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Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

Reports by Governments on the situation in their countries and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names since the Eighth Conference

Report of Austria

Submitted by Austria**

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The Austrian Board on Geographical Names [Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kartographische Ortsnamenkunde, AKO] held 10 meetings (meeting No 68 to 77, two annually) since the 8th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. From this period the following major activities in Austrian toponomastics can be reported:

1 Activities of AKO and its working groups

- 1.1 In its 68th meeting on November, 14th 2002, AKO installed a working group for the revision of the publication “Recommendations for the spelling of geographical names in Austrian school atlases” [Vorschläge zur Schreibung geographischer Namen in österreichischen Schulatlanten], Vienna 1994. Cartographic publishers were interested in updating these guidelines. They contain in a countrywise sequence general instructions on languages, scripts and naming procedures and a list of exonyms recommended for use in Austrian school atlases. The Working Group holds near to monthly meetings and approaches now the stage of compiling the final list of names by country.
- 1.2 AKO engaged itself in co-operation with the Federal Office of Metrology and Surveying [Bundesamt für Eich- und Vermessungswesen], the Austrian Academy of Sciences [Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften] and the Austrian Institute of East and Southeast European Studies [Österreichisches Ost- und Südosteuropa-Institut] in organizing a UNGEGN toponymic training course preceding the 23rd UNGEGN Session in Vienna from 16th to 23rd March 2006 and in presenting an exhibition on Josef Breu, the first chair of AKO and long-term chair of UNGEGN.
- 1.3 In its 77th meeting on May, 3rd 2007, the chair of AKO passed over from Ms. Isolde Hausner to Mr. Peter Jordan. Ms. Hausner covered two terms of office (in total 10 years) and was congratulated for her excellent service.

2 Activities of institutions and experts represented in AKO

2.1 Federal and provincial authorities

- 2.1.1 **Federal Office of Metrology and Surveying** [Bundesamt für Eich- und Vermessungswesen, BEV], www.bev.gv.at: In 2004 BEV started publishing the new topographical map series of Austria in the scale 1: 50,000 in the Universal Transversal Mercator (UTM) System with map sheet No. 3227 (Großglockner) and map sheet No. 5203 (Neusiedl am See), the highest and lowest regions of Austria. The complete map series will comprise 191 sheets and is expected to be available in 2010 (see individual WP).
An updated version of the Austrian Map 1: 500,000 has been published.
- 2.1.2 The **Federal Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Department Water Balance, Hydrographical Central Office** [Bundesministerium für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft, Abteilung Wasserhaushalt, Hydrologisches Zentralbüro], www.lebensministerium.at) published in 2002 within its series “Aerial Survey of Austrian River Catchments” [Flächenverzeichnis der österreichischen Flussgebiete] Number 58 “Danube Catchment between River Inn and River Enns” [Heft 58: Donaugebiet vom Inn zur Enns] <http://publikationen.lebensministerium.at>). The issue comprises an alphabetical list of waters as well as a survey map in the 1: 200,000 scale. A next issue on the Drau catchment is close to completion.

The Ministry also published in co-operation with the Institute of Geography and Regional Research of the Vienna University the Hydrological Atlas of Austria (HAA) [Hydrologischer Atlas von Österreich] (<http://www.gis.univie.ac.at/hao/>) in a printed and in an electronic version on CD-ROM. The main scale of maps is 1: 1 million. Legends are given in German and English. The complete Atlas contains 52 map sheets and 70 explanatory text sheets in German and English. The CD-ROM version is based on a GIS and offers the additional functions of linking maps to tables, texts and graphs, of combining different map layers and of access to basic data sets in ESRI shapefile format for user-specific application. (see also individual WP)

- 2.1.3 **Statistics Austria** [Statistik Austria] (<http://www.statistik.at>) published a series of gazetteers of populated places according to the census of 2001 and by federal provinces [Länder]. In contrast to earlier editions this new gazetteer presents localities [Ortschaften] as the lowest hierarchical level of populated places, but not anymore individual houses and farmsteads.
- 2.1.4 The **City of Vienna**, Department 41 [Stadt Wien, Magistratsabteilung 41] published a digital multipurpose city map of Vienna in a large scale (City map and address finder [Stadtplan mit Adressensuche] <http://www.wien.gv.at/stadtplan>). It is based on air photographs, shows street names and house numbers and will be revised in a three year's interval.

2.2 Institutions of science and research, individual experts

- 2.2.1 The **Institute for the Lexicography of Austrian Dialects and Names** [Institut für österreichische Dialekt- und Namenlexika] (www.oeaw.ac.at/dinamlex) of the Austrian Academy of Sciences [Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften] published in 2003 instalment No. 14 of the Old German Place Names Book, a historical-philological place names book. It comprises place names with initials from S (Sittendorf) to W (Watzendorf). Simultaneously a database with the same contents has been completed and will be used for linguistic onomastic studies. It is open for public access, but not free of charge. Instalment No. 15, the last of the series and concerning the names of the federal province of Vorarlberg, is under preparation. The Institute edits also the "Dictionary of Bavarian Dialects in Austria" [Wörterbuch bairischer Mundarten in Österreich], the 38th instalment of which is near to completion. On the occasion of its 90th anniversary, the Institute organized on 25-27 September 2003 in Vienna the international symposium "German word research for tracing settlement history" [Deutsche Wortforschung zur Siedlungsgeschichte]. The proceedings were published by Austrian Academy of Sciences Press. In 2005 and 2006 the Institute organized a series of paper presentations titled "Names Research in a European Context" [Namenforschung in einem europäischen Zusammenhang]. In co-operation with the Institute of Linguistics, University of Innsbruck, the Institute of Geography and Regional Research of the Vienna University and the Institute of Linguistics and Computer Linguistics, University of Klagenfurt, the Institute elaborated the project ALPKULTUR (www.oeaw.ac.at/dinamlex/Alpkultur.html), which illustrates by the means of geoinformatics aspects of settlement and naming history by the example of the high mountain region East Tyrol, where names show traces also of Slavonic and Romance culture. In connection with this project also a historical-etymological gazetteer of populated places is under elaboration.

