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Geographical Names**

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Item 5
Of the Provisional Agenda

REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONS

Report of the Romano-Hellenic Division

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The composition of the Romano-Hellenic Division consists of experts from the following 15 countries:

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| Belgium | Luxemburg |
| Canada | Moldova |
| Cyprus | Monaco |
| France | Portugal |
| Greece | Spain |
| Holy Sea | Switzerland |
| Italy | Turkey |

The last meeting of the Romano-Hellenic Division took place in the framework of the 7th Conference of the UN for Geographical Names in New York on January the 23rd, 1998.

The main topics examined by the Romano-Hellenic Division are:

a. Chairmanship of the division

In the above mentioned meeting of the Romano-Hellenic Division (New York 23rd Jan 1998), Mme Lejeune who chaired the division since its establishment, asked attendees to consider the issue of passing the chairmanship to an expert from another country. At that time the members of the division recognizing the professional and effective way of caring out this task, asked Mme Lejeune to retain the chairmanship at least until the 20th session of UNGEGN.

On January the 4th, Mme Lejeune sent letters to the experts of the division informing them about her resignation from the chairmanship. In this letter Mme Le Jeunne asked the experts of the division to organize her succession in the chair.

During the 1st day of the 20th session of UNGEGN (New York January 17th 2000), the members of the Romano Hellenic division attending the session organized an ad-hoc meeting with the purpose to elect a new chairman. The result of this meeting was that Mr Salvatore Arca, Director of the Geodesy, Topography and Cartography School of the Italian Military Geographic Institute, was unanimously elected as the new chairman of the division.

The experts of the division express their warmest thanks to Mme Lejeune for her excellent and productive work for the promotion of the standardization of geographical names and the professional and effective way she has chaired the division.

b. Priority of work

During the meeting in New York (23rd Jan 1998), it was decided that the priorities of work of the division are:

(1) Publication/updating of National Toponymic Guidelines.

Up to now, toponymic guidelines have been published by the following countries:

Canada, Greece, Italy, Romania, and Turkey

(2) Compilation of Concise National Catalogues of Geographical Names on a basis of 1:1M mapping.

Some countries of the division have already published these catalogues, as it will be presented in relevant working papers of the current session of the UNGEGN.

(3) Maintenance (updating/revision) of National Lists of Exonyms.

This is an ongoing process carried out by the experts of the division according to the resolutions/recommendations and decisions of the UNCGN and UNGEGN.

(4) Publication of a multilingual glossary of geographic terms

Mr. Pampaloni (Italy) volunteered to prepare the 1st draft of such a publication within six months. Following this commitment the first draft was prepared and examined jointly by Mme Lejeune and Mr. Pampaloni during a special meeting in Paris at the end of May 1998. The 2nd draft will be distributed to the division experts during this session of UNGEGN, for consideration and comments.