
**United Nations
Group of Experts on
Geographical Names**

**Working Paper
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**Twentieth Session
New York, 17 – 28 January 2000**

Item 6
of the Provisional Agenda

**REPORTS OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS, REGIONAL MEETINGS AND INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS**

**15th Session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division
of UNGEGN, Ljubljana, 19th April, 1999**

Prepared by Milan Orožen Adamič, Slovenia

Report of the

**15th Session of the
East Central and South-East Europe Division of UNGEGN**

Ljubljana, 19th - 20th April, 1999

Prepared by Mimi Urbanc and Milan Orožen Adamič

Agenda of the meeting:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the proposed draft provisional agenda.
3. Reporting on the 7th UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
4. National standardization:
 - field collection and office treatment of names,
 - treatment of names in multilingual areas,
 - administrative structure of national names authorities.
5. Toponymic Guidelines for Map and Other Editors.
6. Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers:
 - data collection procedures,
 - data elements required,
 - toponymic data transfer standards and formats,
 - automated data processing systems,
 - national gazetteers,
 - other publications.
7. Terminology in the standardization of geographical names.
8. Writing systems and guide to pronunciations (Romanization systems).
9. Country Names.
10. Exonyms.
11. Toponymic websites.
12. Co-operation with other regional groups in neighborhood countries.
13. Implementation of Resolutions and the Aims and Functions of UNGEGN.
14. Other information's.
15. Preparations for Representing the Division at the 20th Session of UNGEGN.
16. Adoption of the Memorandum of the 15th Session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of UNGEGN.
17. Closing the Session.

General program:

19th April, Monday Venue: Ljubljana, Grand hotel Union, Miklosiceva cesta 1

8.00	-	9.00	Reception and registration of delegates
9.00	-	10.30	Opening of Session, Session
10.30	-	11.00	Coffee break
11.00	-	13.00	Session
13.00	-	14.00	Lunch break
14.00	-	15.00	Presentation of the Register of Geographical names of Slovenia and Register of Spatial Units
15.00	-	16.00	Session
16.00	-	16.30	Coffee break
16.30	-	18.00	Session

20th April, Tuesday

9.00	-	10.30	Session
10.30	-	11.00	Coffee break
11.00	-	13.00	Session
13.00	-	14.00	Lunch break
14.00	-	15.30	Session, discussion of the Session Report
15.30	-	16.00	Coffee break
16.00	-	17.00	Presentation of products and data collection of the Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia
17.00	-	17.30	Receiving the Session Report, Closing the Session
17.30	-	18.00	Adoption of the Memorandum
18.00	-	19.00	Farewell reception

21st April, Wednesday

Excursion to Bled

(Unofficial discussions and sociability)

List of participating countries and number of persons:

1. Austria (Dutch and German speaking Division, 1),
2. Albania (report was received),
3. Bosnia and Herzegovina (1),
4. Bulgaria (1),
5. Croatia (1),
6. Czech Republic (1),
7. Hungary (2),
8. Italy (Romano-Hellenic Division, 1),
9. Poland (3),
10. Slovak Republic (2),
11. Slovenia (8) and
12. Ukraine (report was received).

**REPORT MEMORANDUM OF THE
15th Session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of UNGEGN
Ljubljana, 19th - 20th April, 1999**

1. Opening of the session

The opening speech was given by Božena Lipej, Ph. D. on behalf of the Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia. She was elected to the chair of the meeting. To Austria and Italy as neighboring Division countries were given warm welcome. Delegations of Albania, Cyprus, Macedonia and Ukraine were apologized. Albania and Ukraine sent their reports.

There was a minute of silence in honor of Prof. Jerzy Kondracki (Poland), who passed away in a tragic car accident.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Participants were asked to go through the agenda and to make comments or proposals. Austrian representative stressed the co-operation with other countries. The item 12 was moved from 20th of April to 19th of April on Austrian request. The agenda was accepted.

3. Reporting on the 7th UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

The conference was in January, 13th -22nd, 1998 in New York, and a brief report was given. Copies of different documents from that meeting were available for the participants on demand.

