UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES WORKING PAPER NO. 26/14

Twenty-eight session 28 April – 2 May 2014

Item 14 of the Provisional Agenda

Activities relating to the Working Group on Exonyms

A gazetteer of Finnish Exonyms*

Submitted by Finland

* Prepared by Sirkka Paikkala (The Institute for the Languages of Finland)

A gazetteer of Finnish exonyms**

Summary

In March 2013, the Institute for the Languages of Finland (ILF) published a book setting out exonyms used in Finnish. The book is essentially a guide for journalists, translators, teachers and other professionals who use names for foreign places in their work.

The book contains around 2,500 standardized Finnish names for foreign places (Finnish exonyms) with corresponding local names (endonyms) and their feature type, location and language code. It also includes the corresponding English names and in many cases corresponding names in other languages, most often French and German. The book also summarizes the rules by which the Finnish exonyms have been standardized, and it enumerates the UN resolutions concerning exonyms.

The book will also be made available on the Internet.

For more details about the book, see Sirkka Paikkala, "Finnish exonyms: a pragmatic approach to defining exonym and endonym", in Peter JORDAN and Paul WOODMAN (eds.), The Quest for Definitions. Proceedings of the 14th UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms, Corfu, 23-25 May 2013 (Hamburg: Dr. Kovač, 2014), pp. 249-256.

^{**}HAKULINEN Kerkko, PAIKKALA Sirkka (2013), Pariisista Papukaijannokkaan – suomenkieliset ulkomaiden paikannimet ja niiden vieraskieliset vastineet [From Paris to Parrot's Beak: Finnish names of foreign places and their equivalents in other languages]. Helsinki, Kotimaisten kielten keskus [Institute for the Languages of Finland]. ISBN 978-952-5446-80-7, ISSN 2242-461X. 492 pp. In Finnish only. Orders: julkaisumyynti@kotus.fi