

before 1 January 1973. The United Nations Secretariat should be in contact with other United Nations bodies in respect of resolutions 21 and 24.

Mr. Meynen was asked to continue his work on the bibliography and was commended on all the work he had done to date.

The Chairman also requested of members whose delegations were obliged to report on the Conference to their respective Governments, that they send copies of these reports to all the divisions and to the Cartography Section. Mr. Breu suggested that the same be done with the working papers of the four working groups. Mr. Komkov urged that the United Nations ask all States Members to send whatever information is available on names standardization to the Cartography Section with a view to distributing this information to the Group of Experts.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS

The Group agreed to hold its fifth session in 1973 and its sixth session not before 1975. The majority of the experts preferred that the fifth session be held at the end of August or the beginning of September, but as an alternative they agreed that if the United Nations did not have meeting and interpretation facilities available at that time, then March 1973 would have to suffice.

Annex

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

United States of America and Canada

M F. Burrill (United States of America; *Division Chairman*)
M B Smart (Canada)
C Page (United States of America)

Latin America

F Gall (Guatemala)

United Kingdom group

H A. G. Lewis (United Kingdom; *Division Chairman*)
P J M Geelan (United Kingdom)

Dutch-speaking and German-speaking group

E. Meynen (Federal Republic of Germany; *Division Chairman*)
J. Breu (Austria)
D Blok (Netherlands)
F. J. Ormeling (Netherlands)

Norden

P Hovda (Norway)

Romance languages area, other than Latin America

F. Nédélec (France; *Division Chairman*)
J. Corderas Descárroga (Spain)
R. Lapesa Melgar (Spain)

Europe, East Central and South-East

S. Radó (Hungary; *Division Chairman*)
E. Földi (Hungary)

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

A. M. Komkov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)

Arabic

M Z Al-Ayubi (Lebanon)

Asia, South-West, other than Arabic

K. Vadiie (Iran)

Indian group

Col. D. N. Sharma Atri Harnal (India)

Asia, South-East

B Khamasundara (Thailand; *Division Chairman*)
C. Chhiet (Khmer Republic)

Asia, East

R. Nagaoka (Japan)
S. Maruyama (Japan)

Africa South of the Sahara

R. Oluwole Coker (Nigeria)
J. Loxton (Kenya)
W J Absaloms (Kenya)

REPORT OF THE *AD HOC* GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES ON ITS FIFTH SESSION, 5-16 MARCH 1973*

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts on Geographical Names (GEGN) was invited by the Secretary-General, in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1974 (XLIV), to convene at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 16 March 1973.

ATTENDANCE

The session was attended by 32 experts from 20

countries, representing 12 of the 14 geographical/linguistic divisions of the world (see annex I). The Acting Chief of the Cartography Section, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Secretariat, served as the Secretary for the Group.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

The session was opened by the Chairman of the Group of Experts.

The Group agreed to follow the same rules of procedure as at the previous sessions.

The Group adopted the following agenda:

* The original text of this paper appeared as document E/CONF.69/L.70

1. Opening of the session
2. Progress reports by the Chairman and the divisions
3. Reports by the working groups
4. Review of aims, functions and *modus operandi*
5. Proposal for the United Nations gazetteer
6. Names of features beyond a single sovereignty
7. Training courses
8. Diacritical marks and exonyms
9. Co-operation with other international organizations
10. Plan of action before the sixth session
11. Report of the fifth session

Officers of the session

The officers of the session were: Meredith F. Burrill (*Chairman*), A. M. Komkov (*Vice-Chairman*) and D. Blok (*Rapporteur*).

PROGRESS REPORTS BY THE CHAIRMAN AND THE DIVISIONS

The Chairman reported that he had presented a paper on the achievements of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held in London in May 1972, during the twenty-second International Geographical Congress, held in Montreal in August 1972. He also sent a copy of this paper to the Secretary-General of the International Committee of Onomastic Science to be published in the quarterly entitled *Onoma*. The Chairman, reporting for the United States of America-Canada Division, mentioned that Canada and the United States of America approached the categorization of undersea features in different ways; whereas the United States of America based its categories on the size and shape of the feature, Canada proceeded from the genesis of the feature. The question was discussed during a meeting in Halifax, where the differences were clarified. The Chairman further drew attention to some new publications on names published in his Division. The report by Mr. Gall on the activities of the Latin America Division was published as working paper No. 4.¹ Mr. Gall presented to the United Nations Map Collection the National Atlas of Guatemala and on his request Mr. Velásquez was asked to report on progress made in Cuba. Mr. Nédélec, reporting for the Romance Languages Division, stated that so far only France and Spain were active in the Division and in anticipation of the Second Conference in London in 1972 he informed Italy of the Division's progress through the Istituto Geografico Militar in Florence, but had not received any answer to date. It was decided that a combined effort by the United Nations Secretariat and the International Cartographic Association would be made in order to obtain active co-operation from Italy in the work of the Division. The report made by Mr. Radó on the East Central and South

¹ An asterisk (*) accompanying the mention of a document indicates that copies of that document are available on request from the Cartography Section, Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations Secretariat.

East Europe Division was submitted as working paper No. 11.* Mr. Breu reported on the activities within the Dutch-speaking and German-speaking Division. Work had continued on the *Non-European Countries* volume of the *Duden Wörterbuch geographischer Namen*, to be published by the *Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen*, the subdivisional geographical names authority for the German-speaking countries. A Toponymic Committee for Upper Austria is now being constituted and a *Gazetteer of Austria* has been finished in manuscript form by the *Abteilung für kartographische Namenkunde* in Vienna, the Austrian body for co-ordinating names policy. Mr. Breu reported further that it might be expected that the German Democratic Republic would become a member of the Dutch-speaking and German-speaking Division in the future. The report by Mr. Hovda on behalf of the Norden Division was distributed as working paper No. 3.* Mr. Lewis, reporting for the United Kingdom Division, said that work on Welsh and Gaelic names was continuing. A report by Mr. Lambert of Australia on work being done in New Guinea would be made available in the near future. The report by Mr. Komkov on work done in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division was published as working paper No. 7.* Mr. Komkov stated that in 1972 a small national anniversary atlas with gazetteer names had been published. Messrs. Kattan (Saudi Arabia) and Bulugma (Libyan Arab Republic) of the Arabic Division reported that their countries adhered to the romanization system for Arabic adopted during the Beirut Conference in 1971 and amended during the 1972 London Conference. Mr. Vadiie, reporting on behalf of the Asia South-west Division, commented on working paper No. 14.* Mr. Banlang, reporting for the Asia South-east Division, said that documentation from the London Conference had been distributed to all of the countries in his Division, together with a request to comment on a proposed divisional meeting, but that to date he had received no replies. Mr. Coker (Nigeria) of the Africa, South of the Sahara Division stated that by agreement he and Mr. Absaloms (Kenya) had divided this Division into two: Africa East and Africa West.² Mr. Absaloms stressed the difficulties met by the former Africa South of the Sahara Division and asked for assistance in building up an organization that might form the backbone of both Africa East and Africa West. The Chairman stated that he would contact the Ford Foundation for funds for this purpose.

The Group of Experts on Geographical Names took note of the tangible progress reflected in the reports of the divisions and expressed the wish that in the future the divisional aspects of the work would be emphasized in the reports.

² A workable membership of the two geographical linguistic divisions would appear to be: *Africa East*: Botswana, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Rwanda, Somalia, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire and Zambia; *Africa West*: United Republic of Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Dahomey, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo and Upper Volta.

REPORTS BY THE WORKING-GROUPS

The Working Groups on Definitions, on Undersea and Maritime Features, on Extraterrestrial Topographic Features, and on a Single Romanization System for each Non-Roman Writing System reported on their work since the London Conference in May 1972 and the fifth session of the Group of Experts (see annexes II to V, respectively). Two new working groups were set up to deal with training courses and with international gazetteers. These two working groups also reported to the Group of Experts (see annexes VI and VII). All the reports were accepted; tribute was paid to the report of Mr. Delaney, the Convener of the Working Group on Maritime and Undersea Features, for its excellent presentation and hope was expressed that it might serve as a model for the other working group reports in the future.

Bibliography of gazetteers, 1945-1972

Mr. Meynen reported that since the London Conference the work had proceeded along the lines described in his report to that Conference. He mentioned specifically the help he had received from Mr. Abelson, Mr. Geelan and Mr. Lewis. Since five volumes of references have been compiled, he believed it was time to bring the work to conclusion and to prepare it for publication. The Group of Experts paid tribute to the tremendous work Mr. Meynen had accomplished and thanked him for his effort.

REVIEW OF AIMS, FUNCTIONS AND *modus operandi*

It was felt that it was time to see if any modifications were required in the aims, functions and *modus operandi* of the Group of Experts. The list of major linguistic/geographical divisions was enlarged because of the division of the fourteenth division into two new divisions, Africa West and Africa East. The question of establishing a Greek linguistic/geographical division was discussed, but decision was deferred pending communication of intention by Cyprus and Greece.

It was agreed that the term "division" would be applied to the name of each division, the term group being removed. The names of the divisions should be altered accordingly. It was underlined that the experts should realize that they represent their divisions and not their countries. In this connexion, methods were discussed to increase the work within the divisions between meetings

and to improve the communication between them. The opinion that regional conferences, especially cartographic conferences, might be of the greatest value in this respect. Also the prospect of a United Nations information circular could be of great help. Problems of correspondence and addressing were discussed and some suggestions were made for better means of communication.

The following amendments to the aims, functions and *modus operandi* adopted by the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts on Geographical Names on its second session

in 1970,³ were made on the proposal of the East-Central and South-East Europe Division:

"In order to carry out its work and to achieve the results required, on both the national and the international level, as specified in the resolutions adopted at United Nations Conferences, the linguistic/geographical divisions will be as listed below:

- " 1. United States of America-Canada Division
- " 2. Latin America Division
- " 3. United Kingdom Division
- " 4. Dutch-speaking and German-speaking Division
- " 5. Norden Division
- " 6. Romance Languages Division (other than Latin America)
- " 7. East-Central and South-East Europe Division
- " 8. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division
- " 9. Arabic Division
- " 10. Asia South-west Division (other than Arabic)
- " 11. Indian Division
- " 12. Asia South-east Division.
- " 13. Asia East Division
- " 14. Africa East Division
- " 15. Africa West Division

"The Group of Experts would welcome participation by countries that have not yet participated in Conferences or Group of Experts sessions to take part, especially when their language or script is to be taken under consideration.

"Working groups of specialists may be formed under the chairmanship of one of the national experts, to study particular problems, between meetings of the Group of Experts."

PROPOSAL FOR THE UNITED NATIONS GAZETTEER

The idea put forward by the expert of the United States of America-Canada Division during the fourth session to convert the United States BGN Gazetteers, under certain conditions, into United Nations gazetteers was welcomed, but also gave rise to many questions. A working group was formed to study and report on the matter (see annex VI) at the sixth session.

