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INFORMATION ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES STANDARDIZATION IN THE USSR IN THE PERIOD
FROM 1987 TO 1989

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Geographical Names (USSR)

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I N F O R M A T I O N

on geographical names standardization
in the USSR in the period from
1987 to 1989

Since the 5th conference (from 18 to 31 August 1987, Montreal, Canada) the activities on geographical names standardization in the USSR have been as follow:

Normative instructions establishing the rules of geographical names rendering from the languages of the peoples of the USSR and foreign countries into Russian as given below were published:

- Instruction on rendering of Even geographical names into Russian (1988),
- Instruction on rendering of geographical names of Latvian SSR into Russian (1989),
- Instruction on rendering of geographical names of Hungary into Russian (1988),
- Instruction on rendering of geographical names of Mongolian People's Republic into Russian (1988).

The issue of normative dictionaries of geographical names for some republics of the USSR and foreign countries containing the names of populated places and physiogeographical entities most frequently used on maps and in geographical publications is in progress. In the said period the dictionaries as follow have been published:

- Dictionary of geographical names of Jakutskaja ASSR (1987),
- Dictionary of geographical names of Baškirskaia ASSR (1988),
- Dictionary of geographical names of the Antarctic (1987),
- Dictionary of geographical names of Australia (1987),
- Dictionary of geographical names of Romania (1988),
- Dictionary of geographical names of Afghanistan (1988),

- 2 -
- Dictionary of geographical names of Laos (1988),
 - Dictionary of geographical names of Vietnam (in press).

Instruction on geographical names rendering in cartographic products edited in foreign languages (1987) and Practical guidelines for maintaining the card files of geographical names for foreign territories (1987) have been published in a limited number of copies for employees of the Geographical names service and map editors of productional cartographic agencies.

Practical guidelines for naming and renaming of geographical objects of the USSR (1987) are published and Reference book for the names of states and territories of the world with name forms in English, French, Spanish, and German is prepared for publication.

Current naming and renaming of geographical objects of the USSR is carried out by the permanent Interdepartmental commission on geographical names under the Main administration of geodesy and cartography. It should be noted that a movement aiming at restoration of a number of historical names is taking place now in the Soviet Union within the wide democratization of the society. The names of such cities as Rybinsk, Naberezhnye Chelny, Mariupol', Izhevsk and others have been already restored.

Over 200 papers concerning studies, protection and restoration of historical names of cities, streets and squares have been presented at the All-Union scientific-practical conference "Historical names as culture memorials" organized a month ago by the Soviet Culture Foundation and the Academy of Sciences of the USSR (Section of literature and language).

To notify the international cartographic community about the changes of geographical names in the USSR it would be expedient to attach a list of officially renamed geographic entities to the information on geographical names standardization activity in the Soviet Union regularly sent to the UNCW-Secretary.