymy held a meeting in Beijing, 6 to 8 September 1989 to discuss the definition and characteristics of generic terms for place names. Over 30 experts attended.

NEWS FROM THE DUTCH AND GERMAN-SPEAKING DIVISION

Austria (Josef Breu)

1. National meeting

A federal co-ordination body "Abteilung für kartographische Namenkunde" in the Austrian Cartographic Commission held a meeting on 28 April, 1989. Its main subjects were:

- (a) Intensifying efforts of the provincial names commissions to support the Federal Survey in standardizing geographical names in the Austrian 1:50,000 map .
- (b) Co-operation between the Federal Survey and the Austrian Statistical Central Office on the standardization of street names.

2. Private publication

Schuster, Elisabeth: Die Etymologie der niederösterreichischen Ortsnamen (The etymology of Lower Austrian place names), vol. 1, A-E, ed Verein für Landeskunde von Niederösterreich, Wien 1989.

3. Official publications

- (a) Edited by the Austrian Statistical Central Office:

Statistik-Atlas Österreich (Statistical Atlas Austria),  
2nd annual volume. Wien 1988.

- (b) Edited by the Federal Survey, Vienna:

Newly published editions with revised geographical names of the following sheets of the Österreichische Karte (Austrian map), 1:50,000 : 7, 8, 28, 44, 48, 80, 108, 158, 159, 176.

South Africa (Peter E. Raper)

The writing of Nguni Place names

The highest authority on the standardization of geographical names in South Africa is the National Place Names Committee (NPNC). It comprises experts in toponymy, in the various languages spoken in South Africa, and representatives of academies and state departments.

The NPNC considers geographical names submitted to it from linguistic and other points of view and recommends approval or rejection of their spelling and styling. The final approval rests with the Minister of National Education.

The NPNC makes its recommendations on the basis of principles and guidelines developed and amended in the light of experience gained since its inception in 1940. Names from the various indigenous African languages are considered in the light of the orthographies approved by the official Language Boards for these languages. Names approved by the NPNC are implemented by the Directorate of Surveys and Mapping and entered on official maps published by the Government Printer.

Over the years some of the orthographies for the various African languages have been amended, or interpreted in different ways at different times. As far as the Nguni languages (Swazi or Seswati, Xhosa and Zulu) are concerned, one of the main problems involves the use of locative and other prefixes such as e-, i-, o-, u-, ku- and kwa- when used in conjunction with proper names. According to the orthographic rule, the root must always be written with a capital letter. When place names are used in syntactic contexts in the Nguni languages, the relevant prefixes are written with small letters in the middle of a sentence, and the root with a capital letter, for example eMpanqeni, oThobothini, or kwaMashu.

According to the writing conventions of English, Afrikaans and similar languages, proper names, including geographical names, are, of course, written with an initial capital letter whether they occur in isolation or at the start or in the middle of a sentence. Names from the Nguni languages were at first accordingly approved, e.g. Amajuba, Empangeni, and so forth.

In an attempt to meet the requirements of the official orthographies of the relevant African languages, advisers to the NPNC subsequently recommended that the names should be written with the prefix in lower case, followed by the root starting with a capital letter, whether the name occur in isolation, at the start of a sentence, or in context. Thus were approved by the NPNC forms such as aMatikulu, eMgala, iNgogo, kwaMpongo, etc.

Another attempt to solve the problem involved omitting the prefix altogether, particularly for names of geographical features such as mountains and rivers, which resulted in approved forms such as Mbilo, Ngagane, Sibadlane, and the like.

In the draft publication of names approved between 1979 and 1988, the following guidelines occur:

"In the Nguni languages the locative prefixes e-, o-, ku-, ko- and kwa- are joined to the component following them. Likewise the initial vowels i- and u- are joined to the component that follows, the initial consonant of which is always written with a capital letter, if the name occurs in isolation or at the start of a sentence, (be it a vowel or a consonant) is also written with a capital letter. Hence, for example:

IN ISOLATION/START OF SENTENCE

EDulini  
EMpangeni  
UMthatha/EMthatha  
kwaJojo  
IGoli/Egoli

WITHIN SENTENCE

eDulini  
eMpangeni  
uMthatha/eMthatha  
kwajojo  
iGoli/eGoli"

On the basis of this ruling forms such as ELushaba, ISithebe, KwaNangu, OThandweni and UMzamomhle have been approved.

At the most recent meeting of the NPNC, on 13 April 1989, the following document was submitted as the latest proposal for the correct treatment of Zulu names:

"The problem of writing Zulu place names can only be solved if a distinction is made between the use of these names in the context of Zulu and in the context of other languages, more specifically English. The demands of these contexts are different and, in the case of problematical instances, incompatible. In other words, it is not possible to write Zulu in such a way that it is at the same time in accordance with the demands of the orthographic prescriptions of Zulu and with those of the conventions of other languages.