NAMES OF FEATURES BEYOND A SINGLE SOVEREIGNTY

Mr. Komkov pointed to resolution 24⁴ of the London Conference and asked if the Chairman and the Secretary of the Group had yet consulted officially or unofficially

with the legal divisions of the United Nations that he himself had consulted lawyers and that the result was to be found in working paper No. 8. A convention as mentioned in resolution 24 seemed more and more necessary as name-giving continued on the Moon, in the

³ See *Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names*, vol. II, *Technical Papers* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.74.1.4), pp. 239-244.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. I, *Report of the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.74.1.2), chap. III.

Antarctic and in undersea regions. The Chairman said that he had undertaken to see whether or not the resolution was acceptable to his Government and had heard at the beginning of this year that, in principle, it was. The Secretary pointed out that it was necessary to have legislative authority from the Economic and Social Council before undertaking any formal queries on the matter. He expected that consultations on this matter could be initiated following the spring 1973 session of the Economic and Social Council.

Mr. Breu drew the attention of the Group to resolution 25⁴ of the London Conference and to its implementation by the Austrian-German and Swiss-Austrian committees, which had standardized single names for mountains and water features on the borders of those countries.

TRAINING COURSES

Mr. Ormeling, commenting on working paper No. 24, said that this working paper contained the document presented by the Dutch experts to their Government. The Dutch Government considered this a good opportunity to start a training programme and was willing to contribute financially to the plan proposed by the Dutch experts. However, the Government was of the opinion that this training course must not be an isolated affair. The Dutch Government stipulated as a condition for its assistance, that there must be follow-up training courses, i.e., that there must be a programme of a series of training courses, of which this one might constitute the beginning. Mr. Ormeling proposed the establishment of a working group with the specific task of studying the details of the programme of this first course and of examining the possibilities of a follow-up (see annex V).

Many experts paid tribute to this initiative. It was agreed that this was the appropriate time to do something in this field, and that all countries, not only the developing ones, could profit from this training. A serious lack of specialists in the field of geographical nomenclature existed. It was suggested that a more detailed programme ought to be worked out and that specifications must be prepared regarding the choice of lecturers, as well as the qualifications of the students. Two new items for the programme were proposed: (a) automatic data processing and (b) the names to be used on different kinds of maps. It was considered desirable that the lectures on field-collection be illustrated by means of films and sound-tracks. The minimum requirements to be met by the students must be made known at an early stage. Some additions were also proposed to the list of countries to be invited (attached to working paper No. 24). It was felt necessary that subsequently a course in the French language would also be organized.

As to an eventual follow-up it was made clear that courses will be planned in various regions, e.g., a training course for the Arabic area and one for Latin America. These courses might profit much from the experience that would be acquired during the Dutch pilot course. Mr. Delaney stated that he would strongly recommend that

the next course be held in Canada; he would not commit his country.

A working group was established to study the programme, to provide guidelines for nations sending students and to consider prospective future developments. The working group met and reported to the session (see annex V). After some discussion, during which it became clear that the first course would necessarily be an experimental one, the report was adopted.

DIACRITICAL MARKS AND EXONYMS

Before the next session of the Group, a paper on the financial consequences of the use of diacritical marks will be presented by Mr. Ormeling. Mr. Komkov, commenting on working paper No. 10,* emphasized the need for these marks in the rendering of place names in most languages. It was the general feeling that the position of the Group was the same as that adopted in Geneva.

The problem of exonyms was considered on the basis of working papers Nos. 9 and 21.* It was acknowledged that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America, Hungary, Thailand and Norway had produced lists of exonyms as recommended in resolution 28⁴ of the London Conference. Other countries were also preparing such lists. Difficulties in the treatment of exonyms in various contexts were discussed, as was the relationship between exonyms and names converted from one writing system into another. Measures that could be taken to diminish the use of exonyms were proposed, such as inducing map publishers to increase the use of local names.

The following definitions were adopted:

"An *exonym* is a written form of a geographical name used in a certain language for a geographical entity situated outside the area where the language has official status and differing in its form from the name used in the official language or languages of the area where the geographical entity is situated.

"A *conventional name* is an exonym which is widely and currently used.

"A *traditional name* is an exonym which is long established as well as being presently in use."

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

In pursuance of resolutions 31 and 33 of the London Conference,⁴ the Group considered the subject of co-operation with those international organizations, both scientific and intergovernmental, which deal with place names and publish reference works. It was felt that this co-operation was essential to the application of name standardization. In particular, the Universal Postal Union, the International Telecommunication Union, the International Cartographic Association, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Union of Tourist Organizations and the International Geographical Union, which all in one way or another use and disseminate names, were thought to be of the utmost

importance. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to each of these organizations to inform them of the task the United Nations referred to the Group, to inform them of the Group's plans and to ask for their co-operation

It was acknowledged that contacts with scientific organizations such as the International Astronomical Union and the International Committee of Onomastic Sciences might be improved. It was the general feeling that ultimate responsibility for the methods employed in name giving ought to lie with United Nations bodies because of their international standing. All organizations that are occupied in name-giving should be aware of this.

PLAN OF ACTION BEFORE THE SIXTH SESSION

The working groups are to prepare specific papers for the next session, either by correspondence or by separate working group meetings when these are possible.

Divisional meetings were envisaged in various areas; the work within the divisions will be stimulated by the experts.

As to the preparation of the sixth session, it was deemed desirable that more preparatory work be done by intensive correspondence so that time might be employed more economically during the session.

The sixth session was tentatively scheduled for March 1975 and the seventh session for the end of May or the beginning of June 1976. The latter session might be principally devoted to the preparation of the Third Conference.

It was agreed that the setting up of a complete list of country names in the five official languages of the United Nations and in the official languages of the particular countries belonged to the competence of the Group. A working group was established to prepare such a list, to be presented to the sixth session. The Convener of the working group was Mr. Nédélec; other members were Messrs. Breu, Coker, Lewis, Page, Radó and Vadiie. The working group would prepare its list by direct correspondence with the experts from all the divisions. It would make use of existing documentation, in particular the terminology bulletin of the United Nations giving the list of Member States and the *Statistical Yearbook*, and would keep in close correspondence and co-operation with the Terminology Section of the United Nations Secretariat.

Annex 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

United States of America-Canada Division

- M. F. Burrill (United States of America; *Division Chairman*), 5503 Grove Street, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015
 G. F. Delaney (Canada), Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, 615 Booth Street, Ottawa KIA OE 4, Ontario
 M. R. Brown (United States of America), Defense Mapping Agency at: PRR-2, Building 56, U.S. Naval Observatory, Washington D.C. 20305
 Carl R. Page (United States of America), Geographic Names Division,

Topographic Center, Defense Mapping Agency, 6500 Brooks Lane, Washington D.C. 20315

R. R. Randall (United States of America), Defense Mapping Agency, Building 56, U.S. Naval Observatory, Washington D.C. 20305

Latin America Division

F. Gall (Guatemala; *Division Chairman*), 13 Avenida "A" 14-23, Colonia Loma Linda, Ciudad de Guatemala

Y. R. Velázquez García (Cuba), Director Técnico de Cartografía, Instituto Cubano de Geodesia y Cartografía, Loma y 39, Nuevo Vedado, Havana

United Kingdom Division

H. A. G. Lewis (United Kingdom; *Division Chairman*), Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, c/o Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London S.W.

P. J. M. Geelan (United Kingdom), Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, c/o Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London S.W.

Dutch-speaking and German-speaking Division

F. J. Ormeling (Netherlands; *Division Chairman*), Head of the Cartography Department, International Institute for Aerial Survey and Earth Science, 144 Boulevard 1945, Enschede

D. P. Blok (Netherlands), Director, Institute for Dialectology, Folklore and Onomastics of the Royal Dutch Academy of Science and Letters, Keizersgracht 569-571, Amsterdam

J. Breu (Austria), Head, Geographical Department, Austrian Institute for Eastern and Southeastern Europe, Josefsplatz 6, A-1010 Vienna I

E. Meynen (Germany, Federal Republic of), Langenbergweg 82, 53 Bonn-Bad Godesberg

Norden Division

Per Hovda (Norway), Chief, Place-Names Archives, University of Oslo, Blindern, Oslo 3

Romance Languages Division (other than Latin America)

F. Nédélec (France), Ingénieur-en-Chef Géographe, Institut géographique national, 136 bis rue de Grenelle, 75007, Paris

East-Central and South-East Europe Division

S. Radó (Hungary; *Division Chairman*), Director, Department of Cartography, National Office of Lands and Mapping, V. Kossuth Lajos Tér 11, 1860 Budapest

E. Kofos (Greece), Special Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Athens

D. Vayacacos (Greece), Académie d'Athènes, Anagnostopoulou 14, Athens 136

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division

A. M. Komkov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Vice-Chairman of the Permanent Joint Committee on Geographical Names, Cartographic Scientific Information Centre, Novoshchukinskaya 11, 123098 Moscow D-98

F. A. Kattan (Saudi Arabia; *Division Chairman*), Aerial Survey Department, Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, P.O. Box 247, Riyadh

M. Al-Fayez (Saudi Arabia), Central Department of Statistics, Ministry of Finance, Riyadh

A. N. Al-Wohaibi (Saudi Arabia), The University of Riyadh, Riyadh

S. Bawazeer (Saudi Arabia), c/o Saudi Arabian Educational Mission, 880 Third Avenue (17th Floor), New York, New York 10022

H. Bulugma (Libyan Arab Republic), Libyan University, Benghazi

R. B. Seid (Libyan Arab Republic), Ministry of Education, Tripoli

Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)

- Y. M. Nawabi (Iran; *Division Chairman*), Department of Linguistics, Faculty of Arts and Literature, University of Tehran, Tehran
K. Vadiie (Iran), Department of Geography, Faculty of Letters and Human Science, University of Tehran, Tehran
H. Eren (Turkey), Dil ve Tarih-Cografya, Facültesi, Ankara

Asia South-East Division

- Col. B. Khamasundara (Thailand; *Division Chairman*), The Royal Thai Survey Department, Bangkok 2
Lt. Col. B. Thippayathat (Thailand), The Royal Thai Survey Department, Bangkok 2

Africa East Division

- W. J. Absaloms (Kenya), Secretary, Standing Committee on Geographical Names, Survey of Kenya, P.O. Box 30046, Nairobi

Africa West Division

- R. O. Coker (Nigeria), Federal Survey Department, Lagos

Annex II

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON DEFINITIONS

Three meetings of the Working Group on Definitions took place during the fifth meeting of the GEGN. The Convener was Mr. C. Page (United States of America), the Rapporteur was Mr. Velázquez (Cuba) and the following members of the Working Group were present: Mr. Breu (Austria), Mr. Nédélec (France), Mr. Lewis (United Kingdom), Mr. Gall (Guatemala), Mr. Hovda (Norway) and Mr. Meynen (Federal Republic of Germany); absent were Mr. Dahlstedt (Sweden), Mr. Radó (Hungary), Mr. Lapesa (Spain), Mr. Hakulinen (Finland), Mr. Sharma (India), and Mr. Földi (Hungary).