- 2.2.2 The **Provincial Archive of South Tyrol** [Südtiroler Landesarchiv] organized 12-13 December 2004 in Bolzano/Bozen the symposium “Geographical names – collection, analysis, preservation” with participants from German-speaking countries and Italy. The proceedings have been published.
- 2.2.3 **Mr. Otto Back** published the 3rd (essentially) revised edition of his book “Translateable proper names. A synchronic investigation into interlingual allonymy and exonymy” [Übersetzbare Eigennamen. Eine synchrone Untersuchung von interlingualer Allonymie und Exonymie], Wien 2002: Verlag für Literatur und Sprachwissenschaft, ISBN 978-3-7069-0146-8 (www.praesens.at). In this book the theoretical and practical aspects of exonyms and endonyms are discussed on the comprehensive conceptual background of interlingual allonymy. Chapters 1-13 refer to aspects of proper names (allonymic name forms, allonymy and personal names, various types of exonyms). Chapters 14-21 treat the endonym/exonym issue and its practical relevance (use of exonyms, translation of proper names etc.). The last part “Postscript and Perspectives” deals with exonyms of European countries, populated places and rivers, lists of selected exonyms, etc.
- 2.2.4 The **Institute of Geography and Regional Research of the Vienna University** [Institut für Geographie und Regionalforschung der Universität Wien] published within its series “Wiener Schriften zur Geographie und Kartographie” (http://www.univie.ac.at/geographie/ifgr/institut/publikationen/home/schriften_frm.html) two volumes containing contributions on toponymy. Vol. 16 (published in 2004) contains two articles authored by Isolde Hausner and Peter Jordan, Vol. 17 (2006) has a larger toponymic section (see item 2.2.6 of this WP and the WP on the GICON Conference).
- 2.2.5 The **Austrian Institute of East and Southeast European Studies** [Österreichisches Ost- und Südosteuropa-Institut] continued to publish its map series “Atlas of Eastern and Southeastern Europe” (<http://www.schweizerbart.de/pubs/series/atlas-ost-und-suedosteuropa28.html>) among others with the fourfold instalment “Ethnic Structure of the Banat 1890 to 1992”, which shows on four maps indicating four time sections in the 1: 400,000 scale the ethnic development of this multicultural region. A comprehensive textbook (author: Josef Wolf) in German and English describes settlement and cultural history and comprises a comparative names gazetteer including all official settlement names as of 1890, 1930, 1950 and 1992. In its book series “Viennese East European Studies” [Wiener Osteuropastudien] (<http://www.lit-verlag.de/>) the Institute published also the book “Exonyms and the International Standardisation of Geographical Names”, edited and authored by the UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms (see individual WP). An article “A Subdivision of Europe into Larger Regions by Cultural Criteria” [Großgliederung Europas nach kulturräumlichen Kriterien] has been published by Peter Jordan in the periodical „Europa Regional“ 2005/4.
- 2.2.6 **Mr. Roman Stani-Fertl** organized within the Central European (at the same time German) Cartographical Congress 12-14 July 2006 in Vienna a session on toponomastics. All papers presented there are published in the volume: Karel KRIZ, William CARTWRIGHT, Alexander PUCHER, Michaela KINBERGER (eds.): Kartographie als Kommunikationsmedium. Wien: Institut für Geographie und

Regionalforschung der Universität Wien, Kartographie und Geoinformation 2006. = Wiener Schriften zur Geographie und Kartographie, vol. 17.

The Working Group “Cartographic Names Research” [Kartographische Namenforschung], a branch of the Austrian Cartographic Commission [Österreichische Kartographische Kommission] and chaired by Mr. Stani-Fertl, focused thematically on the treatment of geographical names in history maps and other materials for teaching history.

- 2.2.7 The **Austrian Society of Onomastic Research** [Österreichische Gesellschaft für Namenforschung] continued to organize its annual onomastic symposium in Kals and to publish most of the papers presented in the book series “Austrian Names Research” [Österreichische Namenforschung]. In 2007 the 22nd symposium took place, again organized by Heinz-Dieter Pohl.

3 International co-operation (apart from UNGEGN)

- 3.1 AKO continues co-operation in the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names [Ständiger Ausschuss für Geographische Namen, StAGN] in its function as a coordinative body between German speaking countries. Ms. Isolde Hausner is vice-chair of the Committee, several AKO members act as permanent or corresponding members.
- 3.2 AKO continues to co-operate also with the International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS).
- 3.3 AKO members co-operate in the International Cartographic Association (ICA). Mr. Peter Jordan functions as vice-chair of its Commission on National and Regional Atlases since 2003.