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REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL
NAMES ON THE WORK OF ITS ELEVENTH SESSION

(held at the United Nations Office at Geneva,
15-23 October 1984)

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. In pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1314 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968, the Secretary-General invited the United Nations Group of Experts of Geographical Names to convene its eleventh session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 15 to 23 October 1984.

ATTENDANCE

2. The session was attended by 56 participants from 36 countries, representing 14 of the 17 geographical/linguistic divisions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. In addition, observers from five intergovernmental and international scientific organizations were also represented. The list of participants is reproduced in annex I below.

3. The Chief of the Cartography Section, Natural Resources and Energy Division of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations Secretariat, served as Secretary of the Group.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

4. The session was opened by the Chairman, Mr. D. Blok (Netherlands). He was assisted by the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Y. Velásquez García (Cuba) and the rapporteur, Mr. A. Rayburn (Canada).

RULES OF PROCEDURE

5. It was agreed that the rules of procedure to be followed should be those adopted at the previous session. 1/

AGENDA

6. The Group of Experts adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Report of the Chairman.
4. Report of the Secretary.
5. Reports of the divisions and experts.

6. Reports of activity by the Working Groups since the tenth session:
 - (a) Undersea and maritime features;
 - (b) Single romanization system for each non-Roman writing system;
 - (c) Training courses on toponymy;
 - (d) Toponymic data files;
 - (e) List of country names;
 - (f) Definitions;
 - (g) Duration and programme of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
7. Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors.
8. Conversion of non-Arabic writing systems into the Arabic writing system.
9. Research and experiments in assisting in name pronunciation.
10. Relevant resolutions of the United Nations regional cartographic conferences.
11. Review of the working groups.
12. Review of the composition of the geographical/linguistic divisions.
13. Review of aims and functions jointly with modus operandi.
14. Provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
15. Other business.
16. Adoption of the report.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

7. The Chairman of the Group of Experts noted that there appeared to be several barriers to accomplishing the goals of the Group but expressed optimism for the future of international standardization of geographical names. He said that the goals would be achieved step-by-step, compromise-by-compromise, pointing out that at times it might be necessary to accept second best. The Chairman then read his report, drawing special attention to the plans of the Universal Postal Union to consider in 1989 the revision of its postal directory; an attempt might be made in the new directory to respect all diacritical marks on names, a feature ignored in the 1977 version.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

8. After reviewing the decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council on the standardization of geographical names since the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, the Secretary observed that he had experienced difficulty in circulating information to prospective experts when so few Governments had signified their intention to send experts to the eleventh session of the Group. The Secretary proposed the formation of a working group or panel of correspondents who would answer the increasing number of requests for advice he had received on the legislative and administrative aspects of the standardization of geographical names. He noted that the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat had earmarked \$25,000 for a toponymic training course to be held in French or Arabic in 1984-1985. The Secretary also noted the publication of a glossary entitled Technical Terminology Employed in the Standardization of Geographical Names (ST/CS/SER.F/330) in the six official languages of the United Nations.

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND EXPERTS

9. Mr. Tazi reported that the members of the Arabic Division had maintained contact over the past two years, giving special attention to the romanization of Arabic and to the translation of the glossary into Arabic.

10. Mr. Lewis stated that he had attended the International Cartographic Association Conference in Perth, Australia. He also reported that Mr. Raper (South Africa) was participating as an expert in the United Kingdom Division, noting that he had already joined the Dutch- and German-speaking Division.

11. Mr. O Maolfabhail requested a correction to the penultimate sentence in paragraph 15 of chapter II of the report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 2/ which read, "Ireland requested withdrawal of his country from the United Kingdom Division", since his country had never formally joined that Division. The Chairman stated that the words "of the name" would be inserted after "withdrawal", and the words "since Ireland had never formally joined that Division" would be added at the end of the sentence.

12. Mr. Breu, in presenting the report of the Dutch- and German-speaking Division, complimented South Africa on the production of its toponymic guidelines (Working Paper No. 19).

13. Ms. Närhi supplemented the report of the Norden Division by noting that Finland was planning to publish a list of country names in Finnish, Swedish, English and French.

14. Mr. Velásquez, in presenting the report of the Latin America Division, stated that Cuba had extended an invitation to the 22 other countries in the Latin America Division to meet in Havana (Habana) from 10 to 14 December 1984. He hoped that all countries invited would be able to participate in order to promote the standardization of geographical names.

