

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Working Paper No.E/70
Original: ENGLISH

TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

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 COUNCIL OF ONOMASTIC SCIENCES (ICOS)**

*Submitted by: Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kartographische Ortsnamenkunde (AKO)
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The 20th International Congress of Onomastic Sciences was held at the Faculty of Philology of the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain) from September, 20th-25th 1999. The congress was visited by 262 participants from 41 countries. 184 lectures in 11 sections were held by the scholars.

Section 1 b was dedicated to the „Standardization of Place-names“. 20 experts in this topic held lectures on various aspects. P. Raper dealt with „Basic aspects of place-name standardization“, B. Helleland read on the Norwegian place-name law and N. Kadmon lectured on „Standardizing (and De-standardizing?) Transliteration Systems for Geographical Names“, just to mention some of the outstanding papers of UNGEGN experts.

The General Assembly of ICOS held its meeting on Saturday, 25th 1999 and elected the present board of directors (BoD):

The ex-officio members of the BoD are:

Isolde Hausner (Austria), president
Botolv Helleland (Norway), vice-president
Mats Wahlberg (Sweden), vice-president
Inge Bily (Germany), secretary
Pierre-Henri Billy (France), assistant-secretary
Zofia Kaleta (Poland), treasurer

The non-ex-officio members of the BoD are:

Maria Giovanna Arcamone (Italy)
Laimute Balode (Latvia)
Ana Maria Cano-González (Spain)
Volker Kohlheim (Germany)
Ritva-Liisa Pitkänen (Finland)
Grant W. Smith (USA)

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Furthermore the General Assembly passed the decision for the 21st congress of ICOS 2002 to be held at Uppsala (Sweden) from August 19th to 24th 2002.