

**Twenty-third Session  
Vienna, 28 March – 4 April 2006**

---

**Item 6 of the Provisional Agenda:  
Reports of the Liaison Officers, Regional Meeting  
and International Organizations**

**Report on the UNGEGN liaison with the  
Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research**

## **Report of the UNGEGN Liaison with the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)**

To date 45 countries signed the Antarctic Treaty. About 30 countries carry out active scientific research programmes in the Antarctic. Place-names appear in 15 or more languages and five scripts. Gazetteers or lists of geographical names and guidelines for naming features in the Antarctic have been issued by some 22 countries in various grades of completeness.

In 1992 the need for a composite gazetteer of Antarctica was recognized, with the aim of bringing some order to the complex toponymy of Antarctica. Work began by collating existing gazetteers or lists of geographical names issued by countries adhering to SCAR as Full Members or Associate Members.

A printed version of the Composite Gazetteer of Antarctica (CGA) was published in 1998. Since then the CGA was also accessible at the web site [www3.pnra.it/SCAR\\_GAZE](http://www3.pnra.it/SCAR_GAZE). It is now updated quarterly.

Today 35,551 name entries are assigned to 17,887 different geographical features in the Antarctic (as of 1 January 2006). The collaborating countries in the CGA project are (listed as ISO three-letter code): ARG, AUS, BEL, BGR, CAN, CHL, CHN, DEU, ECU, ESP, FRA, GBR, IND, ITA, JPN, NOR, NZL, POL, RUS, URY, USA, ZAF, and the International Hydrographic Organization / International Oceanographic Commission.

A first Supplement to the CGA was printed in 2000, while in 2004 a second Supplement, superseding the first one, was printed and distributed at the SCAR Open Science Conference (Bremen, July 2004).

**Jörn Sievers (Germany), Liaison Officer to the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research.**