15. Mr. Lee Silva presented the Secretary with the four-volume geographical dictionary of Guatemala containing the origin and meaning of 65,000 geographical names. The dictionary represented the culmination of 25 years of field work and office research. He noted that it was dedicated to the memory of Mr. Francis Gall. Mr. Lee Silva said a separate gazetteer for Guatemala was being prepared.

16. The Secretary was also presented with gazetteers and other publications dealing with geographical names from Canada, China, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, the United States and Venezuela. All will be sent to the Map Collection of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, United Nations Secretariat, for reference.

17. Mr. Wang reported (Working Paper No. 6) that China had published the geographical dictionary of China, in which 33,000 names were listed in both their Han characters and Pinyin; the geographical co-ordinates indicating the location of each name on the appropriate maps were also given.

18. Brief reports were made by Mr. Raper, Mr. Boginsky, Mr. Wainaina and Mr. Ganji. Reports were also circulated for the following divisions: United States of America - Canada (Working Paper No. 29), Dutch- and German-speaking (Working Paper No. 18), Asia South-East and Pacific South-West (Working Paper No. 32) and Africa East (Working Paper No. 54). National reports were presented for the following countries: German Democratic Republic (Working Paper No. 17), Canada (Working Paper No. 25), United States of America (Working Paper No. 28), United Kingdom (Working Paper No. 46), India (Working Paper No. 48) and France (Working Paper No. 50).

WORKING GROUP ON UNDERSEA AND MARITIME FEATURES

19. In accordance with recommendations and resolutions made at previous meetings of the Working Group to eliminate further consideration of undersea features, and in view of the fact that no work had been carried out by nations concerning maritime features, the Convenor, Mr. Randall, made several proposals. First, the Working Group should take no further action on the standardization of names of undersea features. Instead, individual nations should follow principles and procedures already approved by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and conduct co-operative work with one another.

20. It was noted that Turkey had submitted a number of proposals for names of undersea features in the Aegean Sea to be considered by the Working Group, but the Convenor drew attention to Working Paper No. 31, in which it was stated that the body could take no position on any proposals.

21. Mr. Kofos (Greece) observed that of the 18 proposal forms submitted by Turkey, 11 referred to undersea features in the Aegean Sea that had already been named in proposal forms submitted by Greece during the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held in Geneva in 1982. He further pointed out a number of irregularities in the Turkish proposal forms, such as giving names to undersea features within Greek jurisdiction, and asked Mr. Erinc (Turkey) to withdraw those names. Mr. Erinc said that since those names were proposed by his Government, he was not authorized to make any changes.

22. The Group then agreed to drop further consideration of the names of undersea features. The Convenor said he would act as a liaison with the Secretary of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names to ensure the circulation of any national proposals to interested experts. He also said he would serve as a liaison with the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) on relevant matters.

23. The lack of interest in maritime names prompted the Convenor to recommend that the Group of Experts relinquish this subject to IHO, which had been working on a revision of its Special Publication No. 23, entitled Limits of Oceans and Seas. The publication was based on the efforts of participating maritime nations and could almost entirely meet the goals of the Group of Experts without further work by the Group.

24. Mr. Ferrero-Regis (IHO) discussed the programme of the Working Group with the Convenor. Subsequently, a message was sent to IHO outlining the proposed liaison and the transfer of efforts on the names of maritime features.

25. The United Nations Group of Experts agreed to the following:

(a) The Working Group on Undersea and Maritime Features would be abolished;

(b) Proposals on the names of undersea features would be sent to the Secretary of the Group of Experts for circulation;

(c) The Convenor would continue to monitor developments in the area, reporting to interested experts periodically;

(d) The Convenor would be the liaison officer with IHO, which would work on maritime features and undersea features, in accordance with any principles needing elaboration in co-operation with the liaison officer of the Group of Experts;

(e) The liaison officer would report to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names at its twelfth session. If required, the disbanded Working Group would be re-established.

WORKING GROUP ON A SINGLE ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR
EACH NON-ROMAN WRITING SYSTEM

26. In the absence of the Convenor, Mr. Földi, Mr. Breu acted as ad hoc Convenor of the Working Group, after a preliminary review by the Chairman, Mr. Blok. Mr. Blok agreed to contact Mr. Földi to inquire whether he would be able to continue as Convenor.

Korean

27. It was noted that in the Republic of Korea the new Ministry of Education system had been legally accepted and implemented in an official gazetteer of the country.