4. National standardization

- field collection and office treatment of names,
- treatment of names in multilingual areas,
- administrative structure of national names authorities.

Participants were asked to report by alphabetical order.

Bosnia and Herzegovina;

- Bosnia and Herzegovina joined the Division for the first time. Contemporary problems of Bosnia and Herzegovina were pointed out. There is a lot of work in front of them and to be done in the future due to the new borders.
- Geographic and other terms have been gathered and processed throughout longer period of time.
- Names of settlements, rivers, mountains, lakes and other were gathered directly at the field during the survey, written in their original form.
- Standard names for the estates and lots had not been specifically established.
- Geographical Military Institute made maps for Bosnia and Herzegovina in the former Yugoslavia.
- Two institutes; Institute for Geography at the Faculty of Philosophy and the Near Eastern Institute has been studying the origin and the changes of the toponyms.
- Geodetic service of Bosnia and Herzegovina organizes survey and establishment of the land cadastre and property register.
- Some significant steps in the field of toponyms are expected to be undertaken in near future.

Bulgaria,

- The main source for standardization of geographical names is collected from an administrative map of Bulgaria 1:300 000 issued in 1981, a Basic map of Bulgaria 1:500 000 issued in 1975 and the Unified Classifier of the Settlements of Bulgaria issued by the National Statistics Institution in 1980. Other sources such as a Basic Hydrological and Hydrogeological Map 1:600 000 and Topographic Map 1:200 000 are also used. New Administrative map 1:500 000 is issued as well as an updated Unified Classifier of the Territorial and Administrative Territorial Units of Bulgaria is under preparation.
- In 1964 in Bulgaria has been established the Council of Orthography and Transcription of Geographical Names.
- The activity in the field of standardization and the inner regulation of the Council has been specified in 1993. Official authority for standardization of geographical names in Bulgaria has been proclaimed. The Minister of Regional Development and Public Works determines the member institutions of the Council: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Defense, professionals from Sofia University "St. Kliment Ochridsky", Bulgarian Academy of Science, Bulgarian National Television, Bulgarian National Radio, Bulgarian Telegraph Agency, Cartographia Ltd. Other linguists can also be involved in the work of the Council to implement specific tasks. The Council works closely with the Commission for Naming of the Settlements and Sites of National Significance at the Presidency as well as the Bulgarian Language Institute with the Bulgarian Academy of Science. The Council has determined the following priorities in the scope of its activities:

- Accepts the basic principles on correct spelling and transcription of foreign and Bulgarian geographical names under Regulation N 6.
- Production and publication of Lists of transcribed geographical names of countries and regions of the world and updating the published Lists.
- Solves debates concerning transcription of foreign geographical names.
- Builds up Database for approved transcribed forms on foreign and Bulgarian geographical names.
- Participates with its representatives and materials in meetings of East Central and South-East Europe Division and Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

Croatia;

- National body for standardization of geographical names has not existed yet.
- The official language is Croatian, written in Latin script.

Czech Republic;

- The Czech Office carries out the national standardization for Surveying, Mapping and Cadastre (COSMAC).
- The Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic carries out the national standardization of the names of municipalities and their parts.
- The national minorities do not inhabit a certain area in such dense concentration that it would be necessary to standardise the respective geographical names also in the language of relevant minority.

Hungary;

- The Committee on Geographical Names continues act under Gov. Decree No. 71/1989.
- The preparation of a new government decree on official geographical names is a main task.
- The rules for writing the names of localities are given.
- The review of geographical names appearing on the most detailed topographic and cadastral maps is continuing.
- Publication of the Orthography of Hungarian geographical names was published in October, 1998.

Poland;

- There was no substantial organisational changes concerning geographical names in the last period.
- Work mainly concentrated on locating changes and character of official names of localities.
- New, three-level administrative division of Poland has been implemented (communes, districts and voivodships).
- Works on preparation and edition of the Polish Toponymic Guidelines have already started.