The Working Group decided to complete its work prior to the convening of the Sixth Meeting of the GEGN, so that a final report of its work might be presented to that meeting.

The following resulted from discussion of the work assigned to the Working Group by the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in London, May 1972, and of definitions of terms distributed throughout the Working Group since that time by Messrs. Page, Nédélec and Gall:

(a) Definitions for the following terms were decided:

- (i) **alphabet, transcription**
An alphabet which may be employed in the process of transcription, q.v.
- (ii) **alphabet, transliteration**
An alphabet which may be employed in the process of transliteration, q.v.
- (iii) **grapheme**
A graphic symbol or combination of graphic symbols, cited within the context of a particular language, which represents a particular phonological and/or morphological item or items with consistency.
- (iv) **key, romanization**
A table which sets forth the graphic symbols of a non-Roman writing system together with corresponding graphic symbols of one or more Roman writing system(s).
- (v) **reversibility**
A characteristic of a conversion system which results in the convertibility of any written item from one writing system to another, and reconversion into the first system, the result being identical in every particular with the original item.
- (vi) **vocabulary**
a A list of the words of a language (synonym: *lexicon*);
b A succinct dictionary giving the principal words of a language or citing a list of specialized terms (see *glossary* or *lexicon*);
c The repertory of words of a particular individual for all his communication.

(vii) **Standardization, geographical name**

The prescription or the recommendation of a particular graphic form or forms for application to a given feature, as well as the conditions of employment of that form or forms.

(viii) **International standardization of geographical name** (see resolution 33^a adopted at the London Conference).

(b) Definitions for the following terms were discussed, and it was decided that these would be considered by correspondence so that definitions might be presented to the sixth meeting of the GEGN:

- (i) diglossia
(ii) feature, hydrographic
(iii) form, graphic
(iv) term, descriptive
(c) It was decided to omit the following terms:
(i) syllable
(ii) nucleus, vocalic
(iii) vowel
(iv) consonant
(v) cluster, consonant
(vi) diphthong
(vii) a number of technical linguistic terms
(viii) language, national
(ix) language, state
(x) language, vernacular
(xi) toponymy, cartographic

(d) The terms "*exonym*", "*conventional name*" and "*traditional name*" were discussed in full session of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts on Geographical Names, and recommended definitions will appear in another working paper of the fifth meeting of the Working Group.

For the continuity of the work, the Convener (Mr. Page) will draw together all definitions of terms presently pending, will make comments or suggestions with regard to each, and will distribute the resulting document to all members of the Working Group; comment and suggestions will be solicited from all members of the Working Group, using this document as a basis.

A paper on definitions by Mr. Lapesa (Spain), received by members of the Working Group during the course of the fifth meeting, as well as working papers Nos. 17 and 29 of the fifth meeting, presented by Mr. Gall (Guatemala), will be included.

Annex III

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON UNDERSEA AND MARITIME FEATURES

TERMS OF REFERENCE

This Working Group was established by the *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts on Geographical Names during its second session, March 1970. The Working Group was directed to "create guidelines for name applications, the definition of descriptive terminology, methods of recording and stabilizing undersea nomenclature, and the determination of the agency or agencies best suited to centralize and disseminate such information" (see document ESA/RT/C/GN/1, 29 April 1970). These terms were expanded by the London Conference to include consideration of maritime features.

PREAMBLE

In the discussions of this Working Group,^b the work done at earlier

^aSecond United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, vol. I . . . , chap. III

^bMembers of the Working Group present at the meeting were as follows: Mr. Delaney (Canada); Mr. Komkov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics); Mr. Burrill (United States of America); Mr. Lewis (United Kingdom); Mr. Ormeling (Netherlands); Mr. Meynen (Germany, Federal Republic of) and Mr. Hovda (Norway). Mr. Sharma, representing India, was absent.

sessions of the Group of Experts was reviewed and the outcome of this work as expressed in resolutions of the London Conference was examined

It was considered that resolutions 22, 23 and 26B^c were particularly significant for guidance of the Group in future activities. Attention was directed to the following paraphrases of the pertinent resolutions:

Working paper No. 23^d of the fifth session, prepared by the Group co-ordinator, suggested as starting points for consideration:

(a) An examination of the IHO publication *Limits of Oceans and Seas*;

(b) An examination of the Principles and the Reporting Form used in publication No. 111, the BGN *Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names*; and

(c) An examination of the list of generic terms and their definitions issued by the International Hydrographic Organization

DISCUSSION

There was general agreement that the resolutions indicated in working paper No. 23 constituted those with which the working group should now be concerned. Mr Burrill advanced the view that no attempt should be made, at least at this stage, to incorporate regulations regarding the treatment of undersea feature names in an international convention. Rather, he felt that agreement on names proposed should be worked out by obtaining a consensus among those nations concerned with such names by the interchange of information of intent.

It was also agreed that the extension of the Working Group's terms of reference to "maritime features", as indicated in resolutions 22 and 23^c of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names should not be interpreted as embracing terrestrial feature names.

In consideration of the publication *Limits of Oceans and Seas* and its accompanying maps, it was agreed that the terms "delimitation" and "limits", and the use of the first term in resolution 22, should not be interpreted in a legal sense in the work of the Group, but only in relation to delimitation for the purpose of envisaging the extent of areas to which names might apply for general reference purposes. It was also observed that care should be taken to avoid overlapping the work of other agencies engaged in the same areas of activity, but rather that every effort should be made to inform national and international hydrographic organizations of what the United Nations concerns in this field are. Attention was drawn to IHO Circular Letter No. 28 of July 1972, in which conformity to the principles advanced by the United Nations Committee on the Standardization of Geographical Names is urged on its members and copies of the letter were provided to the Group of Experts.

It was evident from the discussion that the consideration of the revision of *Limits of Oceans and Seas* may be needed in terms of other possible uses by oceanographers and others, and the Working Group needs to examine the publication in these terms. Similarly, the exploration of the details of model forms and of undersea naming principles call for much close examination by the various countries having interests in this area, and that can only be done by subsequent exchange of views and the evaluation of accumulated opinions.

CONCLUSIONS

The Working Group concluded:

(a) That correspondence should be entered into with concerned countries respecting the suitability of *The Limits of Oceans and Seas*, as stated in the IHO publication, from the standpoint of less specific

(b) That countries should be invited to comment on the Principles and Proposal Form used in the BGN gazetteer of undersea feature names and Antarctic feature names (see appendices I, II and III) with a

^c See *Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names* . . . vol I . . . , chap. III

^d Copies of the working paper are available, upon request, from the Cartography Section, Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations Secretariat.

view to constructing principles and forms acceptable for United Nations purposes in this context;

(c) That such organizations as the International Hydrographic Bureau, as well as the oceanographic scientific community generally, should be fully informed of the activities of this Working Group; and

(d) That the Group Co-ordinator should initiate this correspondence with the object of enabling firm proposals to be presented to the sixth session of the GEGN respecting naming principles, name proposal forms and generic term definitions

APPENDIX I

BGN PRINCIPLES ON NAMING UNDERSEA GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

Undersea name policies

BGN policies applied in the official standardization of the approved names in this gazetteer are as follows:

- 1 The Board will consider appropriate name proposals by United States nationals for undersea features in international waters
- 2 The Board will consider name proposals for features under United States territorial waters on the same basis as other domestic names.
- 3 Prior to the naming of a feature, identification of its character, extent and position shall have been established sufficiently for identification. Positions shall be given in terms of geographic coordinates. If it is necessary to refer to a feature before such full identifiability has been established, it is suggested that the reference be by coordinates and generic term with the addition of (PA) after the coordinates if the position is not adequately established and (?) after the generic if the nature of the feature is in some doubt
- 4 Undersea names in the immediate vicinity of the coast of another country will be treated as names in that country
- 5 The Board will ordinarily approve names of undersea features beyond limits of the United States that are bestowed, or approved, by other countries or nationals of other countries unless there is some conflict or other question. Generics in English, if appropriate to the feature, will be accepted; those in other languages will be translated.
- 6 Guidelines for selection of specific terms:
 - A It is long-established BGN policy to favor short and simple names as the most efficient, other things being equal
 - B Specific terms in the names of major undersea features should, wherever feasible, indicate the general location of the area in which they lie, e.g., Mariana Trench, Ninetyeast Ridge
 - (1) In some cases, this can be accomplished simply by using the same specific term in the names of adjoining features, e.g., Aleutian Ridge, Aleutian Basin, Aleutian Trench, Mariana Ridge, and Mariana Trench, Bellona Plateau, Bellona Reefs, Bellona Shoal
 - (2) In some cases, the specific term may indicate direction from a large well-known associated feature, e.g., South Honshu Ridge, West Caroline Basin
 - (3) In cases where extent of a long linear feature needs to be identified and the extremities can be identified by named geographic features, the names of those features may be hyphenated as the specific terms, e.g., Azores-Gibraltar Ridge, Peru-Chile Trench.
 - (4) Canyons, since they usually extend close to the shore, are normally given as specific terms the names of rivers, points or other readily identifiable named land features, e.g.,
 - C Specific names for other features can be derived from ships or other vehicles utilized in the discovery of the feature, from expedition names, individuals associated with the discovery, organizations and institutions sponsoring the expedition or from individuals who have specifically been involved in the recognition of the uniqueness of the feature through the interpretation of the data
 - (1) Names of ships may be applied to features such as seamounts, knolls, canyons, tablemounts, etc. The ship name to be used should be that of the discovering ship, or if

that has been previously used for a similar feature, it should be the name of the ship verifying the feature, e.g., San Pablo Seamount, Atlantis II Seamounts

- (2) Specific names of vehicles utilized in the discovery of a feature may be used, as in the Kiwi Seamount from the geomagnetic survey plane "KIWI" under Project MAGNET which discovered its existence through a magnetic anomaly
- (3) Expedition names may be used, e.g., Northern Holiday Seamount.
- (4) Names of individuals associated with the discovery of a feature may be used, including any of the following:
 - a. The captain of the ship
 - b. Expedition leaders, or survey party chiefs
 - c. Individuals in charge at the time of discovery and recognition of the feature.
- (5) Individuals involved in the interpretation of data leading to the recognition of the unique character of a feature, e.g., bathymetrists, oceanographers, geologists, hydrographers
- (6) Persons who have made important contributions to know-

ledge of the oceans, including the interpretation of oceanic data, or the preparation of charts of the oceans such as historical hydrographers, oceanographers, and scientists, e.g., Maury Channel, Ewing Seamount

