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**Ninth United Nations Conference on the
Standardization of Geographical Names**
New York, 21 - 30 August 2007
Item 13 of the provisional agenda*
Toponymic websites

**Proposed Resolution on the Dissemination of the
Origin and Meaning of Geographical Names**

Submitted by Canada**

* E/CONF.98/1.

** Prepared by the Commission de toponymie du Québec, Canada

Proposed Resolution on the Dissemination of the Origin and Meaning of Geographical Names

The Conference,

Noting that the recommendation made by the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, in its resolution I/4B, that the field and office research be as complete as possible, in order to gather information notably related to the written and spoken forms of a geographical name and to its meaning according to the local inhabitants,

Noting also that having recognized, in the 7th Conference resolution, VII/9, the possibilities offered by Internet to promote and realize Conference goals and resolutions, and having recommended the creation of Web sites by countries and the use thereof to publish, among other things, standardized geographical names at the national level,

Noting finally that the Eighth Conference, through its ninth resolution, VIII/9, urged for the promotion of a greater understanding, on the part of the wider public, of the significance of geographical names with respect to local, regional and national heritage and identity,

Recognizing that the meaning of geographical names constitutes a valued piece of information, a part of national cultural heritage that is likely to enrich feelings of identity, to provide information about others, and to promote the awareness of the universality of human nature,

Recommends that, wherever possible, in printed or Web-based national gazetteers and databases, the origin and meaning of geographical names be disseminated along with the technical information related to names and places.

Commission de toponymie du Québec

April 23, 2007

Modified June 1st, 2007