Item 15
of the Provisional Agenda

EXONYMS

A New List of Donor-Recommended Exonyms in Israel

Prepared and submitted by Naftali Kadmon, Israel

A New List of Donor-Proposed Exonyms in Israel

One of the basic toponymic recommendations of the United Nations, limiting the use of exonyms in international communications , is anchored already in Resolution No. 29 (I) of the Second UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. However, it is a well-established fact that the use of exonyms cannot be completely abolished. Exonyms are uisually based in the receiver principle and disregard the United Nations-recommended donor principle. At the same time, some distinction must be made between "simple" exonyms and traditional names (see *Glossary of Topnymic Terminology*", Version 4, [1].

At the Sixth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, Israel proposed the principle of donor-recommended exonyms, and appended a first list of English exonyms based on this principle [2]. In the meantime this list has been twice revised and enlarged, once as reported at the Seventh UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names [3], and as indicated in the present paper. The following toponyms are now included (see table below). Whereas in official romanized maps the endonyms of these geographical items still predominate, and their English exonyms are added as allonyms in parentheses or in smaller print (albeit in the same typeface), road signs erected by the official agency, the Public Works Department, which must be limited in the number of letters, carry in their romanized version only the generally well-known English traditional names as exonyms.

Table 1

List of donor-recommended exonyms in Israel

English exonym	Hebrew endonym, romanized
Banias	Panyas
Beth Saida	Bet-Zayda
Caesarea*	Horbat Qesari
Cana	Kafr Kanna
Capernaum	Kefar-Nahum
Coral Beach	Hof Almog
Dead Sea	Yam haMelah
Eilat	Elat
Haifa	Hefa
Jerusalem	Yerushalayim
Jordan River	Nehar Yarden
Judean Desert	Midbar Yehuda
Magdala*	Migdal
Masada	Mezada
Mount of Beatitudes	Har haOsher
Mount Carmel	Har Karmel
Mount Herzl	Har Herzl
Mount Moriah	Har haMoriyya
Mount of Olives	Har haZetim
Mount Scopus	Har haZofim
Mount Tabor	Har Tavor
Mount Zion	Har Ziyyon
Nazareth	at
Old Jaffa	Yafo
Samaria	Shomeron
Sea of Galilee	Yam Kinneret
Tabigha -	'En Sheva'
Tiberias	Teverya

*) Antiquity site only, not the town.

All other toponyms in Israel should be printed in romanized maps, whether local or foreign, in their endonymic form -- transliterated or transcribed (as the case may be) into the other languages or scripts, but not exonymized. Thus, Netanya and not Nathania, Ashdod and not Asdod, Be'r-Sheva' and not Beersheba, etc.

Notes

[1]   *Glossary of Toponymic Terminology*, Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 1998, document E/CONF.91/L.13, terms Nos 081 and 230).

[2]   *Donor-recommended exonyms: a different approach to traditional names.* Sixth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 1992, vol. II, Technical Papers, pp. 365-366.

[3]   *Donor-recommended exonyms for historical topographic features in Israel.* Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, New York, 1998, document E/CONF.91/L.10.