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THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
Athens, 17 August-7 September 1977
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 Second United Nations
Conference on the Standardization of
Geographical Names

REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA*

Prepared by the Republic of Guatemala

* Prepared by Professor Francis Gall, Guatemala.

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

SUMMARY

REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA

1. The report is submitted pursuant to item 7 of the provisional agenda, which calls for a report on the situation and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names in the country since the Second United Nations Conference (London, May 1972).
2. The report indicates that the whole process relating to category, descriptive terms and in general the standardization of geographical names has been made the responsibility of the National Geographic Institute (IGN), headed by Colonel René Aguiluz Morales. IGN, for its part, has entrusted the work relating to this matter to the Chief of its Department of Human Geography, Dr. Francis Gall.
3. There is a National Geographical Names Authority in accordance with existing international and regional resolutions on the subject.
4. The stage of critical compilation, entirely new, of the Geographical Dictionary, with more than 13,000 typed pages, has been completed. For the reasons stated in the report, the edition will be limited for the time being to 3,000 copies. Thanks to the full co-operation given at all times by the Director of Tipografía Nacional, Augusto Nicolás Reyes Soto, and the entire staff of that state publishing house, approximately the first 700 pages of the Geographical Dictionary are submitted for the special purpose of showing what is being done in this field.

While a copy of the Geographical Dictionary consisting of about 7,000 typed pages was submitted in 1975 to the United Nations Library with partial coverage up to the letter "P", the material has subsequently been augmented as a result of the research which is constantly being carried on.
5. Since 1975 the General Directorate of Statistics has been receiving the co-operation it requires to enable it to ensure that all documentation relating to the Eighth General Population Census taken in 1973 shows the official categories and names.
6. The efforts made to establish officially accepted alphabets for the 20 principal unwritten minority languages of the country have been successful. This material will appear as an appendix in the last volume of the Geographical Dictionary and it is also intended to issue it separately.
7. The advisory services relating to this matter required by the institutions and branches of the various ministries enumerated have continued to be provided.