"Three uses in regard of Zulu geographical names are particularly problematical in English and Afrikaans contexts, namely:

- (a) the writing of more than one capital letter in the same name, e.g. EMpangeni and kwa-Zulu (at the beginning of a sentence or in isolation);
- (b) the writing of the second letter of a name with a capital letter, e.g. eMpangeni (within a sentence), and
- (c) the use of varying initial vowels in different syntactic contexts, e.g. UMzimkhulu as subject or object of a sentence as opposed to eMzimkhulu (sic) as locative form".

"The National Place Names Committee (NPNC) is primarily concerned with the written forms of geographical names in English and Afrikaans contexts, and therefore has no other choice than to write Zulu names in accordance with the conventions applicable in those languages. In this event there will inevitably be a discrepancy between these conventions and that required by the Zulu orthography".

"The following guidelines are therefore recommended for the future treatment of Zulu names:

- (a) Only the first letter of name is to be written with a capital letter, e.g. Empangeni, Kwazulu and Umzimkhulu.
- (b) This policy need not necessarily be applied to names beginning with Kwa-, KwaZulu is acceptable.
- (c) Where it can be determined that the initial vowels of names can vary according to syntactic contexts, it is desirable that the names begin without an initial vowel. If this were applicable to the name Umzimkhulu, the correct form would be Mzimkhulu.

"These proposals may create the impression among Zulu-speaking people that the conventions of their language are being deliberately ignored. If that were to be the case, the NPNC could consider approving dual forms in relevant cases, in other words one form written in accordance with general conventions and one written in accordance with the requirements of the Zulu orthography".

An immediate reaction to these proposals was that there should not be the possibility of dual forms, since that would proliferate the number of entries on maps, in lists of names, and everywhere else that geographical names occur, resulting in increased confusion and expense.

These latest proposals have not yet been approved by the Minister of National Education, but if and when they are, Zulu and other Nguni names will henceforth be written accordingly.

A solution offered by these proposals is that, for purposes other than those in Nguni contexts, these geographical names may correctly be written in accordance with the conventions applicable to Western languages, namely that each name will commence with a capital letter and continue with lower case letters.

The orthographies of the African languages are in a state of evolution and in the process of normalization, and are adapted from time to time, as these languages are increasingly used by Nguni speakers at school and in literature.

NEWS FROM THE EAST-CENTRAL AND SOUTH-EAST EUROPE DIVISION

Czechoslovakia (Imrich Horňanský)

Information on activities in the standardization of geographical names in the CSSR

The ninth session of the East-Central and South-East Europe Division was held at Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, from 13 to 17 March 1989. It was attended by representatives from Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia. Among member States only Albania did not attend. Representatives of the German Democratic Republic participated as observers.

The aim of the session was to review the implementation of decisions adopted at the previous session and to prepare common positions for the linguistic/geographical division on the items on the agenda of the fourteenth session of the UNGEGN. Also the participation of member States at the fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, Montreal, August 1987 and the problems connected with it were discussed. The session noted the implementation of the issue of the list of States of the world in every State. It also drew attention to terminological problems, to the issue of toponymic guidelines and to the implementation of the transcriptions of non-Roman characters into Latin ones. The participants will answer the questionnaire of the Group of Experts which serves to implement its activities and of the effectiveness of the resolutions adopted at the conferences. The session also noted the unfavourable state at the International exchange.

The reports on the activities for the period 1987-88 showed that member States of the tenth United Nations linguistic/geographical Division drew attention to the standardization of geographical names in spite of complicated economic/political changes in them.



The report of the East-Central and South-East Europe Division was submitted at the fourteenth session of the UNGEGN, Geneva, May 1989, as working paper No. 69.

Further to the information published in Newsletter No.1 we note that in late 1988 the Slovak Office of Geodesy and Cartography issued two publications containing standardized names of geographical objects on the basic 1:100,000 scale map. Besides standardized forms the publications contain other original non-standardized forms of geographical names. These are:

- "Geografické názvy okresu Poprad"/Geographical names of Poprad District (3,700 names),
- "Geografické názvy okresu Nitra"/Geographical names of Nitra District (2,500 names).

NEWS FROM THE LATIN AMERICA DIVISION

Peru (Girardo Perezda Aguilar)

The fourth regional meeting of the Latin American Division of the UNGEGN, scheduled in Lima, 18 to 29 October, 1989, was postponed to a date to be set for 1990. Everyone will understand that the reasons for this decision were beyond the control of the organizers who hope to have this project realized as soon as the situation will permit.

## NEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/CANADA DIVISION

**From: Helen Kerfoot (Canada)**

**MARCH-SEPTEMBER 1989 / MARS-SEPTEMBRE 1989**

### 1. CANADIAN MEETINGS / RÉUNIONS CANADIENNES

The Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, comprised of 23 members (representing the provinces and territories, federal departments, and advisory committees) held its annual meeting in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on September 15.

Two advisory committees (Toponymy Research and Glaciological and Alpine Nomenclature) met at the same time to discuss such topics as writing native names in Canada; exchange of transboundary names information with the United States; work of the UN Group of Experts, and plans for the CPCGN during the next five years.

Le Comité permanent canadien des noms géographiques, composé de 23 membres (représentant les provinces et les territoires du Canada ainsi que des ministères fédéraux et des comités consultatifs) a tenu sa réunion annuelle le 15 septembre à Winnipeg au Manitoba.

Deux comités consultatifs (Recherche toponymique et Nomenclature glaciologique et alpine) ont étudié des questions telles que l'écriture des noms géographiques autochtones du Canada; l'échange des renseignements sur les noms d'entités transfrontalières avec les États-Unis; le travail du Groupe d'experts des Nations Unies; et le plan quinquennal pour le CPCNG.

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

CPCGN Secretariat  
650 - 615 Booth Street  
Ottawa, Canada, K1A OE9

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 OE9

### 2. PUBLICATIONS / PUBLICATIONS

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

- **Actes du stage international de formation en toponymie tenu à Québec du 7 au 19 août 1988, Commission de toponymie du Québec.**

#### Brochures / Dépliants:

- **Politique de désignation toponymique commémorative, Commission de toponymie du Québec**
- **Gazetteer of Canada: Manitoba - Cumulative Supplement to June 30, 1989, Manitoba Department of Natural Resources**

#### Newsletters / Communiqués:

- **CANOMA 15(1) July/juillet 1989 (News and views on Canadian toponymy / Nouvelles et commentaires concernant la toponymie du Canada), CPCGN Secretariat / Secrétariat du CPCNG**
- **Le toponyme, 6(4) mars 1989; 7(1) juin 1989 (Bulletin d'information sur les noms de lieux du Québec), Commission de toponymie du Québec**
- **Origine de: mars 1989: Détroit de Belle Isle et Cabano; juin 1989: Baie des Ha! Ha! et Cap Rouge; Commission de toponymie du Québec**

#### In preparation / En cours:

- **CPCGN Secretariat / Secrétariat du CPCNG**

Two general pamphlets on geographical names / Deux brochures générales sur les noms géographiques

A native names field collection manual / Un livret sur la collecte des noms autochtones sur le terrain

**Listing of available CPCGN publications / Une liste des publications du CPCNG**

- **Canada Centre for Mapping / Centre canadien de cartographie**

**Gazetteer of Canada: Prince Edward Island / Répertoire géographique du Canada: Île-du-Prince-Édouard**

- **Commission de toponymie du Québec**

La Commission prépare un **Dictionnaire des noms de lieux du Québec** qui contiendra 7000 rubriques. Un tel dictionnaire constitue un moyen de faire connaître cet élément majeur de la culture québécoise. L'ouvrage devrait être terminé en 1990.

- **Alberta Geographical Names Programme**

The manuscript of the first volume of the **Place-Names of Alberta Series** is being reviewed for publication. The preparation of the second volume is in progress.

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

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, qui a fait un stage à la Commission au cours du mois d'avril 1989.

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

- À l'occasion du Bicentenaire de la Révolution française, la Commission de toponymie du Québec a baptisé trois *caps* du Fjord du Saguenay **Liberté, Égalité, et Fraternité**.
- La Commission a tenu à honorer la mémoire du poète **Félix Leclerc décédé en 1988**; trois *monts* de la vallée de la rivière Jacques-Cartier, au nord de Québec, portent les noms de recueils poétiques de cet écrivain québécois intitulés **Adagio, Allegro, Andante**.
- The Hamlet of Eskimo Point, Northwest Territories, officially changed its name to **Arviat** on June 1, 1989.

