

Group of Experts on
Geographical names

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REPORT OF THE NORDEN DIVISION
(submitted by A. Rostvik,
Chairman of the Norden Division)

Orthography

In Norway the orthography for North-Lappish, also applied in Finland and Sweden, is used for revised sheets of the topographic map series M711.

As from March 15, 1984 the use of double a (Aa, aa) in stead of the letter Å, å is optional in Danish official documents. However, the Place-Name Commission, the Geodetic Institute, and the Postal Services have decided to continue using the letter Å, å exclusively.

Gazetteers

In Denmark a gazetteer for Jylland was published in 1985. It also contains amendments to the gazetteer for the counties east of Lillebalt (The Little Belt), published in 1978. The gazetteer is produced by means of computer.

In Finland a new map of Finland (1:250 000) with a name register of about 9 500 names and explanations for international use was published in 1983. A new edition will appear in 1987. The names are also accessible via computer.

In Sweden a pronunciation guide of place-names is in preparation. It will give Standard Swedish pronunciation of about 4 000 names, but also, where appropriate, regional and/or local pronunciation variants.

An internordic list of country names and words of nationality (adjectives and nouns) has been published by the Nordic language committees in 1973. A second edition appeared in 1979 and a third edition is in preparation and will appear in the autumn of 1986.

In all Norden countries toponymic data files are being built up, mostly in cooperation between place-name research institutes and producers of official maps. As for the situation in Sweden see Report No 1, 1986 to the Working group on toponymic data files.

Names authorities

In Sweden a place-name authority was established in 1985, called Ortnamnrådet (The Place-Name Board). The members are representing the Post Office Administration, the Central Office of National Antiquities, the National Survey Board (chairman), the Institutes of Place-Name Research, the Swedish Language Committee, the National Association for the Preservation of Local Culture, the Swedish Association of Local Authorities, the universities, and the Samis. The Board is located to the National Survey Board, Gävle.