Item 5
of the Provisional Agenda

REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONS

Report of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

National standardization

1. Field collection and office treatment of names

The collection and processing of geographical names in the Republic of Macedonia is conducted by several institutions. In addition, there is a plan for establishing a digital register of standardized geographical names appearing on topographic maps at a scale of 1:25.000 and more.

Treatment of names in multilingual areas

Depending on the type of the map, geographical names are treated in accordance with appropriate cartographic principles. In this regard, efforts are being made for establishing cooperation with experts from the neighbouring countries.

Toponymic guidelines for maps and other editors

In the every day work of linguistic and cartography institutions in the Republic of Macedonia, several toponymic guides, dictionaries and other publications are used. Also certain activities have been undertaken on the preparation and publication of special toponymic glossaries, dictionaries and likewise publications.

Toponymic data files and gazetteers

Toponymic data on the names of geographical objects can be found at the *catastre* offices and databases of linguistic institutions. However, names for 1:25.000 scale maps are not systematically standardized in a special register. Exceptions are made regarding the names of populated places, for which there exists a special list of municipalities and populated places, created by the Territorial Division Law and the delineation of local selfgovernment units. It is planned that a toponymic database on all geographical names be created.

Terminology in the standardization of the geographical names

In standardization of geographical names, the Macedonian geographical and linguistic terminology is used. The toponymic

terminology dictionary, both in Macedonian and English, is in the process of being created.

Writing system and the guide for pronunciation (romanization systems)

The Macedonian Cyrillic alphabet is officially used in the Republic of Macedonia. Its romanization, previously completed and introduced to the spelling system of the Macedonian language, was elaborated at the Third UNGEGN conference. In this regard, it is the used in the process of standardization of geographical names and their writing.

Country names

Country names are created according to the UN Bulletin No 347 and ISO Standard 3166.

Exonyms

Exonyms are taken from internationally adopted standards, published in professional literature. Most of them are used in a transcriptive way, and some are translated (the ones for which a Macedonian equivalent exists).

Toponymic web sites

Toponymic data in electronic form has not yet been published. This is planned to be accomplished along with the establishment of a digital geographical names register.

Cooperation with regional groups in neighbouring countries

Cooperation with neighboring countries in the field of standardization of geographical names is carried out through relevant UNGEGN bodies, using professional literature and cartographic products and maintaining contacts with experts and institutions.