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**Item 10 of the provisional agenda**

**Activities relating to the Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers**

**Names and National Parks – Remarks on  
a New Onomastic Guide From Austria \***

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# Names and national parks – remarks on a new onomastic guide from Austria<sup>1</sup>

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Names form a very important part of the cultural heritage of a region. This is of course also true for national parks. Yet this aspect is still neglected by many national park administrations when producing information material for their visitors. The present publication is a first attempt by an Austrian national park to provide systematical and profound information on its onomastic landscape. The Hohe Tauern National Park is the oldest and largest in Austria. It is situated in the southwest of the country, comprising parts of the three provinces of Carinthia, Tyrol and Salzburg, and was established in 1981.

This onomastic guide through the Hohe Tauern National Park familiarises the reader with the principles of naming mountains in the Alpine regions of Austria. After that the oronymic term *Tauern*, its meaning and origins, is discussed. In the next section we find names that refer to mountains, their shape, and to names referring to plants and animals. Furthermore the world of man in this region is described, together with mining and mountain pasturing. As not all valleys and Alpine pastures in the national park can be presented in this guide, two typical valleys were chosen as examples: the Dorfer Alm alpine pasture (situated in the municipality of Kals am Großglockner) and the Gössnitz valley (municipality of Heiligenblut). The names of the regions in the heart of the national park surrounding the Großglockner, the highest mountain in Austria, are treated in two separate chapters (chapter 4.4: *Die Namen der Übergänge (Pässe). Die Glocknerstraße [The names of the mountain passes. The Großglockner High Alpine Road]* and chapter 5: *Die Glocknerrunde [Hiking around the Großglockner / stages]*). These names were chosen according to the respective information booklets of the national park administration. In the next section of the book the most significant mountain groups, their peaks and other important features are described onomastically. Finally the names of all municipalities that form part of the national park are described. All oronyms in the booklets *Wanderziele [Hiking Destinations]* and *Glocknerrunde [Around the Großglockner]*, edited by the national park administration, were taken into account together with all the names mentioned in the register of *Alpenvereins­hütten I: Ostalpen [Alpine Huts I: Eastern Alps]*. This means that the guide contains all names that a visitor of the park may encounter. An index makes it possible to find not only the names, but also the etymons of the names of (pre)Romance and of Slavonic origin.

The book will be available from October 2009 at national park information points. It will also be possible to order it via the park website (<[www.hohetauern.at](http://www.hohetauern.at)> [March 12th 2009])

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**Pohl, Heinz-Dieter: *Namenkundlicher Führer durch den Nationalpark Hohe Tauern***  
**[Onomastic guide through the Hohe Tauern National Park] [in print]:**

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