Group of Experts on Geographical Names

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The concept, born at the United Nations, that each country draft and publish lists of officially recognized geographical names was substantiated in Poland by the Office of Geodesy and Cartography. The outcome has been the publication by the Eugeniusz Romer State Cartographic Publishing House of "Geographical names of the Republic of Poland".

This book contains 28,000 geographical names on 780 pages in a lingustic form approved by the Commission for Establishing Names of Localities and Physiographical Objects affiliated to the Council of Ministers Office. This work holds four cartographic enclosures.

## The collection of names comprises the following:

- the names of administration units: being an alphabetical list of the names of all voivodships / counties /, towns and communes in the various voivoships and the names of the places where the authorities of these units have their headquarters,
- and parts of cities, also of ather localities with a population exceeding 1000 residents, as well as of places where post offices are located, mining and industrial centres, health resorts, spas, holiday and summer vacation centres, Roman-Catholic Church parishes and centres of other religious cults; finally, names of places which are known for important historical events which took place there and which are meaningful as places of tourism and historical relics.
- names of physiographical objects: being a list of some 5,200 names comprising natural, historical and ethnographical regions; rivers and canals, natural and artificial lakes, marshes, mountain peaks, passes, rocks, valleys, peninsulas, capes, caves, waterfalls, larger afforested areas/also national and landscape parks.

In each case the name is accompanied by a description of the nature of the relative object while its location is given by a set of geographical coordinates and also to which administration unit it belongs.

All lists of names are preceded by a copious text in both the Polish and English languages in which the principles of setting place names are described, together the criteria of their selection and pointers concerning object classification, spelling and pronounciation.

To make it easier to use the gazetteer in practice, seven coloured maps have been included:

- Administrative divisions / 1:1,500,000 /, Division into voivodships and applied abbreviations /1:6,000,000 /, Historical and etnographical regions / 1:6,000,000/;
- Natural regions / 1:1,500,000 / and 2 maps / 1:6,000,000/;
- Forests, national parks and landscape parks / 1:1,500,000 /

The major purpose of publishing this gazetteer is to ensure that uniform and unambiguous application is made in the media, maps and diverse books and documents of Polish place names.

The catalogue price of "Geographical Names of the Republic of Poland" published in an edition of 10,000 copies is 20 USD.

Orders should be sent to the Centralny Ośrodek Dokumentacji Geodezyjnej i Kartograficznej / Main Geodetic and Cartographic Documentation Centre/, ul.Żurawia 3/5, 00-926 Warsaw.