- (7) Organizations and institutions involved in the study of the seas, such as Scripps Canyon.
 - (8) Names of persons prominent in the past history of the nation
- D It is permissible to name groups of features after specific categories of historical personages, mythical figures, stars and constellations, fish, birds, animals, etc. Such groups could be as follows:
- Musicians Seamounts:* Bach Seamount, Brahms Seamount, Schubert Seamount
 - Electricians Seamounts:* Volta Seamount, Ampere Seamount, Galvani Seamount
 - Ursa Minor Ridge and Trough Province, Kochab Ridge, Polaris Trough, Suhail Ridge
- E Descriptive names will be acceptable if not duplicated, particu-

APPENDIX II

BGN undersea name proposal form

BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

UNDERSEA FEATURE NAME PROPOSAL

Ocean or Sea _____ Name proposed _____
 Lat. _____ (N) (S), Long. _____ (E) (W); _____ nautical miles in _____ direction
 from _____

Description: Kind of feature: _____
 Identifying or categorizing characteristics (size, shape, dimensions, least depth, steepness, etc.): _____

Associated features: _____

Chart reference:
 Shown and named on chart (map) _____
 Shown but not named on chart (map) _____
 Not shown but within area covered by _____

Reason for choice of name:
 If for a person, state how associated with the feature to be named _____

Discovery facts: Date _____; by (individuals or ship) _____

 By means of (equipment): _____
 Navigation used: _____
 Estimated positional accuracy in nautical miles: _____
 Description of survey (track spacing, line crossings, grid network, etc.): _____

TEAR OUT ALONG THIS LINE

larly when they refer to distinguishing characteristics, e.g. Hook Ridge, Horseshoe Seamounts.

F Names considered inappropriate include:

- (1) Names applied to similar features elsewhere
- (2) Full names or unwieldy titles of individuals, institutions or organizations
- (3) Names of commercial products or their manufacturers.
- (4) Names of individuals proposed because of relationship or friendship with the proponent

7 Existing names that have been applied for many years may be accepted even though they do not coincide with the above policy

Name proposal form

Undersea name proposal forms are provided in this publication to facilitate submittal and expedite approval and promulgation of names. Anyone may propose a name for an unnamed undersea feature that has been adequately identified as to type and geographic location.

Use a separate form for each name proposed, copying the form if necessary, and filling in all the blanks that are pertinent. Give

coordinates of latitude and longitude ordinarily taken at the approximate center of the feature and read fine enough to identify the feature, ordinarily the nearest degree for basins, or the nearest minute for smaller features such as canyons

For "kind of feature," use the appropriate term from the list of designations and definitions in the current edition of the BGN Gazetteer of Undersea Features. This term will ordinarily be used also as the generic term in the name. If the feature is of a kind not covered by these terms or definitions, explain in a supplementary note.

Although "reference to prior publication" is provided for, it is hoped that authors will refer not-yet-acted-upon names to the Board before publication, and every effort will be made to act on them in time to accommodate publication schedules.

Reporting of errors

It is requested that all who use this gazetteer aid in its correction for future editions by reporting errors to the Board on Geographic Names, Department of the Interior, Washington, D C 20240. A statement of the source of the correct information will be helpful.

**APPENDIX III
BGN Antarctic name proposal form**

Use other side
where necessary

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

No 183
195

ANTARCTIC NAME PROPOSAL

NAME PROPOSED: _____

DESCRIPTION: Kind of feature _____ Lat _____ S, Long _____ E
_____ nautical miles distant from _____ W.

_____ in a _____ direction

Map reference (air chart, H O chart, map title etc) _____

Identifying characteristics (size, shape, length, width, height etc) _____

Photo reference (vertical, oblique, other) _____

Materials submitted _____

SUPPORTING DATA: Reason for choice _____

Date discovered, seen, recorded, mapped etc _____

By whom _____

Personal information (of honoree) _____

Expedition _____

Supporting data submitted (surveys, charts, photos, other) _____

to be returned
not to be returned

SUBMITTED BY: Name _____

Address _____

Rank or official duties _____ Date _____

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACE BELOW

CODE _____ DATE RECEIVED _____

CASE SECTION _____ PROMULGATION _____

Annex IV
**REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON
EXTRATERRESTRIAL TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES**

GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

The competence of the Group of Experts on Geographical Names to consider the field of extraterrestrial names was determined at its second session in 1970. The Working Group^a established consequent upon this determination was charged with the examination of such toponyms, without qualification as to scope or methods.

RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS—LONDON CONFERENCE

Resolutions 21, 24 and 34^b of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names are specifically relevant to this Working Group.

The Chairman summarized action since the London Conference. The contemporary state of mapping of the moon and the current mapping programmes for both the moon and Mars emphasized the need to devise systems of reference for extraterrestrial features acceptable to all nations. These mapping programmes include the 1:250,000 lunar mapping programme now being undertaken in the United States and the mapping of Mars from Mariner photography.

A circular letter had been sent by the Chairman to the individual members of his group, including Colonel Sharma, Mr Radó and Mr Lapesa, who had requested to be associated with the work of the Group during the later stages of the London Conference. The letter reported on correspondence that had taken place between the Chairman (A. M. Komkov) and A. Dollfus, President of both the Inter-Union Commission for Lunar Studies and Commission 17, "The Moon", of the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and with D. Menzel, Chairman of the IAU Working Group on Lunar Nomenclature.

Mr Burrill reported that at a meeting in Washington on 23 January 1973, attended by Mr. Menzel and representatives of the United States Department of State, NASA, the United States National Committee of the IAU, the Smithsonian Institution, the National Academy of Sciences and the Board on Geographic Names, it was made clear that only 20 to 30 names are required for moon maps soon to be produced for NASA. That these can be drawn from an existing bank of names and that the matter of formal contact between NASA and Mr Menzel's subcommittee remained to be discussed at a meeting in Houston, Texas, in March 1973.

DISCUSSION

The naming of extraterrestrial features is a complex matter and one that properly falls within the orbit of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Nomenclature of extraterrestrial features must be acceptable to all nations and this fact, together with the need to determine how best to render names in a standardized form in each of the various languages of the world, places the matter firmly within the province of the United Nations Group of Experts of Geographical Names. The drawing up of such systems of nomenclature was not appropriate to astronomers alone. Naming of features on the "near side" and the "far side" of the moon had traditionally been commemorative. Because the number of names allocated by astronomers were relatively few in number, a subsidiary system had been employed for the "near side", which entailed the addition of alphabetic (Latin and Greek) suffixes and, for certain features, numerical suffixes, to identify minor features located near named topographical features. This system was well established and widely used by astronomers both professional and amateur. There was a reluctance on the part of many of them to abandon the system. However, the topographic detail now shown on large-scale maps prepared from photographs taken by space vehicles

^a Members of the Working Group are: A. M. Komkov (*Chairman*), H. A. G. Lewis (*Rapporteur*) and M. F. Burrill; S. Radó did not take part in the discussion; Colonel Sharma and Mr Lapesa did not attend.

^b *Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names*, vol. I . . . , chap. III.

was far in excess of what could be seen by telescopes from Earth. For such detailed maps the alpha-numeric suffix was of limited use, in many cases confusing, and not to be recommended.

Commemorative names had already been applied to major features on the "far side" of the moon, but so far no letter or number suffixes had been employed. It appeared most desirable to avoid using the latter method for designating features of secondary importance on that side of the moon except possibly where they are located within the perimeter of a major feature.

Direct exploration of the moon by manned and unmanned lunar missions has produced a truly immense amount of surface information. As a part of the Apollo programme new names had been allocated to many small features. Although those names were intended solely for the purpose of operational reference during the missions, they inevitably tend to gain currency, just as Antarctic names have become established by continued usage.

In a properly conceived system of extraterrestrial nomenclature, the appropriateness of names from the toponymic point of view would receive special attention.

There is the further question of the legal standing of names allocated to extraterrestrial surface features by non-governmental bodies. It was agreed that the status of the Group of Experts as a United Nations body and the standing of the experts as representatives of their own linguistic/geographical divisions made the Group of Experts the body best constituted to deal with this question.

The large-scale cartographic work now being undertaken and the increasing currency of Martian and lunar names emphasized the urgency of devising adequate systems of nomenclature and uniform methods of rendering names in various linguistic systems, compatible with the aims of international standardization of the names of terrestrial features. There is clearly a need to co-ordinate all naming activity and to achieve uniformity in the processes employed.

CONCLUSIONS

The Working Group will consider the extent to which names should be allocated, and on what basis. In this connexion, NASA and other agencies engaged in extraterrestrial mapping will be invited to furnish details of their programmes, both current and projected, with a view to assessing the magnitude of the task in the near future and in the longer term.

Guidelines will be drawn up by the Group of Experts and various methods of naming will be studied. No system of naming will be rejected out of hand. Commemorative naming, using the names of learned men of all nationalities, will be considered. Bearing in mind the limited number of such commemorative names available, the Group of Experts will examine the feasibility of using terrestrial geographical names, geographical and other terms and ordinary words selected from the languages of the entire world. In this task the assistance of the United Nations Organization and its member nations is requested.

The Group of Experts will confer with astronomers and others on the extent to which retention of alpha-numeric suffixes is desirable, but the extension of this method of designating features of the "far side" of the moon and on Mars will be discouraged.

Systems for identifying small features will be investigated and tested, including methods based on the use of co-ordinates.

The Working Group is charged with examining how best to achieve legal international status for names allocated to extraterrestrial features.

The Working Group, in accordance with resolution 21 of the London Conference, will continue its activity in drawing up a plan for international agreement on the standardization of the names of extraterrestrial topographical features in co-operation with the ICSU, the IAU and other international organizations.

In this connexion, the Chairman of the Group of Experts, M. Burrill, together with the co-ordinator of the Working Group on Extraterrestrial Topographical Features, A. M. Komkov, will maintain contact with those organizations and will prepare a status report for the next General Assembly of the IAU.

Members of the Working Group will inform each other of contacts with international organizations.

The Working Group will obtain and exchange information on extraterrestrial mapping programmes.

