Agenda item 14

TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES

Presented by East Central and South-East Europe Division
Fouteenth Session of the United Nations
Group of Experts on Geographical Names
Geneva, from 17 to 26 May 1989

Item 14

Toponymic guidelines

According to the reports of member states of the Tenth United Nations linguistic/geographical division participated at the Ninth session /Bratislava, March 1989/ the implementation of the resolutions 4/IV and 14/V from previous conferences is not satisfactory.

Toponymic guideline for map and other editors was issued only in Czechoslovakia in 1987. It was presented at the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names under the number E/CONF.79/INF/62. In 1988 Bulgaria published toponymic guideline as a part of wide drawn up rule "Obšča instrukcija za transkripcija i prevopis na geografskite imena" /the second part of the instruction/. Hungary and Poland have not published toponymic guideline till this time.

After the discussion about the problems of typographical or graphical distinction of toponyms from non-toponymic text on maps /resolution 11/V/ the Ninth session of the Tenth United Nations linguistic/geographical division stated that there would be purposeful to give the rules of the distinction in toponymic guidelines. Because there are not the same criteria of the review of toponyms in single states /e.g. multi-verbal geographical names consisting of generic elements - Stará rieka, the river Slená/ the completion of toponymic guidelines by these criteria will increase informative value of the guideline.

The participants of the Ninth session of the Tenth linguistic/geographical division agreed on the completion of corresponding rules at the compilation of the guideline or at the publication of updated one.