Greek

28. In October 1983 the Government of Greece had legally adopted the romanization system presented in 1982 at the Fourth United Nations on the Standardization of Geographical Names. Mr. Kofos said that the system would be presented for adoption at the Fifth Conference. It was also noted that Greece had adopted Neohellenic (Greek) (dimotiki) as the only official language of the country, while also acknowledging the introduction of the monotoniko system.

Languages of India

29. As the Huntorean system did not fully meet current requirements, it was reported that intensive study was being undertaken to produce a new phonetic guide for a romanization system. The new system was not expected to be very different from the current one.

Cyrillic alphabets for the Slavonic languages

30. Mr. Boginsky presented, in Working Paper No. 36, a new legally introduced system for the romanization of Russian geographical names, based on the standard of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA). Although some experts identified certain difficulties with the system, Mr. Boginsky noted that no changes were expected and that some maps using the system were being published. The systems for Bulgarian, Macedonian and Serbian Cyrillic remained unaltered.

Mongolian

31. It was noted that no changes had occurred since the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. The Finnish standard for romanization of Mongolian for national and international purposes was submitted. The Finnish scholar, Harry Halén, had been instrumental in effecting the standardization.

Japanese

32. Mr. Tomino stated that two systems (Hepburn and Kunrei) were still in use in Japan, but that all maps, charts and gazetteers for international use followed the Kunrei system.

Arabic

33. Mr. Tazi reported that no changes had been made since the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. He was continuing to work with his colleagues on the romanization of Arabic, basing the approach mainly on the Modified Beirut System.

Hebrew

34. The system published in the report of the Fourth Conference had been ratified by the Government of Israel in 1956. It was reported that no changes had been introduced.

Burmese

35. No changes were reported.

Chinese

36. The Pinyin system was in use for all romanized maps, atlases and gazetteers in China. No changes were reported.

Pashtu and Dari

37. Mr. Ganji stated that as Pashtu used the same alphabet as Dari, it had no application in romanizing place names.

* * *

38. The Working Group agreed to the proposal of the Chairman to revive the practice of allotting the various scripts to individual members who would keep them under consideration. The allotment was as follows: Burmese, Mr. Lewis; Japanese, Mr. Tomino; Pashtu and Dari, Mr. Ganji; Indian languages, Mr. Dave; Greek, Mr. Kofos; Arabic, Mr. Tazi; Korean, Mr. Quinting; Mongolian, Mr. Boginsky; Lao and Thai, Mr. Randall.

WORKING GROUP ON COURSES IN TOPONYMY

39. The Convenor, Mr. Ormeling, stated that he was pleased by the success of the toponymic training courses held in Cisarua, Indonesia in 1982, noting that the experience gained would be used to improve the presentation of subsequent courses. He noted that the papers presented during the course were not yet published and expressed the hope that they could be issued out in the near future. He was asked to obtain information on action taken by the South-East Asia and Pacific South-West countries to implement the knowledge acquired during the course.

40. The Secretary stated that the United Nations had budgeted \$25,000 for a second course to be held in 1984-1985. Such a course might be held in Morocco in November 1985 for the Arab and francophone countries of the region. The programme would be modelled on the one held in Indonesia, subject to the comments made in the report on the Indonesia course. The course in Morocco would run for two weeks,

with the number of participants not exceeding 50. The manual being prepared by Mr. Orth would be ready in a few months. Mr. Beaudin agreed to have a French version of the manual prepared in time for the course in Morocco. The Convenor agreed to contact the agency of each lecturer so that the lecturers could prepare their presentations early enough to enable the organizers to circulate them among the prospective participants.

41. The possibility of holding courses in Cuba, Africa East, Canada and India was noted. The one in Canada could be held in Quebec in the spring of 1986 for participants from francophone countries.

42. It was recommended that more linguistic expertise should be made available at the various courses. The Working Group also recommended that an annual budget to support training courses in toponymy should be included in the United Nations budget.

WORKING GROUP ON TOPONYMIC DATA FILES
(GAZETTEERS, COMPUTER ASSISTANCE)

43. The Convenor, Mr. Lewis, referring to Working Papers No. 41 and No. 49, expressed the view that only with computer assistance could toponymic data files be efficiently created and maintained, and gazetteers and names lists be economically produced. It remained necessary to distinguish between gazetteers produced from a general toponymic data file and gazetteers containing only the names appearing on a given map series. He stated that the United Kingdom gazetteer based on the 1:50,000 scale maps was of the second type, being published as a single volume containing 200,000 to 300,000 names with grid co-ordinates and a method of converting grid co-ordinates to latitude and longitude.