Annex V

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON A SINGLE
ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR EACH NON-ROMAN
WRITING SYSTEM

Mr. Breu, convener of the Working Group, gave an account of activities since the London Conference and at this present session (working papers 26 and 28)

With regard to the amended Beirut system for the transliteration of Arabic recommended under resolution 9^a of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, the Working Group agreed on a finalized text of the table to be annexed to the resolution in the printed report of the London Conference

The Working Group noted the terms of resolution 8^a of the London Conference concerning the conditions of adoption of the amended Beirut system for the transliteration of Arabic, and noted also the appearance of four different systems for the transliteration of Arabic in Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. While recognizing the ultimate desirability of having a single transliteration system applicable in all the countries of the Arab world, the Working Group recognized also the special character of the countries of the Maghreb and Mauritania. It recommended therefore that the system agreed to under resolution 8^a of the London Conference be modified to accommodate a limited number of essential variants (see appendix I), if it should be impossible to agree on a single system. It recommended further that the Arab League arrange a regional meeting of the Arab countries for this purpose, preferably in the Maghreb, and also that representatives of the official cartographic agencies concerned be present at this meeting

The Working Group considered the draft romanization system (appendix II) for the Greek alphabet, prepared, in collaboration with Cyprus, by a special commission within the Greek Ministry of Culture. The Working Group found the draft system acceptable as an international system for the transliteration of Greek

APPENDIX I

Recommended variants for use in transliteration from Arabic

	Amended Beirut system letter	Proposed	
		Variant A	Variant B
Consonant	8	j	dj, j
	15	s	s (ss)
	16	sh	ch
	17	s	ç
	20	z	d, z
Vowel	24(b)	—	g (gu)
	3	u	ou
	6	ū	oū
	4, 5, 6 (long vowels)	- (macron)	˘ (circumflex)

Note For particular purposes, or in order to take account of local pronunciation, diacritics may be omitted and digraphs may be reduced to the first principal letter

^a Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, vol. I . . . , chap. III.

APPENDIX II

Romanization system for Greek alphabet

A α = a	Ἄρτα	ἌArta
αι = ai	Ἀθήναι	Athínai
αυ = av au <u>a/</u>	Μαυροβούνι	Mavrovóuni
<hr/>		
B β = v b <u>b/</u>	Βόλος	Vólos
<hr/>		
Γ γ = g	Γαράζον	Garázon
γγ = ng	Ἄγγελόκαστρον	Angelókastron
γκ = g (initially)	Γκοριτσά	Goritsá
γκ = nk (medially)	Λαγκάδα	Lankáda
γχ = nkh	Ἄγχιάλος	Ankhíalos
<hr/>		
Δ δ = d	Δάφνη-Δένδρα	Dáfni-Déndra

E ε = e	Ἐρέτρια	Erétria
ει = i	Γύθειον	Gýthion
ευ = ev eu <u>c/</u>	Λευκάς	Levkás
<hr/>		
Z ζ = z	Ζεμενόν	Zemenón
<hr/>		
H η = i <u>d/</u>	Ἡράκλειον	Iráklion
ηυ = iv		
<hr/>		
θ θ = th	Θεσπιάί	Thespiáí
<hr/>		
I ι = i	Ἰρία	Iría
<hr/>		
K κ = k see also γκ	Καλαμάκι	Kalamáki
<hr/>		
Λ λ = l	Λίμνη	Límni
<hr/>		
M μ = m	Μαραθών	Marathón
μπ = b (initially)	Μπέχρος	Békhros
= mp (medially)	Τέμπη	Témpi
<hr/>		
N ν = n	Νεστάνη	Nestáni
ντ } = d (initially)	Ντία	Día
= nt (medially)	Παντάνασσα	Pantánassa
ντζ = ntz	Βιντζέτζος	Vintzétzos
<hr/>		
Ξ ξ = x	Ξάνθη	Xánthi
<hr/>		

Ο ο = o	ὄθος	Óthos
οι = oi	οἴτη	oíti
ου = ou	Βούναγρον	Vóunagron
<hr/>		
Π π = p	Παῦλος	Pávlos
<u>see also</u> μπ		
<hr/>		
Ρ ρ = r	Μερόπη	Merópi
<hr/>		
Σ σ = s	Ἄσσος	Ássos
<hr/>		
Τ τ = t	Τίρυνς	Tíryns
τζ = tz		
<u>see also</u> ντ		
<hr/>		
Υ υ = y	Υλίκη-Μύλος	Ylíki-Mýlos
<u>see also</u> αυ, ευ, ηυ, ου		
<hr/>		
Φ φ = f ph <u>e/</u>	Φιλοθέη	Filothéi
<hr/>		
Χ χ = kh <u>see also</u> γχ	Χαραυγή	Kharavgí
<hr/>		
Ψ ψ = ps	Ψαρά	Psará
<hr/>		
Ω ω = o	Ὠρωπός	Oropós
<hr/>		

- a/ In names of strongly established historical forms, the digraph au will be written as au in lieu of av.
- b/ In names of strongly established historical forms, the letter β will be written as b in lieu of v.
- c/ In names of strongly established historical forms, the digraph ευ will be written as eu in lieu of ev.
- d/ In a small number of names of strongly established historical forms (to be decided by a special committee), the letter η will be written as e in lieu of i.
- e/ In names of strongly established forms, the letter φ will be written as ph in lieu of f.

NOTES TO APPENDIX II

The spiritus lenis and spiritus asper are omitted. In a small number of names of strongly established forms, the spiritus asper will be romanized as *h*

The three Greek accents will be uniformly represented by the acute accent, except in monosyllabic words and words accented on the last syllable. In accented digraphs, the acute accent will be shown over the second vowel

The diaeresis will be shown with (¨) in names where two consecutive vowels appear as a diphthong

Double consonantal letters in Greek will be doubled also in romanization

Iota subscriptum and iota adscriptum are ignored in romanization.

Annex VI

DRAFT REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TRAINING COURSES IN TOPONYMY

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Working Group^a was organized to investigate the possibility of organizing a training course in toponymy on the basis of resolution 18 adopted by the London Conference^b and of working paper No. 24^c submitted by Mr Blok and Mr Ormeling to the fifth session of the Group of Experts

RECOMMENDATION

The Working Group strongly recommended the organization of a pilot training course in toponymy of four weeks' duration in spring

^aMembers of the Working Group: F. J. Ormeling, Netherlands (*Convenor*); W. J. Absaloms, Kenya (*Rapporteur*); D. P. Blok, Netherlands; G. F. Delaney, Canada; Per Hovda, Norway; F. A. Kattan, Saudi Arabia; H. A. G. Lewis, United Kingdom; E. Meynen, Federal Republic of Germany; and K. Vadiie, Iran.

^b*Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names*, vol. I, chap III

^cA copy of this document is available on request from the Cartography Section, Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations Secretariat

1975, in accordance with the guidelines laid down in working paper No. 24

The Working Group authorized Messrs Blok and Ormeling to act as a task force and to carry out the preparation of the first course in toponymy. The task force was invited to keep the members of the Working Group regularly informed, by correspondence, on the progress being made

GENERAL OUTLINE OF PROGRAMME OF WORK

The training course, which should be conducted in English, should be concentrated on national standardization, particularly on the field collection of names and on the office treatment of names. It should cover the following subjects:

- (a) Toponymy terminology;
- (b) Functions of geographical names;
- (c) Report of United Nations activities on standardization of geographical names;
- (d) Field collection of names;
 - (i) General problems, and
 - (ii) Specific problems encountered in the various language areas;
- (e) Office treatment of names:
 - (i) General problems;
 - (ii) Specific problems encountered in the various language areas;
 - (iii) Automatic data processing;
- (f) New names, changing of names, commemorative names and repetition of names;

- (g) Treatment of names in multilingual areas;
- (h) Generics and glossaries;
- (i) National gazetteers, designation of names; and
- (j) Names on maps.

The Working Group recommended the organization of practical exercises towards the end of the course, under the guidance of lecturers, to evaluate the quality of names on maps against available documents and to evaluate information collected by tape recorders

LECTURERS

The Working Group recommended extension of invitations to the various experts of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names according to their experience and capabilities to act as the lecturers of the course.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPANTS OF THE COURSE

Though in general students with higher educational standards should be preferred, the Working Group proposed that the minimum requirements of the participants of the course should be the equivalent of secondary school education, with some linguistic and field experience of geographical names

The Working Group strongly recommended that guarantees should be sought for an adequate command of the English language of the students. The command of English should cover not only general English usage but also the technical field of toponymy. To ensure that the selected students will be familiar with the technical terminology in toponymy, the Working Group recommended advance circulation of introductory literature (including definitions of toponymical terms) to the students selected

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

The Working Group recommended that some assessment will be made of the students' performance and that a special certificate of attendance may be issued signed by the Directors of the course (the United Nations Director and the host country Director)

FOLLOW-UP WORK

The Working Group noted the desirability that follow-up courses should be hosted by other countries or linguistic/geographical divisions.

It welcomed the intentions of Mr. Delaney to investigate the possibility of a second course in toponymy in Canada. This second course may be in both French and English, if possible

It has further noted the similar intentions of Mr. Hovda (to propose to the Norden Governments that they host another, follow-up course) and of Mr. Vadiie (to investigate similar possibilities in Iran).

Finally, the Working Group particularly welcomed the intentions of Mr. Kattan (Saudi Arabia) and of Mr. Gall (Guatemala) to investigate the possibility of courses in toponymy in their respective linguistic/geographical divisions. Mr. Kattan also proposed to prepare a film on the practice of field collection of geographical names in Saudi Arabia.

Annex VII

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON GAZETTEERS

The Working Group on Gazetteers^a was established by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names at its fifth session, held in New York 5-16 March 1973

TASKS

Tasks to be undertaken are:

- (a) To establish the requirements for United Nations gazetteers and to define the categories;
- (b) To consider the possibilities of adapting the United States Board on Geographic Names (BGN) Gazetteers as United Nations Gazetteers of the World as set out in the fourth session of the Group of Experts in London on 1 June 1972; and

^a This is a working group of the whole.

(c) To work out through correspondence the specifications for the different types of gazetteers, reflecting applicability of United Nations recommendations in this field

DISCUSSIONS

It was agreed that there should be three categories of gazetteers, namely:

(a) National gazetteers, as specified in resolution 4 of the United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held at Geneva in 1967;^b

(b) A series of United Nations Gazetteers of the World;

(c) A concise United Nations Gazetteer of the World in one or two volumes

It was unanimously accepted that the concise United Nations Gazetteer of the World would be a desirable project and might be based on the national interim lists as recommended during the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held in London in 1972. Further consideration of this matter was deferred and it was agreed to concentrate on the second category of gazetteers. Detailed discussions took place on type (b) above, during which the subject of map scales was introduced. It was decided that no single map scale or series would suit the requirements of all individual countries. Prevailing, but not unanimous, opinion was that maps at scales of 1:1,000,000 or larger would alone serve as a basis for the compilation of the series. For many countries maps at much larger scales would be required.

Mr. Breu presented for consideration working paper no. 34,* defining the three types of gazetteers, which was discussed together with working paper No. 6,* previously presented by Mr. Komkov. The categories and titles set in working paper No. 34 were accepted by the Working Group.

