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Item 9 b) of the provisional agenda*

National standardization: Office treatment of names

Louis Trichardt/Makhado Town “Name Change”

Submitted by South Africa**

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Louis Trichardt/Makhado Town “Name Change”

During 2003 the Minister of Arts and Culture, approved the change of Louis Trichardt to Makhado on the recommendation of the South African Geographical Names Council (SAGNC) after the Makhado municipality had apply for the name change.

The Chairpersons Association launched an application in the High Court of Pretoria to challenge the legality of the Minister’s decision on the name change. The application was in the form of the High Court review application to review and set aside the decision of the previous Minister on the grounds that insufficient consultation had been undertaken by the municipality. The High Court ruled in favor of the Minister of Arts and Culture and SAGNC.

The matter was then taken to Appeal Court by the Chairpersons Associations but it rule in favor of the complainant. The implication of this decision was that the name of the town remains Louis Trichardt as per decision of the Appeal Court.