

16. National standardization

The Conference,

Recalling that the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names adopted resolution 4, regarding national standardization, 37/

Considering that many countries have their own national geographical names authorities with status, composition, functions and procedures clearly outlined regarding officially standardized geographical names,

Recognizing that those national geographical names authorities have set up rules pertaining to official standardization procedures,

Also recognizing that according to the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names a standardized name is a name that has the official sanction of a legally constituted entity, 38/

Recommends that to recommendation A of resolution 4 of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names should be added the following:

"It is recommended that any changes made by other authorities in the names standardized by the competent national geographical names authority should not be recognized by the United Nations".

17. Names of countries

The Conference,

Recognizing the desirability of avoiding new exonyms,

Recommends that every country use in its language(s), for newly independent countries and for countries that adopt new names, those names that correspond, as far as possible, to the official local names of the countries concerned.

18. Study of exonyms

The Conference,

Noting that, in accordance with resolution 28 of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 39/ progress has been made in the matter of exonyms in so far as a number of countries have identified and prepared, or are preparing, lists of their own exonyms,

37/ United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, vol. I ... , p.10.

38/ Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, vol. II ... , p.52.

39/ Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, vol. I ... , p.15.

Recognizing, nevertheless, that progress has not been uniform in all countries,

Further recognizing that the reduction of both different types of languages and different linguistic categories of exonyms require different approaches,

Recommends that (a) The countries concerned continue to work on the preparation of provisional lists of exonyms, singling out those suitable for early deletion; (b) The Group of Experts contribute to the exchange of information among the countries concerned on the results of the studies of different categories of exonyms made by those countries.

19. Lists of exonyms

The Conference,

Considering that resolution 28 of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names 40/ calls for each country to prepare a list of exonyms currently employed,

Noting the definition of the word "exonym" given in the document E/CONF.69/L.1, worked out by that Conference, 41/

Further noting that the implementation of resolution 28 in its present form must result in enormous lists of doubtful value,

Recommends that the lists referred to in resolution 28 should not contain the following categories of exonyms: those differing from the official name only by the omission, addition or alteration of diacritics or the article; those differing from the official name by declension or derivation; those created by the translation of a generic term.

20. Names of features beyond a single sovereignty

The Conference,

Recommends that resolution 25 of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names 42/ be reworded as follows:

40/ Ibid.

41/ Third United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, vol. II ..., agenda item 12.

42/ Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, vol. I ..., p.14.