

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

United Nations
Group of Experts on
Geographical Names

Working Paper
No. 57 / Corr.

Twentieth Session
New York, 17 – 28 January 2000

Item 6
of the Provisional Agenda

REPORTS OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS, REGIONAL MEETINGS AND INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS

Report of the International Hydrographic Organisation

Prepared by Rear Admiral Guiseppe Angrisana, President of the IHB Directing Committee

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Cooperation is being maintained with the SCAR W.G. on Geodesy and Geographic Information (WGGI), which has produced a composite gazetteer of all Antarctic place names (South of 60°S), from existing national and international gazetteers, including the GEBCO Gazetteer for the marine side.

2. LIMITS OF OCEANS AND SEAS (IHO PUBLICATION S-23)

IHO Publication S-23 describes the oceans and seas, with their limits and names. The edition in force is still the 3rd one dating back to 1953. A draft 4th edition was prepared in 1986, but never materialised into an IHO publication due to the complexities of, and sometimes the controversies on, some of the issues involved.

Since 1998, the IHB has undertaken a thorough revision of S-23. The work is conducted under contract to Mr Adam Kerr, a former Director of the IHB. It is anticipated to publish a final 4th edition of S-23 in 2001. A significant progress has been the adoption by a large majority of the IHO Member States, in 1999, of the name "Southern Ocean" for the body of water surrounding Antarctica, with its Northern limit fixed at 60°S. Other issues like the Japan Sea / East Sea, related to naming the body of water between the Korean Peninsula and The Japanese Archipelago, will be presented to the IHO Member States in the near future.



Rear Admiral Giuseppe Angrisano,
President of the IHB Directing Committee.

*To be presented by Rear Admiral Christian Andreasen,
Chief Hydrographer of the U.S. National Imagery and Mapping Agency,
as designated IHO liaison to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names*

Acronyms:

IBCAO	International Bathymetric Chart of the Arctic Ocean
IBCEA	International Bathymetric Chart of the Central Eastern Atlantic
IBCCA	International Bathymetric Chart of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico
IBCM	International Bathymetric Chart of the Mediterranean
IBCWIO	International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Indian Ocean
IBCWP	International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Pacific
SCAR	Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research