The Working Group agreed on the following basic principles: that primary responsibility for gazetteers rests with the nation whose territory is covered; that gazetteers based on the BGN gazetteers will be produced with the consent of the country covered and maintenance will be carried out jointly by the country covered and the BGN; that in special circumstances the preparation of certain volumes of the United Nations Gazetteer of the World may have to be deferred until a solution acceptable to the parties concerned can be found.

A small study group was then instructed to work out specific recommendations on how to adapt the BGN gazetteers to comply with the specifications of one of the categories of United Nations Gazetteers of the World as laid down in working paper No. 34. Basic documents for this study group were to be working papers Nos. 6, 20 and 34.*

The Working Group accepted the following detailed recommendations worked out by the study group:

- (a) Title pages should be along the following lines:

Emblem of the United Nations
United Nations Gazetteer of the World
Provisional Series
Volume: KENYA
Official Standard Names

approved by the Standing Committee on Geographical Names
of Kenya. Published by the Board on Geographic Names.
Distributed only by the Defense Mapping Agency,
Washington, D.C. 20305
May 1973

Adopted by BGN for official use in the United States (The
exact wording and location of this phrase are to be resolved by
BGN and the country covered. A statement should also be

Gazetteer of Kenya 1964");

- (b) An outline map of the country covered will be included, if feasible;

^b See *United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names*, vol. I, *Report of the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E 68 I.9), chap. III.

* An asterisk accompanying the mention of a document indicates that copies of that document are available on request from the Cartography Section, Department of Economic Co-operation for Development, United Nations Secretariat.

(c) In addition to the main body of information, the foreword should contain: information on the genesis of the publication and its status as a United Nations Gazetteer; reference to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names; composition of the BGN; statement on the official language(s) of the country covered;

(d) A suitable disclaimer note will be worked out by the publishers and the United Nations.

The Working Group agreed that the first three BGN gazetteers to be provided for study should be those for Kenya, for Undersea Features and for one Latin American country.

The United States would welcome the temporary attachment of names experts to the BGN to work on problems connected with the production of gazetteers

Annex VIII LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Working paper

No. 1	Provisional agenda
No. 2	Letter from A. M. Komkov, Vice-Chairman of the Group of Experts
No. 3	Report on the standardization of geographical names in Norway since the London Conference
No. 4	Report by the expert for Latin America of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (Prof. Francis Gall)
No. 5	A projected United Nations gazetteer series, by M. F. Burrill
No. 6	On the most acceptable form and content of the gazetteers published under the auspices of the United Nations, by A. M. Komkov (item 4)
No. 7	On the work on the national standardization of geographical names carried out within the period after the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held in May 1972, by A. M. Komkov (item 2)
No. 8	Problems of the standardization of the names beyond a single sovereignty (item 5)
No. 9	On the Russian conventional names of geographical entities of foreign countries, by A. M. Komkov (item 5)
No. 10	On the usage of diacritical marks in geographical names romanization, by A. M. Komkov (item 8)
No. 11	Progress report of the East Central and South-East Europe Division (item 2)
No. 12	Acceptability of romanizations—comment on paper L. 106, Romanization of geographic names for international use, by the USA (item 8)
No. 13	Greek draft—Romanization system of the Greek alphabet (item 8)
No. 14	The minutes of Iran-Afghanistan's regional

No. 15	meetings on transliteration of geographical names, Teheran, Iran, 10-17/2/1973
No. 16	Arabic glossary written in the Unified Arabic System
No. 17	The translation of generics in geographical names, by M. B. Smart (Canada) and E. Kalinin (USSR)
No. 18 (Rev. 1)	Glosario de terminología técnica usada en la normalización de nombres geográficos
No. 19	Draft report of the Working Group on Names of Extraterrestrial Topographical Features
No. 20	Problems of nomination of extraterrestrial topographic features
No. 21	List of gazetteers (Defense Mapping Agency Topographic Center)
No. 22	Exonym as an international term (C. R. Page)
No. 23	Standardization in the treatment of generic elements in toponyms
No. 24	Proposed areas of discussion (Working Group on Undersea and Maritime Feature Names)
No. 25	Pilot training course in toponymy (D. Ormeling)
No. 26	Comparative table
No. 27	Working Group on a Single Romanization System for each non-Roman Writing System. minutes of first meeting, 6 March 1973
No. 28	The category "minority language" (C. Page)
No. 29	Working Group on a Single Romanization System for each non-Roman Writing System. minutes of second meeting, 8 March 1973
No. 30	Spanish language renditions of selected definitions of technical terminology submitted by the Working Group on Definitions (Messrs Nédélec, Page and Gall)
No. 31	Working Group on Gazetteers
No. 32	Thai exonyms (Colonel B. Khamasundara)
No. 33	<i>Sobre transliteración de nombres propios extranjeros</i>
No. 34	Report of the Working Group on Definitions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (C. Page)
No. 35	United Nations Gazetteers (Mr. Breu, Austria)
No. 36	Antarctic name proposal (No. 183)
No. 37 (Rev. 1)	Report of the Working Group on Undersea and Maritime Features. fifth session, Group of Experts, 1973
No. 38	Report of the Working Group on a Single Romanization System for each non-Roman Writing System
No. 39	Report of the Chairman of the Group of Experts Automatic Data Processing (Canada)
No. 40	Draft report of the fifth session
No. 41	Draft report of the Working Group on Training Courses
No. 42	Draft report of the Working Group on Gazetteers

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES ON ITS SIXTH SESSION, 5-26 MARCH 1975*

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names was invited by the Secretary-General, in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1314 (XLIV) and the decision of its 1854th meeting in May 1973, to convene at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 26 March 1975.

*The original text of this paper appeared as document E/CNCF.69/L.71.

ATTENDANCE

The session was attended by 39 experts from 25 countries, representing 15 of the 16 geographical/linguistic divisions of the world (see annex I). The Chief of the Cartography Section, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Secretariat, served as the Secretary for the Group.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

The session was opened on behalf of the Secretary-

General by the Assistant Director of the Transport and Cartography Branch of the Centre for Natural Resources, Energy and Transport, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The Chairman of the Group of Experts thanked the United Nations for the services placed at its disposal.

The Group agreed to follow the same rules of procedure as in the previous sessions; it was agreed that the meetings of the working groups should be held in the plenum of the Group of Experts.

The Group adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Review of divisional composition
4. Report by the Chairman on over-all activities of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
5. Report by the Secretary
 - (a) The 1973 Decision of the Economic and Social Council
 - (b) Publication of the list of gazetteers and glossaries
6. Reports by the divisions (divisional meetings, consultations, concerted actions and divisional problems)
7. Reduction of exonyms (reports of progress and problems)
8. Review of aims, functions and *modus operandi*
9. Reports of activity by the working groups since the fifth session
 - (a) Definitions
 - (b) Undersea and maritime features
 - (c) Extraterrestrial topographic features
 - (d) Single romanization systems
 - (e) Training courses
 - (f) International gazetteers
 - (g) List of country names in local official languages and in the official languages of the United Nations
10. Working group discussions and further recommendations
11. Provisional agenda for the Third United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names
12. Provisional agenda for the seventh session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
13. Plans of action before the Third Conference
14. Adoption of the report

The officers of the session were: Meredith F. Burrill (*Chairman*), A. M. Komkov (*Vice-Chairman*), D. P. Blok (*Rapporteur*) and C. N. Christopher (*Secretary*).

REVIEW OF DIVISIONAL COMPOSITION

It was agreed that a sixteenth division, consisting of China, should be established, that the Asia, East Division

should be renamed Asia, East Division (other than China) and that the Romance Languages Division (other than Latin America) should be renamed Romano-Hellenic Division, comprising, besides the romance language countries other than Latin America, Greece and Cyprus. The expert from the German Democratic Republic joined the Group as a member of the Dutch-German Division. The expert from Greece and the expert from the German Democratic Republic expressed their wish to attend, as observers, the meetings of the East-Central and South-East Europe Division.

REPORTS

The report of the Chairman on over-all activities of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and on his activities as Chairman of the Group was contained in working paper No. 55 *¹

The Secretary for the Group reported that the Economic and Social Council at its 1854th meeting on 4 May 1973 had decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (E/5249) and the recommendations contained therein and endorsed the recommendation that the *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts on Geographical Names should henceforth be called the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. The Council had also accepted the invitation of the Government of Greece to hold the third Conference at Athens, from 17 August to 7 September 1977.

The report by Mr. Gall on the activities of the Latin America Division was contained in working paper No. 36.* Mr. Gall presented to the United Nations Cartography Section a number of publications on geographical materials regarding the Americas. The report by Mr. Velázquez on the activities in Cuba was contained in working paper No. 53.* Mr. Lewis, reporting on the activities of the United Kingdom Division, said that, because of the great distance between the member States, no divisional meeting had taken place. In each country the work continued along the lines previously set. He pointed to the specific difficulties arising from minority languages such as Gaelic. The United Kingdom had been giving assistance to some developing countries in standardizing names and in mapping. Mr. Lewis stated that the aid the United Kingdom offered was for map production and the recipient countries had to procure the exact names to be used on the maps.

Mr. Meynen reported on the activities of the Dutch-speaking and German-speaking Divisions; the report was contained in working papers Nos. 9 and 41.* The report prepared by Mr. Hovda on the activities of the Norden Division was contained in working paper No. 5.* Mr. Nédélec, speaking for the Romance Languages Division,

¹ An asterisk (*) accompanying the mention of a document indicates that copies of the document may be obtained on request from the Cartography Section, Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations Secretariat.

reported that the activity and co-operation in that Division was increasing; cartographical publications and information were exchanged by France, Monaco, Portugal, Romania, Spain and Switzerland. It had not been possible as yet to obtain the co-operation of Italy.

The report by Mr. Radó on the East-Central and South-East Europe Division was contained in working paper No. 20.* Messrs. Al-Robaishy, H. Bulugma and Al-Ayoubi reported on the Arabic Division in working papers Nos. 16, 50 and 51,* Mr. Ganji reported on the Asia South-West Division in working paper No. 42,* and Mr. Kok reported on the Asia South-East Division in working paper No. 7.* In reporting for the Africa West Division (working paper No. 38*), Mr. Coker stated that it had been recommended at the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Inter-African Symposium on Manpower Requirements and Development of Cartographic Services in Africa (Cairo, 22–26 July 1974) that geographical names committees should be established in African countries where they did not already exist and that African regional meetings on geographical names should be organized. Mr. Yang Leiguang reported on the China Division in working paper No. 43* and Mr. Setatos reported on Greece in working paper No. 39.* Mr. Setatos added that the official Greek romanization key was being simplified. The report prepared by Mr. Komkov on the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division was contained in working paper No. 11.* Mr. Komkov stated that a Commission for Extraterrestrial Names had been created in the USSR. As to the work of the USSR Permanent Joint Commission, Mr. Komkov pointed out that its decisions were in accordance with what the local people wanted. Sometimes that necessitated much discussion and persuasion, he said. Once a decision was made, it was mandatory for all official and scientific institutions. Those decisions were also made mandatory by the Republics and Autonomous Territories.