44. Mr. Dave explained that India, with 15 official languages, faced an enormous task in producing gazetteers based on the 1:50,000 scale-map series. He stated that computers were being introduced but assistance and technical co-operation would be welcome.

45. Mr. Absaloms outlined the problems of Kenya, a large country with a sparse population. Assistance with map and gazetteer production was greatly appreciated.

46. Mr. Orth described the constant name-changing that occurred in the United States of America and the consequences for the computer-based names files.

47. Mr. Ringstam described the Swedish names files related to the 1:250,000 series and the work on the 1:50,000 scale maps. He explained that co-ordinates were based on the position of names on maps rather than on the place itself. Names were placed on the maps with computer assistance.

48. Mr. Kadmon described the unique dual-script name files of Israel, explaining that names were manually emplaced on maps. A large international atlas was being prepared with Greek, Roman and other alphabets translated and transliterated into Hebrew by computer.

49. The Group agreed that successful emplacement of names on maps by computer was not yet possible for all types of names. Mr. Ramondou reminded the experts that a computer could do more than generate names for maps. He listed among other uses the provision of name data for purposes of administration and law enforcement.
50. Mr. Böhme explained that revision of the gazetteers of the Federal Republic of Germany was not currently feasible because of the large stocks remaining of the first edition and the inability to publicize such publications.
51. Mr. Faqq described the sorting of names by computer and the methods of obtaining by computer a gazetteer or a film-set of names for direct application in map production.
52. Mr. Beaudin and Mr. Orth discussed ways of dealing with the definite article. Mr. Lewis, Mr. Kadmon, Mr. Randall and Mr. Benkhalti discussed the same problem in Arabic, which would involve a different solution.
53. Mr. Randall described the advanced systems under development in his agency: the size of the existing files, cross-referencing capability and the method of indicating geographical position and geographical elements in the gazetteers of the United States Board on Geographic Names (USBGN).
54. A discussion ensued on the degree of accuracy with which the position of geographical names could be given, especially when changes were made in the system of co-ordinates.
55. Mr. Rayburn stated that a meeting on automation in the processing of geographical names was to take place in Canada in May 1985. The meeting might be rescheduled, however, to coincide with a possible future training course in toponymy.
56. Mr. Lewis stated that he would initiate a possible revision of the definition of "Gazetteer" given in resolution 4, recommendation E, of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 3/ which had been held at Geneva in 1967. He would also ask experts at half-yearly intervals to provide information on developments in systems and methods.
57. The name of the Working Group was changed to Working Group on Toponymic Data Files (Gazetteers, Computer Assistance), as recommended at the tenth session of the Group of Experts (ESA/RT/C/GN/8, para. 21).

WORKING GROUP ON THE LIST OF COUNTRY NAMES

58. The Convenor, Mr. Ramondou, stated that there had been some minor changes to his list, as reflected in Working Paper No. 43. It was noted that in resolution 11 the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names had recommended that the maintenance of a list of country names should be entrusted to the Documentation, Reference and Terminology Section of the Translation Division, Department of Conference Services of the United Nations Secretariat. 4/ Mr. Breu noted that the Group's list reflected the names in more languages than did the list of the Documentation, Reference and Terminology Section.

59. Mr. Kadmon and Mr. Randall urged the amalgamation of the two lists, with maintenance by the Documentation, Reference and Terminology Section. Mr. Lewis, in complimenting the Convenor for his work, suggested that the Secretary should keep the experts advised on changes and new names accepted at the United Nations. The Secretary reported that Terminology Bulletin No. 328, entitled Names of Countries and Adjectives of Nationality (ST/CS/SER.F/328), would be distributed shortly. The Chairman asked the Convenor to implement resolution 11 before the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names was held in 1987. The Convenor stated that he would circulate his final list among the experts before passing it to the Documentation, Reference and Terminology Section, of the Translation Division, Department of Conference Services of the United Nations Secretariat.

60. Mr. Schmidt (Federal Republic of Germany) made a statement concerning Working Paper No. 38, entitled "Russian forms for country names". He took objection to the form of translation of the name "Federal Republic of Germany" into the Russian language.

61. The Chairman, after protracted discussion of the matter, ruled that owing to its political implications, the paper should be reconsidered further by the authors and should be presented at the next session of the Group. Mr. V. Boginsky (USSR) opposed this decision.