Slovak Republic;

- The presentation was divided into few topics:
- Field collection of names (16,000 names of trigonometric points were standardised).
- Treatment of names in multilingual areas (Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Hungarian, German, Polish, Romany (Gipsy), Ruthenian and Ukrainian are used as national minorities' languages). Current standardisation makes possible to use in brackets the double forms of the names in the language of the national minority.
- Administrative structure of national names authorities:
 - National Council of the Slovak Republic defines the names of administrative units,
 - Government of the Slovak Republic defines or changes the names of municipalities by governmental decree,
 - Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic defines and changes names of municipalities at the recommendation of the municipality,
 - Municipalities define and change the names of streets and public space,
 - The Authority of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre of the Slovak Republic defines and changes the names of non-residential geographical objects,
 - Cadastral departments of district offices define and change names of non-residential geographical objects.

Ukraine:

The activity in standardisation is carried out by National Council on Geographical Names and by the Main Administration of Geodesy, Cartography Cadastre at the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Slovenia;

- A digital Register of Geographical names is formed and all the data will be captured in the year 2000.
- In border areas with Italy, Austria and Hungary carefully adopted names are collected in co-operation with local experts. Exchanging of information on nomenclature in border regions would be of benefit in the future.
- First Commission for the Standardisation of Geographical Names was established 1986 and reappointed in 1995 by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and it is very active on national and international level.

Austria;

- The standardisation lies in the hands of three institutions; the Federal Office of Geology and Surveying, Statistical Central Office and Hydrological Central Bureau.
- There are five ethnical groups in Austria, so this is a hard question. As far as Carinthia and Slovenian minority there are concerned, there are 91 officially acknowledged Slovenian names in and special orthography has to be taken into consideration. The recommendation of the standardisation was elaborated last year. Similar problems are with Croatian names in Burgenland.

Italy;

- Special alphabetical rules for transcription were assigned.
- It happens in their division there are maps and legends only in national languages.
- Appointment of some typical common names on the maps was proposed in order to facilitate the reading of the maps.

Discussion:

It was a live discussion about the application of the of minority language grammar in border areas.

Austria;

Two problems were pointed out; Slovenian grammar with all its peculiarities and second political problems in 70's. This should be solved on official level.

Slovenia;

Co-operation in the future is recommended in order to solve this problem.

Austria;

Certain suggestions have already been proposed, but they cannot be implemented at the moment.

Hungary;

A question about functioning of Slovenian Commission for the Standardisation of Geographical Names and about its legal measure.

Slovenia;

The paper of nomination of the Commission and its statute contain detailed information. Slovenian government can appoint different commissions or working bodies for different tasks, so there was a possibility to appoint the special body.

6. Toponymic Guidelines for Map and Other Editors

Bulgaria;

In 1999 a meeting of the Council of Orthography and Transcription of Geographical Names has been hold, aim: to decide on the question of pointing out a unified system of Romanization of the Bulgarian geographical names, a working group to develop this Romanization system has been set up.

Czech republic;

Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors was published in English by the COSMAC in 1997, the Guidelines should make the Czech toponyms easy for users.

Hungary;

The 2nd edition of the Toponymic Guidelines for Hungary was first presented on the 12th Session of the Division in Budapest, 1993, and a second time on 7th Conference in January, 1998.

Poland;

"The Polish Toponymic Guidelines" needs updating. It was sent to Peter E. Raper, chairman of UNGEGN. Works on new, revised and corrected edition of "The Polish Toponymic Guidelines" already started.

Slovak republic;

The 3rd re-edited version of Toponymic Guidelines was prepared in 1998, including both Slovak and English versions.

Slovenia;

The Toponymic Guide for Slovenia was elaborated in 1995 and published in Slovene and English language. A new edition of the Toponymic Guide for Slovenia is to be prepared in future.

Ukraine:

Map symbols for topographic plans in the scales 1 : 500 - 1 : 5,000 and Maps symbols for geographic maps in the scale 1 : 10,000 were developed. The map symbols in others scales and other normative documents are being developed.