**5. OTHER ACTIVITIES**

**Toponymy Data Bases / Bases de données toponymiques**

- **Upgrading of the National Toponymic Data Base (NTDB) continues, using ORACLE software on UNIX-based SUN hardware. Over 450 000 Canadian name records are now in the NTDB.**
- **Un travail pour perfectionner la Base nationale de données toponymiques (BNDT) continue, utilisant le logiciel ORACLE sur un ordinateur SUN commandé par un système d'exploitation UNIX. Plus que 450 000 données sur les noms géographiques du Canada se trouvent dans la BNDT.**
- **TOPOS, la banque de données de la Commission de toponymie du Québec, contient plus que 215 200 enregistrements dont 71 % sont des toponymes et 29 % sont des odonymes.**
- **Over 14 000 geographical names of Manitoba are automated on a VAX 11/759 computer system (VMS 4.4) using a number of in-house user application programmes.**
- **In Alberta, the geographical name records inventory is now automated on 2 Macintosh SE computers, using a Fourth Dimension data base management system.**
- **Statistics Canada maintains a data base of place names used in reporting census and survey data. Census subdivisions (i.e. municipalities legally incorporated) and unincorporated places constitute some 17 000 place names. Efforts are being made to link this data base with the National Toponymic Data Base. First priority will be given to municipal names, to achieve and maintain consistency between the data bases. (The next census of Canada will be held in 1991.)**

- **Ontario Geographical Names Programme**

- Two phases of the Franco-Ontarian Toponymic Survey were completed to provide information on established current French language toponymic usage, in designated areas of the province. Results will help towards policy development.
- A project to record historic Ojibway travel routes, including 500 pre-1900 native toponyms, in the Temagami region of Northeastern Ontario has been completed.
- In Ontario, named feature extent data are being endorsed by the provincial names board as these toponymic applications form an important graphic element of Ontario's Geographic Names Information System, currently in development. Also, standardized centroid coordinate references are being identified for some 8000 lakes and ponds.

- **British Columbia Toponymy Programme**

The province has found particular need to delineate named physiographic features (using 1:250 000 scale National Topographic System maps) to clarify name placement for sheets in the new provincial topographic mapping project at 1:20 000

- **Northwest Territories**

A three to five year field programme has been initiated for field collection of names used by indigenous peoples in the Keewatin District of the Northwest Territories. Several residents were trained to participate in the gathering of traditional names used by the local Inuit.

- **Translation Bureau / Bureau des traductions**

A committee of Translation Bureau, Secretary of State is tasked with proposing ways to improve the consistency of translating and writing geographical names in texts translated in the federal government.

Un comité du Bureau des traductions (Secrétariat d'État) est chargé de proposer des moyens d'uniformiser le traitement, la traduction et l'écriture des noms géographiques dans les textes traduits de l'administration fédérale.

- **CPCGN Secretariat / Secrétariat du CPCNG**

A document of understanding on the treatment of transboundary names was signed by Canada and the United States. To facilitate work on transboundary names, a draft tabulation has been completed of some 900 names of transboundary features shared by Canada and the United States.

Un document d'entente sur le traitement des noms transfrontaliers a été signé par le Canada et les États-Unis. Pour faciliter le travail sur des noms transfrontaliers, on a complété une ébauche de la compilation de 900 renseignements sur des entités transfrontalières entre le Canada et les États-Unis.

CORRIGENDUM

Every participant at the May 1989 UNGEGN meeting in Geneva will have felt that it was held at a very fast pace from beginning to end when it actually became frantic. Accordingly, may I ask each recipient of the Report of the UNGEGN on the work of its fourteenth session to make the following amendments to the official report as received (ESA/RT/C/GN/12 - 12 July 1989):

Paragraph Line Should read

- |    |     |  |
|----|-----|--|
| 7  | 11  | "...had been held in Panama, Canada and Ecuador."  |
| 26 | 9   | " <u>(See paragraph 56)</u> " <u>not</u> working paper 56.   |
| 38 | 8   | "...and consideration of gazetteer specifications.<br><u>Delete</u> ...and automated treatment of laws".                 |
| 39 | 7   | <u>Delete</u> "...to them..."  |
| 47 | 2   | <u>Substitute</u> gazetteer <u>for</u> gazetteers  |
| 49 | 6-7 | <u>Replace final sentence by</u> "so far, only Venezuela had produced a list of names, on the reverse of each map sheet. |
| 51 | 6   | <u>Delete</u> "...the latest..."   |
| 56 | 6   | <u>Substitute</u> Research <u>for</u> Romanization   |
| 98 | 10  | <u>Substitute</u> region <u>for</u> region   |

Also, all numbers of cross-references from paragraph 60 on should be increased by one number as the paragraph numbering was changed in the editorial process.

This gives me an opportunity to underline again the very efficient work done by Mr. P.J. Woodman. His precise, accurate and productive job as rapporteur at the fourteenth session of the UNGEGN, in circumstances, may I recall, that were far from ideal, is very much appreciated. Once more, many thanks to Mr. Woodman and to Mrs. Pamela Opie-Smith, who also collaborated in the preparation to this verification.

Henri Dorion  
President