WORKING GROUP ON DEFINITIONS

62. The Secretary distributed copies of the glossary entitled Technical Terminology Employed in the Standardization of Geographical Names (ST/CS/SER.F/330), drawing attention to the fact that most of the terms were defined in all six languages of the United Nations. The Convenor, Mr. Lewis, said that he would co-ordinate the items for revision or addition, with the co-operation of the Secretary. Mr. González agreed to provide the Convenor with some items for the Spanish section. The Convenor observed that some obscure terms (e.g., odonym) might have application in selected regions but doubted their value for universal usage. He therefore did not deem it necessary to include them in the glossary. After consultation with other experts, it was agreed to consider the inclusion of "eponym" prior to the twelfth session of the Group of Experts.

AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE DURATION AND PROGRAMME OF THE FIFTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

63. The Working Group agreed that the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names would be convened in Montreal from 17 to 31 August 1987. The Secretary stated that he would communicate the proposed dates of the Fifth Conference to the Economic and Social Council for approval.

64. Mr. Böhme suggested the inclusion of a new item, entitled "Naming in Antarctica", under item 10, "Features beyond a single sovereignty". Some experts

did not agree that the subject should be taken up by the Working Group. It was agreed that Mr. Woodman would be asked to report on the work of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) at the twelfth session of the Group of Experts. It was noted that the programme for the Conference was to be finalized at the twelfth session of the Group of Experts in 1986.

TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR MAP AND OTHER EDITORS

65. The Co-ordinator, Mr. Breu, opened the discussion by stressing the need to publish the various national guidelines received. There were various proposals on how to publish the guidelines. It was concluded that they should be brought out separately, with six being distributed at the Third Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas, to be held at United Nations Headquarters from 19 February to 1 March 1985, a further six at the Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific in 1986, and the remainder at the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, to be held in Montreal in 1987. The Co-ordinator offered to provide assistance to countries still contemplating the production of toponymic guidelines. It was agreed that the guidelines were not only valuable for domestic use but also provided valuable information and direction for external cartographic organizations and other publishers.

CONVERSION OF NON-ARABIC WRITING SYSTEMS INTO THE ARABIC WRITING SYSTEM

66. After considerable discussion of the problems of transcribing Roman vowels and consonants into the Arabic writing system, it was concluded that the subject might not be of direct concern to the Group of Experts. It was agreed that the individual experts with experience in transliteration and transcription would continue to communicate with their colleagues in the Arabic Division regarding the various problems encountered in converting from non-Arabic writing systems to the Arabic writing system. Mr. Tazi thanked several experts for their valuable advice and assistance.

RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTATION TO ASSIST IN THE PRONUNCIATION OF NAMES

67. The Chairman stated that resolution 4 of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names 5/ made redundant resolution 7 on research and experimentation to assist in the pronunciation of names adopted by the Third Conference. 6/ He said that each country could treat the matter of pronunciation in its own toponymic guidelines.

68. Although the belief was expressed that the International Phonetic Association (IPA) guidelines on pronunciation were too difficult to understand for all except name scholars, others pointed out that standard dictionaries relied on it. It was concluded that aids to pronunciation in toponymic guidelines could follow the IPA system and that the terms of the resolution on this subject had been fulfilled.

RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL
CARTOGRAPHIC CONFERENCES

69. It was noted that a three-part resolution on geographical names had been adopted by the Tenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (section A of the resolution concerns activities of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division; section B, funding for training courses in toponymy; and section C, a regional map of Asia and the Pacific with standardized geographical names). 7/

REVIEW OF WORKING GROUPS

70. It was agreed that the following Working Groups were involved in important work for the international standardization of geographical names and should continue:

- (a) Working Group on a Single Romanization System for Each non-Roman Writing System;
- (b) Working Group on Courses in Toponymy;
- (c) Working Group on Toponymic Data Files (Gazetteers, Computer Assistance).

71. It was agreed that the Working Group on the List of Country Names would finalize its work at the twelfth session of the Group of Experts and make arrangements to turn over the list to the Terminology Section, Department of Conference Services, United Nations Secretariat.

72. The Working Group on Undersea and Maritime Features had completed its mandate and was dissolved. Mr. Randall had agreed to serve as liaison officer with IHO and other international bodies concerned with the oceans and marine sciences.

73. The Working Group on Definitions had essentially completed its mandate with the publication of Technical Terminology Employed in the Standardization of Geographical Names (ST/CS/SER.F/330) and was therefore also being dissolved. Mr. Lewis consented to serve as the liaison officer for the completion of definitions in the six official languages of the United Nations and to make the minor additions and corrections required for a second edition of the glossary in correspondence with the experts concerned.