Discussion:

Slovenia:

Countries were asked to prepare the guidelines with toponymic rules in digital form. They will be collected in Slovenia and published in the internet.

Austria:

Is the collection of guidelines with toponymic rules going to be forwarded to the president of UNGEGEN?

Slovenia:

The idea was accepted with the approval.

6. Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers

Bulgaria:

- The usefulness of Gazetteers of the countries all over the world is recognised.
- "Methods for Preparation of Lists of Geographical Names" have been elaborated by the Council.
- Lists of geographical names for about 50 countries was issued.
- From the year of 1995 the Gazetteers have been issued in a digital form.

Croatia:

- A gazetteer of settlements was published by Central Bureau of Statistics in 1998.
- Register of geographical names contains names of administrative units and also names of other inhabited places, streets and squares.
- Updating topographic maps 1 : 25,000 and Croatian State Map 1 : 5,000 are in work.
- A database of hydrographic-cartographic geobase made by State Hydrographic Institute is created.

Czech Republic:

- The final form of the standardised names on the territory of the Czech Republic was influenced by the standpoints of locally competent municipal and cadastral offices. The proposals of names which were to be used in the State Map Series went through the secretariat of the Commission for Geographic Names of the COSMAC in order to be adjusted for subsequent approval.
- Each entry in the List of the Geographical Names used in the Basic Map 1: 10,000 contains the following: the full form of the standardised name (name used in the map), non-standardised variants of the name, the short description of the named object, its localisation on the map.
- Since 1994 the digital Fundamental Base of Geographic Data (so called ZABAGED) has been worked on in the competence of the COSMAC. Within the present time the process of the topologic vector-data base model formation - so called is being accelerated by means of vectorization programs in the environment of Intergraph MGE. Since 1998 the descriptive data of the List of the Geographical Names used in the Basic Map of the Czech Republic 1:10,000 have been inserted into the spatial database called GEONAME.
- The standardised place names of the Czech Republic have been published in the Statistic List of Municipalities by the Czech Statistical Office and by the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic in 1994. The changes in the Czech toponyms are inserted into the Central Bulletin of the Czech Republic (municipality names) and the Bulletin of the Czech Office for Surveying Mapping and Cadastre (cadastral district names).
- Data collection procedures are defined.
- Data elements required are specified.
- Automated data processing systems are applied since 1994.
- National gazetteers was published in 1994.
- The map catalogue of Czech republic (also in English) was distributed to delegations.

Hungary:

- The Database of Geographical Names comprises the names of the 19 volumes of county gazetteers published in 1979-81 plus the results of recent revisions.

- Reshaping of the computer background of the database both in hardware and software terms is going on.
- The latest national gazetteer containing names of all localities, as well as parts of localities, was published in 1995.
- The book of locality names is published every year.

Poland;

- The works on toponymic database have been conducted since 1995 by the Main Centre of Geodetic and Cartographic Documentation, supervised by the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography.
- Topographic maps at the scale of 1 : 10,000 are the basic source of information.
- The Bank of Geographical Names will serve in future for preparing the detailed national gazetteer. About 191,000 names have been entered into database till now.

Slovak Republic;

- In 1995 creation of the database of geographical names of the Slovak Republic was started.
- Input form of every name contains its standardised name form, location according to the cadastral area, and current administrative division, geographical co-ordinates and other information.
- Database is processed in the PC GEOS program in the Fox Pro environment.
- Names of cadastral districts of the Slovak Republic was published in 1998 (2nd edition).

Slovenia;

- Database Register of Geographical Names (RGN) was created and it is administrated by The Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia. Its purpose is to ensure uniform information in the field of geographical names. It was presented by the company Aster.
- First part of national gazetteer (settlements) is prepared to be printed, it is now reachable in working digital form.
- The Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia has published the publication Communes 1999 in Slovenia was published with review maps in scale 1 : 250,000 and 1 : 750,000.

Austria;

Austrian database was presented twice in former UN sessions. Nothing has changed.