Reports were also presented by Mr. Absaloms of the Africa East Division (working paper No. 46*) and by Messrs. Randall and Rayburn of the United States of America-Canada Division (working papers Nos. 48 and 49*). Mr. Ormeling, speaking for the International Cartographic Association, presented the United Nations Cartography Section with a copy of the International Cartographic Association Bibliography compiled by Mr. E. Meynen.² The Secretary mentioned the discussions held during the Seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East³ and the resolutions adopted by the Conference on the work of the Group of Experts and the importance of the standardization of geographical names.

² International Cartographic Association, E. Meynen, *Bibliography 1956–1972* (Enschede, the Netherlands, Institute for Aerial Survey and Earth Sciences (ITC), 1972), presented at the Sixth International Conference on Cartography, Ottawa, Canada, 16–25 August 1972

³ *Seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East*, vol. I, *Report of the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E 74.1 7)

The Group discussed the reduction of exonyms on the basis of working papers Nos. 6, 11, 13, 13/Add. 1 and 27 and other proposals.* A proposal by Mr. Sharma to recommend the use of the official names of the countries in preference to or together with the exonyms for country names was discussed at length. In favour of the proposal, it was stated that the reduction of exonyms had to start somewhere and that the country names were the most appropriate. It was pointed out that in the past it had been possible for a country to change its name and have the change accepted all over the world. Against the proposal, it was advanced that the exonyms for a number of ancient country names were the deepest rooted in the languages and the most difficult to eliminate; much opposition against such a recommendation was to be expected.

It was agreed that the principles enunciated in resolutions 28, 29 and 31 of the London Conference⁴ would be reiterated and that the Group would urge the avoidance as far as possible of exonyms for names of new countries and for new names of countries.

REVIEW OF AIMS, FUNCTIONS AND modus operandi

The Group accepted a new grouping and numbering of the regulations laid down in the report of the second session and modified in that of the fifth session as worked out by the expert for Latin America, Mr. Gall. It was agreed that the new setting would be annexed to the report of the sixth session (see annex II). Paragraph 3 would be split up into 3a and 3b; the list of divisions would be arranged in alphabetical order according to the names in English. Paragraph 10 would be rephrased to read: "The Group will meet in accordance with precedents set forth by the Economic and Social Council."

REPORTS OF THE WORKING GROUPS

The Working Groups on Definitions, Undersea and Maritime Features, Extraterrestrial Topographic Features, Single Romanization Systems, Training Courses, Gazetteers and the List of Country Names made their reports (annexes III to IX, respectively; see annex X for list of documents).

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

The following provisional agenda was drawn up for the Third United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names:

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Adoption of the rules of procedure
3. Election of officers

⁴ *Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names*, vol. I, *Report of the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E 74.1 2), chap. III

4. Report on credentials
5. Adoption of the agenda
6. Organization of work
7. 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
8. National standardization
 - (a) Field collection of names
 - (b) Office treatment of names
 - (c) Treatment of names in multilingual areas
 - (d) Administrative structure of national names authorities
9. Training courses
 - (a) Consideration of courses already held
 - (b) Programmes of future courses
 - (c) Prospective developments
10. Gazetteers
 - (a) National gazetteers
 - (b) United Nations series of gazetteers
 - (c) Concise world gazetteer
 - (d) Other publications
11. Automated data processing (ADP)
 - (a) Coding and abbreviation
 - (b) Writing
12. Terminology
13. Exonyms
 - (a) Categories and degree of use of exonyms
 - (b) Determination of principles to be followed in the reduction of exonyms
14. Policies, procedures and co-operative arrangements for naming of features beyond a single sovereignty
 - (a) Features common to two or more nations
 - (b) Maritime features
 - (c) Undersea features
 - (d) Extraterrestrial features
15. Writing systems
 - (a) Conversion of names from one writing system into another
 - (i) Romanization
 - (ii) Conversion into non-Roman writing systems
 - (b) Writing of names from unwritten languages
16. International co-operation
 - (a) United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
 - (b) Exchange of information
 - (i) Reliability statement
 - (ii) Aids to pronunciation of names nationally standardized in non-phonetic writing
 - (iii) Scope and development of procedures in exchange of information
 - (c) Divisional and interdivisional meetings and programmes

- (d) Technical assistance
- (e) Co-operation with international organizations
- (f) Co-operation with public information media
17. Report of the Conference

DISCUSSION ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The Group agreed that the Conference should use the reports on the fifth session (the preceding document in the present publication) and the sixth session (the present report) of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and the annexed reports by its working groups as basic documents in discussing items 10, 12, 14 and 15 of the provisional agenda. The Group further recognized that it would be particularly useful that any modification in the practices of field collection or office treatment of names should be brought to the attention of the Conference.

The Group considered that lists of geographical names not standardized or not in accordance with agreed specifications might also be useful preliminary vehicles for information and ought to be discussed by the Conference (item 10 (d)).

The Group thought that, although resolutions 28, 29 and 31 of the Second Conference⁴ remain the basic documents on dealing with exonyms, further consideration was necessary as to the nature of exonyms and as to reduction in their use.

It was emphasized that the sources of information and the procedures followed in compiling material in which geographical names are made available should be made explicit by the publishing authority (item 16 (b) (i)).

The Group agreed to recommend the formation of five technical committees at the Conference; the first should deal with agenda items 8, 9 and 12, the second with items 10 and 11, the third with items 13 and 14, the fourth with item 15 and the fifth with item 16. The forming of an editorial committee was also envisaged.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS

The Group drew up the provisional agenda for the seventh session as follows:

16 August 1977:

1. Reports of working groups
2. Organization of the Third Conference

8 September 1977 (resumed seventh session):

3. Election of officers
4. Review of Conference recommendations
5. Programme for the Conference
6. Eighth session of the Group of Experts
7. Other business

PLAN OF ACTION BEFORE THE THIRD CONFERENCE

In implementing resolutions 33 and 38 of the Second Conference,⁴ the Chairman of the Group of Experts would get in touch with interested international organizations in order to promote co-operation in the field of

international names standardization. The Group agreed that the Chairman would write to the Universal Postal Union (UPU) asking for information on the work to be done in establishing a new list of post offices and urging close co-operation. An attempt would be made to establish some personal contact with that organization.

The Convenors of the Working Groups outlined the action that would be taken by themselves and the members of the Groups. Mr. Komkov emphasized the need to establish close co-operation with the Working Group on Planetary System Nomenclature of the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and to report on it to the Third Conference. Mr. Randall pointed to the plan of action laid down in annex IV. Mr. Breu would ask for information on all open questions, especially those regarding the conversion of Russian Cyrillic, Chinese and Greek scripts. Mr. Lewis would deal with the Board on Geographic Names (BGN) on the question of the provisional United Nations Gazetteers and would ask for relevant information from the experts as to the number of names to be included in the Concise Gazetteer of the World and the production of national gazetteers. Mr. Nédélec would continue, by correspondence, to improve and complete the provisional list of country names and to procure the correct forms of those names in all the official languages of the United Nations. Mr. Ormeling would, in the first place, devote the attention of his working group to the organization of the pilot training course and, further, plans to make an inventory of the needs for assistance in the field of national names standardization.

Diacritical marks

The Group recognized the great value of the information contained in working papers Nos. 10 and 52* and recommended a further study of the subject by the Third Conference. A report on the financial implications of using diacritical marks might be expected before the Conference.

Pilot training course in toponymy

The Group of Experts took note with appreciation of the progress made in the preparation of the pilot training course in toponymy, as recommended in resolution 18 adopted by the London Conference⁴ and of the offer of the Government of the Netherlands to finance travel and accommodation of the students. Programme, time-table, participating divisions and students and the co-operation of international lecturers were discussed and, in principle, agreed upon. The pilot training course would be held from 26 April to 22 May 1976 in Enschede, the Netherlands. The Group recommended that the United Nations should co-sponsor the pilot training course and finance the travel and accommodation of international lecturers.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Africa East Division

W. J. Absalom (Kenya), Secretary, Standing Committee on

Geographical Names, Survey of Kenya, P.O. Box 30046, Nairobi

Africa West Division

R. Oluwole Coker (Nigeria), Federal Survey Department, Lagos

Arabic Division

M. El-Ayoubi (Lebanon; *Division Chairman*), Inspecteur à la Direction des Affaires Géographiques, Président de la Commission de Toponymie, Beirut

H. Bulugma (Libyan Arab Republic), Benghazi University

R. B. Seid (Libyan Arab Republic), Ministry of Education, Tripoli

S. Abdo (Saudi Arabia), Department of Geography, University of Riyadh

M. Al-Fayez (Saudi Arabia), Central Department of Statistics, Ministry of Finance, Riyadh

S. Al-Robaihy (Saudi Arabia), Director-General Aerial Survey Department, Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, P.O. Box 247, Riyadh

S. Bawazeer (Saudi Arabia), c/o Saudi Arabian Educational Mission, 880 Third Avenue (17th floor), New York, N.Y. 10022

Asia East Division (other than China)

(No representatives)

Asia South-East Division

S. T. Kok (Malaysia; *Division Chairman*), Director General of Survey, Director of National Mapping, Malaysia, Survey Headquarters, Jalan Gurney, Kuala Lumpur

B. Khamasundara (Thailand), Royal Thai Survey Department, Bangkok

B. Narmwang (Thailand), Royal Thai Survey Department, Bangkok

Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)

M. H. Ganji (Iran; *Division Chairman*), Department of Geography, University of Tehran, Tehran

Y. M. Nawabi (Iran), Department of Linguistics, Faculty of Arts and Literature, Pahlavi University, Shiraz

H. Daneshvar (Iran), National Geographic Organization, Tehran

China Division

Yang Leiguang (China; *Division Chairman*), State Bureau of Surveying and Cartography, Beijing

Qiao Feng (China), State Bureau of Surveying and Cartography, Beijing

Bao Hao (China), State Bureau of Surveying and Cartography, Beijing

Dutch-speaking and German-speaking Division

E. Meynen (Germany, Federal Republic of; *Division Chairman*), Chairman of the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, Langenbergweg 82, D-53 Bonn-Bad Godesberg

F. J. Ormeling (Netherlands), Head of the Cartography Department, International Institute for Aerial Survey and Earth Science, 144 Boulevard 1945, Enschede

D. P. Blok (Netherlands), Director, Institute for Dialectology, Folklore and Onomastics of the Royal Dutch Academy of Science and Letters, Keizersgracht 569-571, Amsterdam-C

