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Agenda item 5

REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONS

Report by the Netherlands 1992 - 1994

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submitted by The Netherlands, prepared by Ferjan Ormeling,  
Utrecht University, and Arjen Versloot

## Report by the Netherlands 1992-1994

In the Netherlands, since the 6th Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, the following developments in this field took place:

### 1. Gazetteers/toponymic data files

The gazetteer for the topographic map of the Netherlands on the scale 1:50 000, elaborated by the Topografische Dienst, Nederland (TDN), and first printed in June 1988 [Name-register kaartserie 1:50.000 (M733)], is now available as an ASCII file at a price of dfl 5000,00, from TDN P.O.Box 115, Emmen). It contains 44 000 names. The 1:250 000 file is available at dfl 540,00.

### 2. List of Country Names

The "Taalunie" (Dutch Language Union), a body empowered by the governments of both the Netherlands and Belgium to decide on matters regarding the dutch language, had instituted in 1968 a commission on foreign geographical names (Werkgroep Buitenlandse Aardrijkskundige Namen) chaired by Prof.dr.D.P.Blok and, since 1992, by Dr R.Rentenaar (Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences) to prepare a list of country names. This list has since been prepared and officially endorsed by the Taalunie, and has been published in 1993: *Lijst van landnamen. Namen van landen alsmede opgave van de daarbij behorende bijvoeglijke naamwoorden en inwoneraanduidingen en van de namen der hoofdsteden* (Voorzeten no 41. 's-Gravenhage: Stichting Bibliographia Neerlandica, ISBN 90-71313-49-2. Price dfl 13,50). The name versions it contains are to be the official spelling in the dutch language area.

### 3. List of exonyms

In september 1993, the next task of this commission on foreign geographical names was decided upon: standardization of all other (i.e. non-country names) exonyms in the dutch language. The commission is now working on this new task, which is planned to be completed by June 1994.

### 4. Minority names

In the province Friesland, where speakers of the Frisian language form a regional majority, an increasing number of municipalities is studying legal procedures in order to restore Frisian name versions as the official ones. Three municipalities (Tytsjerksteradiel, Boarnsterhim and Littenseardiel, have effectuated this conversion so far. in 1993 a bilingual provincial street atlas (Europlanning) and a provincial tourist map (ANWB) have been published.

### 5. Teaching courses in applied toponymy

In september 1993, experts from the Netherlands have contributed to the second toponymy course held in South Africa (the first organized for the UNGEGN Africa South Division), organized by UNGEGN chairman Dr P.E.Raper.