Italy;

Hard work must be done due to the progress in other countries. There will be more material on the next meeting.

Discussion:

Hungary;

How is the connection of standardisation activities with the statistical office and working contacts in Slovenia.

Slovenia;

A close co-operation among different governmental organisations exists. House numbers data were collected together in the past. Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia is responsible for the collecting and maintaining addresses and territorial divisions. Statistics is a user of these data. Unified code is a connection between geodetic, statistical and other data in Slovenia.

Hungary;

Is the Geodetic bureau responsible for accurate data?

Slovenia;

An affirmative answer was given.

Hungary;

ABDS, are there any experiences of combining geographical data with this system in Slovenia?

Slovenia;

Slovenia provides data of territorial division (names and geographical data) to project SABE (MEGRIN). For ABDS there is no activity.

7. Terminology in the standardisation of geographical names

Czech Republic;

A Czech version of the Glossary of Toponymic Terminology is going to be published.

Hungary;

A glossary has been translated into Hungarian as well as into all working languages of UN.

Poland;

- English version of glossary of toponymic terminology (4th edition) was presented last year in New York.
- Polish version of "Glossary of Terminology Used in the Standardisation of Geographical Names" was published in 1998.

Slovak Republic;

English version is used.

Slovenia;

The Toponymic Guidelines for Slovenia and the Dictionary of Toponymic Terminology was published in 1995, new edition is to be prepared.

Ukraine;

The formation of databases is foreseen for 1999. The preparation work for creation of gazetteers of geographic names in paper form are also carrying out.

Austria;

German glossary on the Base of working group of UN was published in 1995.

Italy;

They are preparing it to be printed.

Discussion:

Slovenia;

Some new glossaries are going to be published in the future. Digital form would be of great use to compare. It would be nice therefore to have it.

8. Writing systems and guide to pronunciations (Romanization systems)

Bulgaria;

- The comparison of two official Romanization systems in Bulgaria was presented.
- Currently the names are written generally in respect to English.

Croatia;

- The UN-recommendations in transliteration systems are followed.
- Geographical names from other countries that use non-Latin scripts are written according to the transliteration systems or are compiled from published sources of others countries.

Czech Republic;

Respects the Romanization systems of non-Roman scripts, recommended by United Nations.

Hungary;

No new developments in this topic.

Poland;

Polish Geographical Names of the World Transliteration, recommended by the United Nations is usually applied.

Slovak Republic;

Transliteration recommended by UN resolutions is used.

Slovenia;

No serious problems with Romanization is recorded,

Cyrillic or other non roman systems are not in use within the country.

For Italian or Hungarian names on the territory of Slovenia Italian and Hungarian system is extensively used.

Ukraine;

"Normative Table for Reproducing Ukrainian own names" and "The Rules for reproducing Ukrainian own names by English language" are used.

Austria;

The regulations of UN have been applied.

Discussion:

Slovenia;

Information on the new Romanization of the Bulgarian alphabet is important. The precondition for international acceptance of new Romanization system is resolution of the UN Conference. The internal Bulgarian acceptance (e. g. by the government) is fine but not enough, the proposal must be put forward as a proposed resolution at the UN. Bulgaria is asked to prepare final version of proposed resolution.

Czech Republic;

A question for Bulgaria, is the proposal produced by a scientific institute?

Bulgaria;

Yes, but just the first step.

9. Country Names

Bulgaria;

In 1995 the Council of Orthography and Transcription of Geographical Names prepared a List of the countries and subjected territories. It contains introduction, list of the countries, their capital cities and the subjected territories with the main cities.

Croatia;

The list of country names and territories was made for the use in state administration according to ISO 3166. It contains short and long form names in Croatian and in English.

Czech Republic;

The Gazetteer of names of states and their territorial parts was presented, new version is to be published.

Hungary;

The Committee on Geographical Names published its last list in June, 1998.

Poland;

Publication "Names of Countries, their Capitals and Inhabitants" was prepared by the Commission for Standardisation of Geographical Names Outside Poland. It contains names of all independent, internationally recognised countries and the appendix (names of autonomous and dependent territories).

