REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONS

Report of Austria*

*Prepared by Ms. Isolde Hausner, Chairperson, Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kartographische Ortsnamenkunde (AKO, Board on Geographical Names) of the Austrian Cartographic Commission of the Austrian Geographical Society and In Connection with the Austrian Academy of Sciences.
The AKO held 3 meetings (meeting No 68 to No 70= two per annum) since the 8th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. During this period the following activities in toponymy were set:

1. Organizational activities

The AKO in its 68th meeting on November, 14th 2002 installed a new working group for the revision of the publication “Vorschläge zur Schreibung geographischer Namen in österreichischen Schulatlanten”, Wien 1994 (Recommendations for the spelling of geographical names in Austrian school atlases, Vienna 1994). The private cartography is interested in an updating of the 10 year old publication. The main approach is dedicated to the endonym / exonym aspect according to new cartographic requirements.

2. Technical activities

2.1 Report of the official authorities

2.1.1 The Bundesamt für Eich- und Vermessungswesen (BEV, Federal office of Metrology and Surveying, www.bev.gv.at) reported on its publication of the new map series of Austria 1:50 000 in the UTM projection. The two map sheets No 3227 Großglockner and 5203 Neusiedl am See, the highest and the lowest region of Austria, were published in 2002, followed by map sheets No 5202 Eisenstadt and 4324 Herzogenburg in 2003.

2.1.2 The Federal Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Department Water Balance (Hydrographical Central Office, www.lebensministerium.gv.at/home) reported on the publication of the list of catchment areas of the river Danube in Austria between Passau and Bratislava (“Flächenverzeichnis Donaugebiet”). The publication of the first volume comprising the section from the catchment of the river Inn to the river Enns has been published in 2002.

Further on it reported the start of a new atlas: Hydrological Atlas of Austria. First issue, Vienna 2003. (www.lebensministerium.at). The up-to-date map collection on Austria’s hydrology, as a printed edition and in a GIS-based version. The uniformly designed and high-quality cartographic layouts of maps are in the scales 1:1 000 000 and 1: 2 000 000, the first issue contains 24 map sheets and 31 explanatory texts in German and English. The functionality of the CD-ROM comprises the presentation of the printed map sheets, a link of map objects with tables, texts and graphs, overlay of multiple themes, original data sets of the themes in ESRI shapefile format for user-specific application.

2.1.3. The Statistics Austria (www.oestat.gv.at) reported, that the publication of the new gazetteer of place-names according to the census of 2001 will start with single issues of the Federal Countries in the first half of 2004 (preliminary end: autumn 2004) in a new shape: it will contain the place names selected according to localities Ortschaften, the subordinate places are not more assigned to the relevant
village.

2.1.4 The Magistrat der Stadt Wien, MA 41 (Municipal Authority of Vienna) gave information about the multipurpose city map of Vienna in digital form and at large scale. It was elaborated on the basis of aerial photographs and will be revised in three years intervals. The data can be bought. www.magwien.gv.at:80/ma41/mzk_m1.htm

2.2 Institutions of science and research

2.2.1 Institut für Österreichische Dialekt- und Namenlexika (Institute for the Lexicography of Austrian Dialects and Names), www.oeaw.ac.at/dinamlex, of the Austrian Academy of Sciences reported on the publication of instalment No 14 of the “Altdeutsches Namenbuch” (ANB, Old German Place-name book), the historical-philological place-name book, in 2003. It comprises the place names with the initial letters S- (Sittendorf) and W- (Watzendorf). Together with this project a database with the same contents is finished now and will be used for scientific linguistic onomastic studies. Access for the public is not yet free, but it is intended to give access for costs.


2.2.2 The Provincial Archives of South Tyrol on the occasion of the completion of the collection of field names organized a symposium on “Geographical names – collection, analysis, preservation” (“Geographische Namen – Sammeln, Auswerten, Bewahren“), 12th to 13th December, Bolzano. Linguists from the German speaking countries and from Italy lectured on various themes in the field of proper names; the papers will be published in 2005.

2.2.3 New publication: Otto Back, Übersetzbare Eigennamen Eine synchrone Untersuchung von interlingualer Alronymie und Exronymie, 3rd revised edition, Vienna 2002. Verlag für Literatur- und Sprachwissenschaft (www.praesens.at). In this volume the theoretical and practical aspects of exonyms and endonyms are discussed as well as the comprehensive conceptual frame of interlingual allonomy. Chapters 1-13 refer about relevant aspects of proper names (allonymic name-forms, allonymy and personal names, various types of exonyms). Chapters 14-21 treat the endonym / exonym issue and its practical relevance (use of exonyms, translation of proper names etc.), and the last part “Postscript and Perspectives” deals with specific aspects: exonyms of European countries, inhabited places and rivers, lists of selected exonyms etc..

2.2.4 Doz. Jordan, the deputy chairman of the AKO, took part in the 17th Session of the East, Central and South-East Europe Division of the UNGEGN, a joint meeting together with the UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms, which took place in September, 24-26 in Prague.
2.3 International co-operations and connections

2.3.1 The AKO continues its co-operation with the StAGN and with the other German speaking countries.

2.3.2 The 22nd International Congress of Onomastic Sciences will be convened in Pisa / Italy, from 28th – 4th September 2005.

2.3.3 Botolv Helleland will be guest editor of the ICOS journal ONOMA vol. 39, which is dedicated to the topic “Names Studies and Teaching”.