74. The Ad Hoc Working Group on the Programme for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names will continue its work until the twelfth session in 1986 when the programme will be finalized.

REVIEW OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL/LINGUISTIC DIVISIONS

75. As to the composition of the divisions, it was decided that the status quo would be provisionally maintained. Mr. O Maolfabhail pointed out that Ireland had never formally been a member of the United Kingdom Division and that its membership would be decided at a later date. Mr. Ganji remarked that the Islamic Republic of Iran still demanded the deletion of Israel's name from the Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic). Mr. Kadmon pointed out that, according to the modus operandi regulations of the Group of Experts, Israel, like any other country, was free to join the division of its choice.

REVIEW OF THE AIMS AND FUNCTIONS AND MODUS OPERANDI

76. The Group discussed Working Paper No. 37, presented by Mr. Boginsky and prepared in pursuance of resolution 22 of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 8/ together with Working Paper No. 30, presented by Mr. Randall. It was decided that an ad hoc working group consisting of Mr. Blok, Mr. Boginsky, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Randall should prepare a proposal on the question for discussion during the twelfth session of the Group of Experts.

77. Mr. Randall discussed the paper entitled "Practical aspects of geographical names and communications" (E/CONF.74/L.112), presented at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, and repeated his belief that the work of the Group of Experts should always be guided by practical goals. Mr. Breu expressed opposition to certain points, principally that English could serve as a vehicle for romanization for international use. Mr. Lewis pointed out that English consonants had many advantages over others in transliteration and transcription.

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE UNITED
NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

78. The Group of Experts agreed upon the following provisional agenda for its twelfth session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Report of the Chairman.
4. Report of the Secretary.
5. Reports of the divisions, liaison officers and experts.

6. Reports of activity by the Working Groups since the eleventh session:
 - (a) Working Group on a Single Romanization System for Each non-Roman Writing System;
 - (b) Working Group on Courses on Toponymy;
 - (c) Working Group on Toponymic Data Files (Gazetteers, Computer Assistance);
 - (d) Working Group on a List of Country Names;
 - (e) Ad Hoc Working Group on the Programme of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
7. Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors.
8. Conversion of non-Arabic writing systems into the Arabic writing system.
9. Publications in the framework of the work of the Group of Experts (guidelines, World Cartography, Manual).
10. Relevant resolutions of the United Nations regional cartographic conferences.
11. Report on the procedures followed by SCAR in name-giving in Antarctica.
12. Review of the Working Groups.
13. Review of aims and functions jointly with the modus operandi and rules of procedure.
14. Provisional agenda for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
15. Provisional agenda for the thirteenth session of the Group of Experts.
16. Other business.
17. Adoption of the report.

OTHER BUSINESS

79. Mr. Boginsky and Mr. Haak made statements concerning Working Paper No. 24, entitled "Names of mountains and regions in the Federal Republic of Germany", noting that the text of the document contained references to West Berlin as one of Bundeslands of the Federal Republic of Germany and included some geographical names such as Barnim, Grünewald and Havelland associated with West Berlin. That contradicted the relevant provisions of the Quadripartite Agreement

of 3 September 1971 on West Berlin. The Chairman, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 14 of the modus operandi of the Group of Experts, ruled that the paper should be reconsidered further by the authors and should be presented at the next session of the Group.

80. Mr. Boginsky, Mr. Raynov, Mr. Szymczak and Mr. Haak addressed a joint statement to the Chairman concerning the participation of an expert from South Africa at the eleventh session of the Group of Experts. They drew the attention of the Chairman to General Assembly resolution 37/69 A of 9 December 1982, in which the Assembly requested all intergovernmental organizations to exclude the racist régime of South Africa and to terminate any co-operation with it. They pointed out that the General Assembly had also taken quite a few other decisions calling for effective measures to that end to be taken by the United Nations and the Governments of Member States.

81. They stated that the appeals by the General Assembly, had, in their opinion, a direct bearing on the Group of Experts. They expressed the view that the actions of the division of the United Nations Secretariat that had allowed the representative of South Africa to take part in the meetings of the Group of Experts therefore could not be regarded as correct.

82. There was some discussion on the project to devote a volume of the United Nations publication entitled World Cartography to the standardization of geographical names. The Secretary stated that the set of papers collected for that purpose by Mr. Breu fell within all the terms of reference given to him and with only minor changes, was suitable for publication in World Cartography. A proposal to make a fundamental change in the plans was withdrawn. In order to ensure that publication would proceed as soon as possible, the Chairman was empowered to form a small editorial board to further the project.