Slovak Republic;

The 2nd edition of the catalogue of Slovak exonyms of countries and dependencies is being prepared.

Slovenia;

A document of 195 names of countries have been prepared on the basis of the ISO-3166 standard. Revisions of this document shall be published in the future.

Ukraine;

Glossary Names of the countries and world territories" is edited in accordance with the UN resolutions.

10. Exonyms

Bulgaria;

- Conventional names are used, the principle of transcription is not applied to them.
- The resolutions of the 4th Conference of UNGEGN held in Geneva in 1982 is taken into consideration.
- A list of exonyms is prepared by the Council of Orthography and Transcription of Geographical.

Croatia;

- The use of exonyms in Croatia is rather limited, the application of endonyms is preferred.

- In postal communication, in diplomatic and economic documents and on maps geographical names are written in their original form.

Czech Republic;

- The preference of endonyms namely in the cartographic production is common.
- Using of the Czech exonyms is regulated by the recommendations of UNGEGN.

Hungary;

During the past years this subject was not discussed. General information; numerous exonyms are used around the country. In school atlases endonyms are used in brackets.

Poland;

Lists of Polish exonyms was published in four volumes (1994-1996). Publishing the corrected and extended list of Polish exonyms in one volume is planned.

Slovak Republic;

- The use of endonyms is basically preferred.
- A catalogue of Slovak Exonyms of Geographical Objects that are situated outside the territory of state was published in 1997.
- In mass media exonyms are used much more than in cartographic works.

Slovenia;

- About 1400 foreign geographical names are used.
- It is a lively discussion in public about this.
- Slovene Gazetteer of Foreign Names is in the final phase and shall be printed at the end of this year. First draft has already been made.

Ukraine;

The list of exonyms has not been composed yet.

Discussion:

Exonyms should be used in their original form according the main principles of UN.

Hungary;

In the last decade situation has changed, large number of endonyms are used. State control over mapping has diminished. Different usage is developed, there is no control about usage of exonyms in private cartography. Government decree prepared by national committee can give advises about usage of foreign geographical names. We would be ready to give opinion on expert level on Hungarian names in Slovak lists.

Slovak republic;

We will accept this offer in the future.

Slovenia;

A new school atlas according to this principles was published last year. But we are aware that teachers must be educated about this new approach to geographical names. It is a long time process.

Bulgaria was told again to use UN principles.

Experiences with Slovenian school atlas were presented.

Hungary;

In consequence of political and administrative changes there is a stronger tendency to use exonyms. Hungarian minorities wish to use their names. There is no control on maps usage. Private mapping enterprises want to do something completely new. The Committee is waiting on new proposals or solutions. Opinion of minority organisations would suggest possible solutions.

Italy;

Some problems with Austria in Alto Adige - South Tyrol called by Austrians. There is a bilingual area and bilingual names are used for official document. 15 years ago it was enforced the law about using Italian and German language, so there is first Italian and then German version of the name on maps. Nowadays minority is much stronger and wants German form first. It a political problem.

11. Toponymic websites

Slovak Republic;

Home page of the Authority of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre of the Slovak Republic is on the Internet with the materials referring to the standardisation of geographical names.

Slovenia;

- All the information about the standardisation of geographical names in Slovenia are on the home page of the Slovene governmental commission for the standardisation of geographical names on the address <http://www.sigov.si/kszi/>
- www page of the East-Central and South-East Europe Division of UNGEGN is available through Slovene web site.

Comments are welcome in order to meet needs and improve web pages.

12. Co-operation with other regional groups in neighbouring countries

Division neighbouring countries (Austria and Italy) were warmly welcomed again. Separate work is senseless because problems are similar and interlaced. Exchanging experiences and co-operate can bring to improvement. Taking part to other divisions sessions is advantageous.