J. Breu (Austria), Österreichisches Ost- und Südosteuropa Institut, Josefsplatz 6, A-1190 Vienna

E. Haack (German Democratic Republic), Ministerium des Innern, Verwaltung Vermessungs- und Kartenwesen, Mauerstr. 29-32, DDR 108 Berlin

East-Central and South-East Europe Division

S. Radó (Hungary), Director, Department of Cartography, National Office of Lands and Mapping, V. Kossuth Lajos Tér 11, 1860 Budapest

India Division

D. N. Sharma Atri Harnal (India), Director, Southern Circle, Survey of India, 22 Richmond Road, Bangalore

Latin America Division

Francis Gall (Guatemala; *Division Chairman*), 13 Avenida "A" 14-23, Colonia Loma Linda, Z 11, Ciudad de Guatemala

I. Velázquez García (Cuba), Director Técnico de Cartografía, Instituto Cubano de Geodesia y Cartografía, Loma y 39, Nuevo Vedado, Havana

Norden Division

P. Hovda (Norway), Chief, Place-Names Archives, University of Oslo, Blindern, Oslo 3

Romano-Hellenic Division

F. Nédélec (France; *Division Chairman*), Ingénieur-en-Chef Géographe, Institut Géographique National, 136 bis rue de Grenelle, 75 Paris (7ème)

J. A. González (Spain), Instituto Geográfico y Cadastral, General Ibañez 3, Madrid 3

M. Setatos (Greece), University of Thessaloniki

Mr. Stoforopoulos (Greece), Counsellor of Embassy, Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations, 69 East 79th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021

D. Vayacacos (Greece), Académie d'Athènes, Anagnostopoulou 14, Athens 136

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division

A. M. Komkov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Vice-Chairman of the Permanent Joint Committee on Geographical Names, Cartographic Scientific Information Centre, Novoshchukinskaya 11, 123098 Moscow D-98

United Kingdom Division

H. A. G. Lewis (United Kingdom; *Division Chairman*), Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, c/o Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London S.W. 7 A.R.

P. J. Geelan (United Kingdom), Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, c/o Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London S.W. 7 A.R.

United States of America and Canada Division

M. F. Burrill (United States of America; *Division Chairman*), 5503 Grove Street, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015

A. Rayburn (Canada), Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, 580 Booth Street, Ottawa KIA OE 4

Carl R. Page (United States of America), Geographic Names Division, Topographic Center, Defense Mapping Agency, 6500 Brooks Lane, Washington, D.C. 20315

R. R. Randall (United States of America), United States Board on Geographical Names, Building 56, U.S. Naval Observatory, Washington, D.C. 20305

Annex II

REVIEW OF AIMS, FUNCTIONS AND MODUS OPERANDI

1. By Economic and Social Council resolution 1314 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968 and by later resolutions, the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names was charged with providing for continuous co-ordination and liaison among countries to further the standardization of geographical names and to encourage the formation and the work of linguistic/geographical divisions

2. In order to carry out its work and achieve the results required, on both the national and the international levels, as specified in the resolutions adopted at United Nations conferences, the linguistic/geographical divisions listed below were formed:

Africa East Division
Africa West Division
Arabic Division
Asia East Division (other than China)
Asia South-East Division
Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)
China Division
Dutch-speaking and German-speaking Division
East-Central and South-East Europe Division
India Division
Latin America Division
Norden Division
Romano-Hellenic Division
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division
United Kingdom Division
United States of America-Canada Division

3. Membership of divisions will be decided as follows:

(a) A country not already a member of a division will decide for itself to which division it wishes to belong;

(b) A country may also participate in the activities of divisions other than its own, provided the total number of countries and the nature of their participation are not such as to change the linguistic/geographical character of the division

4. The Group of Experts is composed of one representative from each division. Countries within each division will select, by methods of their own choosing, an expert to represent the division at meetings of the Group of Experts and to speak, when required to do so, on behalf of the division as a whole at United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names. As an interim measure, the officers of the present Group of Experts will continue to function until replaced by election

5. The appointed expert will be responsible for ensuring that the work of the Group of Experts and its potential for technical assistance are brought to the attention of the individual nations within his division and for reporting to the United Nations any special problems within his division

6. Governments may appoint national experts to attend meetings of the Group of Experts on the understanding that the said national experts will have the right of voice and that their attendance will be co-ordinated with the expert who represents the division in question and who will vote on behalf of the division. The Group of Experts would welcome participation by countries that have not yet participated in conferences or Group of Experts sessions, especially when their language or script is to be taken under consideration

7. The Group of Experts will elect the following officers: a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and a Rapporteur.

8. The elections mentioned in paragraph 7 will be held at the termination of the respective United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names. The officers will serve until their successors are elected at the next Conference. The Cartography Section of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs will provide the secretariat for the Group

9. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman will assume the office of Chairman. In the absence of the Vice-Chairman or the Rapporteur, the Chairman will appoint persons to complete the unexpired portion of their terms of office.

10. The Group of Experts will meet in accordance with the precedents set by the Economic and Social Council

11. Persons with special knowledge of particular aspects of the standardization of geographical names may be invited to place before

12. During the meetings of the Group of Experts, special working groups may be appointed to deal with particular issues. Upon completion of the appointed task, the working group will be automatically disbanded unless especially directed to remain in being

13. Working groups of specialists may be formed under the chairmanship of one of the national experts referred to in paragraph 6 to study particular problems between meetings of the Group of Experts. Such groups will only be formed with the approval of the Group of Experts before submission to the United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names for final acceptance

14. The working languages of the United Nations selected for the conduct of business during the meetings of the Group of Experts will depend upon the nature of the representation and the facilities available at the time.

15. The Group of Experts will maintain communication among themselves and will render a report of their main activities semi-annually to the Cartography Section, Department of Technical Co-Operation for Development, United Nations Secretariat, and to the members and officers of the Group.

16. Apart from communication through formal channels, experts representing divisions and also national representatives will be notified by informal means of the transactions, programmes and requirements of the Group of Experts.

17. The Group of Experts will encourage countries to supply information to other nations within or outside their respective divisions and also to the Cartography Section, Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations Secretariat.

Annex III

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON DEFINITIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Two meetings of the Working Group on Definitions took place during the sixth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. The Convenor was Mr. Page (United States of America), the Rapporteur was Mr. Velázquez (Cuba), and the following members of the Working Group were present: Mr. Breu (Austria), Mr. Nédélec (France), Mr. Lewis (United Kingdom), Mr. Gall (Guatemala), Mr. Hovda (Norway), Mr. Meynen (Federal Republic of Germany), Mr. Radó (Hungary), Mr. Sharma (India) and Mr. González (Spain, in representation of Mr. Lapesa). Absent were Mr. Dahlstedt (Sweden), Mr. Hakulinen (Finland) and Mr. Földi (Hungary). Various other members of the Group of Experts in attendance at its sixth session were also present and took part in the discussions.

The Working Group decided to complete the English and Spanish versions of the *Glossary of Technical Terminology for Employment in the Standardization of Geographical Names* for immediate presentation to the United Nations, which would reproduce the two documents for distribution at the Third United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, at Athens, Greece, in 1977.

The French and Russian language versions of the *Glossary* might be prepared and distributed within the Working Group for subsequent presentation to the United Nations prior to the Third United Nations Conference and a Chinese language version would be prepared for presentation to that Conference.

Mr. González presented a list of corrections to Spanish language expressions which appear in the English version of the *Glossary*. Those would be incorporated in the English version, which was to be distributed at the Third United Nations Conference.

The definitions of terms which were decided at the fifth session of the Group of Experts and were set forth in working paper No. 33* of that session and again in working paper No. 44* of the sixth session, would also be incorporated in the final English version.

The following definitions of terms were adopted in the course of the two meetings of the Working Group on Definitions during the sixth session of the Group of Experts, also for inclusion in the final English version of the *Glossary*:

- (a) diglossia
A relatively stable language situation in which, in addition to the primary dialect of a language which may include a standard or regional standards, there is a very divergent, highly codified, often grammatically more complex, superposed variety, the vehicle of a large and respected body of written literature, heir of an earlier period or in another speech community, which is learned largely by

formal education and may be used for written and formal spoken purposes, but is not used by any sector of the community for ordinary conversation (after C. Ferguson);²

- (b) feature, hydrographic
A topographic feature that consists of water and/or of recognizable interfaces between a body of water and one or more of its boundaries;
- (c) form, graphic
Written letter(s) or character(s), including any markers and diacritical marks, which represent a linguistic item;
- (d) term, descriptive
A written item, which appears on a map and which does not constitute a toponym, but which serves to describe a topographic characteristic in the area where it appears.
- Mr. Komkov (USSR) proposed inclusion of the following terms in the *Glossary*: allography, diphthong, ideogram, receiver language and source language. The following terms and definitions were agreed upon:
- (a) allograph
One of the particular representations of a grapheme (see *grapheme*);
- (b) diphthong
A combination of vocalic elements of which only one is the nucleus of a syllable;
- (c) ideogram
(See *logogram*);
- (d) logogram
A graphic symbol or combination of graphic symbols which consistently represents a given morphological element or elements in a given language;
- (e) language, receiver
A language in terms of which a geographical name may be adopted or converted from its source language (see *language, source*);
- (f) language, source
A language in terms of which a geographical name is produced, and on the basis of which it may be adopted or converted for use in the context of another language, a receiver language (see *language, receiver*);
- (g) script, receiver
A script in terms of which a geographical name may be converted from its source script (see *script, source*);
- (h) script, source
A script in terms of which a geographical name is produced, and on the basis of which it may be converted for use in another script, a receiver script (see *script, receiver*).

The definitions would be incorporated in the English version, and Spanish definitions would be sought from Spanish language experts within the Working Group on Definitions for inclusion in the Spanish version of the *Glossary*.

It was decided that any and all further suggestions and recommendations would have to appear in a second edition of the *Glossary* at some future time.

At Mr. Breu's suggestion, the Greek expert, Mr. Setatos, agreed to prepare a modern Greek version of the *Glossary*, in spite of difficulties inherent in the fact that a very large proportion of the entries have classical Greek meanings.

The German version of the *Glossary*, distributed by Mr. Breu to the Working Group and presented to the sixth session in working paper No. 44, * would be distributed at the Third United Nations Conference at Athens in 1977.

Mr. Radó distributed copies of a combined list of the English, French and Spanish terms with their definitions, as a basis for giving the equivalents in the Czech and Slovak languages.

At Mr. Sharma's suggestion it was agreed that, for purposes of elucidation, a separate document might be prepared for distribution, in conjunction with the *Glossary*, which document was to consist of examples in illustration of various of the technical terms that appeared in

* An asterisk accompanying the mention of a document indicates that copies of the document may be obtained from the Cartography Section of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations Secretariat.

²R. J. O'Brien, *Selected Papers on Linguistics, 1961-1965*, Georgetown University Roundtable (Washington, D.C., Georgetown University Press, 1968).