PANEL OF EXPERTS ON LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

83. The Secretary stated that on several occasions requests had been made for information and assistance regarding legislative and administrative problems concerning national authorities on the standardization of geographical names. A panel of experts was to be set up, which could be called upon to meet such requests.

84. Mr. Randall suggested that individual experts, through co-ordination with the Secretary, should participate in United Nations regional cartographic conferences to make presentations concerning the benefits of bringing cartography and toponymy closer together at the national level.

85. Mr. Randall also recommended the formation of special teams to travel to countries, at the invitation of Governments, to help establish operating authorities on the standardization of geographical names. He agreed to work with the Secretary to establish procedures for both activities and to propose them to the Group of Experts at its twelfth session.

Notes

1/ See "Report of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names on the work of its tenth session" (ESA/RT/C/GN/8), annex III.

2/ Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, Geneva, 24 August-14 September 1982, vol. I, Report of the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.7).

3/ See United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, Geneva, 4-22 September 1967, vol. I, Report of the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.68.I.9), chap. III.

4/ See Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names ..., chap. III.

5/ Ibid.

6/ See Third United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, Athens, 17 August-7 September 1977, vol. I, Report of the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.4), chap. III.

7/ Tenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 17-28 January 1983, vol. I, Report of the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.18), chap. VII, sect. B, resolution 15.

8/ See Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names ..., chap. III.

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Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

A. Working papers

<u>Working Paper No.</u>		<u>Agenda item</u>
1	Provisional agenda	2
2	Report on the proceedings of the Tenth Regional Division after the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names until the end of 1983 (submitted by the East Central and South-East Europe Division)	5
3	Report on the additional terms proposed to be included in the dictionary of technical terms (submitted by the East Central and South-East Europe Division)	6 (f)
4	Report on the list of names of United Nations Member countries (submitted by the East Central and South-East Europe Division)	6 (e)
5	Report of the <u>Ad Hoc</u> Working Group on the duration and Programme of the Fifth United Nations Conference (submitted by A. Rayburn, Chairman of the <u>Ad Hoc</u> Working Group)	6 (g)
6	Report on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names since the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (submitted by the China Division)	5
7	La toponymie d'entités quebecoises en position transforntalière (submitted by F. Beaudin, Canada)	5
8	Procédure du traitement de l'enquête toponymique (Ce document sera mis à jour en septembre 1984) (submitted by F. Beaudin, Canada)	6 (c)
9	Methodologie des inventaires toponymiques (submitted by F. Beaudin, Canada)	6 (c)
		/...

<u>Working Paper No.</u>		<u>Agenda item</u>
10	Itinéraires toponymiques (submitted by F. Beaudin, Canada)	6(d)
11	Le processus et les implications de la normalisation terminologique en toponymie québécoise (submitted by F. Beaudin, Canada)	6(f)
12	Guide à l'intention des éditeurs et des rédacteurs des manuels scolaires (submitted by F. Beaudin, Canada)	7
13	Guide à l'usage des cartographes (submitted by F. Beaudin, Canada)	7
14	Le choix et l'écriture des noms de voies de communication du Québec: pour une politique cohérente (submitted by F. Beaudin, Canada)	7
15	Rapport d'étape concernant l'atelier sur l'écriture des noms de lieux Amerindiens, 1979-1984 (submitted by F. Beaudin, Canada)	9
16	Report of the publication of general directions for the spelling of geographical names of individual countries in the German Democratic Republic (submitted by E. Haack, German Democratic Republic)	7
17	Report on progress made in the standardization of geographical names in the German Democratic Republic since the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in 1982 (submitted by E. Haack, German Democratic Republic)	5
18	Report of the Dutch- and German-speaking Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (submitted by J. Breu, Chairman of the Division)	5

<u>Working Paper No.</u>		<u>Agenda item</u>
19	Toponymic guidelines for cartography - South Africa (1st Edition) (submitted by E. Raper, South Africa)	7
20	Report of the co-ordinator of the toponymic guidelines for map and other editors on the progress made (submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division, prepared by J. Breu)	7
21	Aids to name-pronunciation (submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division, prepared by D. Blok)	9
22	Exonyms for Austrian geographical names as found in sources written in English, French and Russian (submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division, prepared by J. Breu)	15
23	Report on the standardization of Antarctic names (submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division, prepared by the Institut für Angewandte Geodäsie, Federal Republic of Germany)	15
24	Names of mountains and regions in the Federal Republic of Germany* (submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division, prepared by H. Liedtke)	
25	Official languages and geographical names on Federal Government maps in Canada (submitted by A. Rayburn, Canada)	5
26	Report of the Norden Division (submitted by A. Rostvik, Chairman of the Division)	5