Austria;

The delegate agreed to solve problems in co-operation. But it must be clear that the federal institutions are responsible for minorities. It is not a problem to co-operate on unofficial level and with local experts. But there are political interests so these problems can be solved only on the official level.

Slovenia;

At the beginning it is easier to work on unofficial level and then, step by step to proceed to official level. It is important first to know each other and then slowly deepen the level of co-operation. The aim is to have as correct names as possible in neighbouring areas of the countries. We should exchange ideas, solutions of different countries and divisions should be exchanged. It a long time process.

Austria;

Hopefully it is not going to take decades. What kind of maps will this co-operation produce?

Slovenia;

Nobody is going to "dictate" countries about official names, but it is a good step forward if certain proposal can be made.

Austria;

The political situation is an obstacle for a fruitful co-operation, we must consider objective starting point. The minorities names are under responsibility of federal bureau in Austria, so only recommendations can be done. No Corinthian representative is in their board. Besides this is a sensitive field for Austria.

Italy;

Slovenian idea is supported. Geographical names are vital because they picture the people in the certain territory. An expert can talk about his knowledge more or less freely. The scientific approach is vital to find the solution. A solution built on the scientific items might be discrepant from the political prospective.

Hungary;

The question about exonyms in this area is unfortunately mainly a political question. Some examples of using Hungarian names in bordering countries have been given. Co-operation with the Austrian Committee on Geographical names is advantageous.

Slovenia;

We are not decision-makers because we are experts. But never the less we must collect very fast disappearing names. It is important to discuss problems in cartography, exchange ideas, co-operate with other countries and exchange maps before publishing them. Maybe this is a practical implementation of ideas, possibly a fruitful step towards better maps.

Poland;

The financial problems of some participating countries such as Albania and Macedonia were considered. Polish delegation participated in sessions of Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division in Moscow, as well as in the sessions of Baltic Division.

Austria;

The delegate thanked for the invitation and wished everybody successful work.

13. Implementation of Resolutions and the Aims and Functions of UNGEGN

Hungary;

The Resolutions of the United Nations Conferences on the Standardisation of Geographical Names have been translated and used as a working document. The UN paper "The United Nations and Geographical Names" was translated into Hungarian and published. Countries are encouraged to do the same.

Poland;

- Fulfilling recommendations of the United Nations in the field of standardisation of geographical names.
- The seminar devoted to the United Nations activities in the field of standardisation of geographical names was organised.
- UN documents was published in the publication of "The Polish Cartography".

Slovak Republic;

- Recommendations of UN are being fulfilled.
- Systematic standardisation of geographical names is being carried out in SR.
- "UN Geographical Gazetteers of the Slovak Republic" have been published.

Slovenia;

We are interested in co-operation with neighbouring countries. List of UN resolutions on geographical names with some explanations are available in Slovene language in digital form.

Ukraine;

National Council on Geographical Names follows the UN resolutions.

14. Other information's

Some documents such as Newsletter 21, 22 and Gazetteer of Japan, German Toponymic guidelines available for participants.

Hungary;

There will be a commemoration of 60's birthday of Mr. Raper, an invitation to write a paper is on the way.

Slovenia;

A short report of this session is going to be published in next Newsletter.

15. Preparations for Representing the Division at the 20th Session of UNGEGN

The invitation for UNGEGN meeting in January next year in New York was received. Slovenia is going to represent the Division at the Session. For Division report advises are welcome.

16th Division Session is suggested to be between the 20th and 21st UNGEGN Session, some time in the 1st half of year 2001.

16. Vote of thanks

The delegates expressed their gratitude to the Chair and her aides for organising the session, the excellent conditions and warm hospitality.

List of participating countries and number of persons:

13. Austria (Dutch and German speaking Division, 1),
14. Albania (report was received),
15. Bosnia and Herzegovina (1),
16. Bulgaria (1),
17. Croatia (1),
18. Czech Republic (1),
19. Hungary (2) ,
20. Italy (Romano-Hellenic Division, 1),
21. Poland (3),
22. Slovak Republic (2),
23. Slovenia (8) and
24. Ukraine (report was received).