* To be presented for consideration at the twelfth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

<u>Working Paper No.</u>		<u>Agenda item</u>
27	Informe del experto de la Republica de Cuba y Presidente de la Division de America Latina (submitted by Ydelis Velásquez García, Cuba)	5
28	Report of the United States of America (submitted by Richard R. Randall, United States)	8
29	Report of the United States of America - Canada Division to the eleventh session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (submitted by Richard R. Randall, Chairman of the Division)	5
30	Report of the United States of America (submitted by Richard R. Randall, United States)	13
31	Report of the Convenor of the Working Group on Undersea and Maritime Features (submitted by Richard R. Randall, Convenor of the Working Group)	6(a)
32	Report from divisional Group of Experts (submitted by A. M. Mohamed, Chairman of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division)	5
33	Guidelines for establishing a national geographical names authority (submitted by H.A.G. Lewis, United Kingdom)	15
34	Report of the Islamic Republic of Iran (submitted by M.H. Ganji, Islamic Republic of Iran)	5
35	Definitions (submitted by H.A.G. Lewis, United Kingdom)	6(f)
36	Standardization of geographical names in the USSR between 1982 and 1984 (submitted by the USSR Division)	5

<u>Working Paper No.</u>		<u>Agenda item</u>
37	Statute of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (submitted by the USSR Division)	13
38	Russian forms for country names* (submitted by the USSR Division)	
39	Development of toponymic guidelines for cartographic and other publications in the USSR (submitted by the USSR Division)	7
40	Introduction of the state standard "Romanization System for the Cyrillic Alphabet" in the USSR (submitted by the USSR Division)	6(b)
41	The computer processing of geographical names for gazetteer production (submitted by the United Kingdom Division)	6(d)
42	The computer processing of abbreviations, special characters, and the sorting of geographical names	6(d)
43	Names of countries (submitted by J. Ramondou, France)	6(e)
44	Pays et capitales du monde (submitted by J. Ramondou, France)	6(e)
45	Notation phonetique (submitted by J. Ramondou, France)	9
46	Report by the Chairman of the United Kingdom Division (submitted by H.A.G. Lewis, United Kingdom)	5

* To be presented for consideration at the twelfth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

<u>Working Paper No.</u>		<u>Agenda item</u>
47	Guidelines for the romanization of Korean (submitted by Book-Sik Yi, Republic of Korea)	6(b)
48	National report on the standardization of geographical names in India (submitted by V.S. Dave, India)	5
49	Toponymic data files (submitted by H.A.G. Lewis, United Kingdom)	6(d)
50	Rapport d'activité présenté par la France (submitted by J. Ramondou, France)	5
51	Rapport d'activité du Groupe de Travail pour la Liste des Pays (submitted by J. Ramondou, France)	6(e)
52	Definitions (submitted by H.A.G. Lewis, United Kingdom)	6(f)
53	Report by the Republic of Kenya (submitted by W.J. Absaloms, Kenya)	5
54	Report by Africa East Division (submitted by W.J. Absaloms, Kenya)	5
55	Discussions on toponymic data files (submitted by A. Fagg, United Kingdom)	6(d)
56	Draft provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names	

B. United Nations publications and documents

	<u>Agenda item</u>
<u>Names of Countries and Adjectives of Nationality, Terminology Bulletin No. 328 (ST/CS/SER.F/328 and Corr.1)</u>	6(e)
<u>Technical Terminology Employed in the Standardization of Geographical Names, Terminology Bulletin No. 330 (ST/CS/SER.F/330)</u>	6(f)
<u>Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, vol. I. Report of the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.7)</u>	6
<u>Report of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names on the work of its tenth session (ESA/RT/C/GN/8)</u>	6
<u>Terms of Reference of the Subsidiary Machinery of the Economic and Social Council and the Related Organs and Programmes of the United Nations (E/1983/INF.4)</u>	12, 13

C. Information papers

Information Paper No.

1 and Rev.1 and 2	Provisional list of working papers
2	Liste des publications de la Commission de Toponymie du Quebec, Canada
3 and Rev. 1-5 INF.3/Rev.1-5	Provisional list of participants
4	Report on the Tenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific: report of the Secretary)
5	Withdrawn
6	Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors

Annex III

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