Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Reports of the liaison officers and international organizations

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

* Prepared by Henk Brolsma (Australia), Australian Antarctic Data Centre, Kingston, Tasmania, Australia Chairman, SCAR Standing Committee on Antarctic Geographic Information (SC-AGI) Liaison Officer to the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research
Since 1959 forty seven countries have acceded to the Antarctic Treaty with nineteen non-consultative parties invited to attend Consultative Meetings. (Secretariat of the Antarctic Treaty)

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 with place-names appearing in 15 or more languages and five scripts.

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. The Italian web site at www3.pnra.it/SCAR_GAZE operated till January 2009 with the SCAR CGA being transferred to the web site of the Australian Antarctic Division Data Centre over the previous year. The SCAR CGA continues to be compiled by Italy and updated on a quarterly basis. Italy as an administrator of the SCAR CGA has the authority to download and upload data from Australia for editing purposes.

As of 1 January 2009, there were 36,191 name entries assigned to 18,290 different geographical features in Antarctica. 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). It is not intended to print any further supplements as the information is now readily available on the web and printing by contrast is relatively expensive.

With the transfer of the SCAR CGA database to the Australian Antarctic Data Centre new fields have been added that allow:
1. The accuracy of coordinates to be shown,
2. The source of the data that coordinates have been determined from to be shown,
3. Photos of a feature to be shown and
4. The feature type of a feature. The feature type in languages other than English have been mapped to the English feature type. For example Aleksandra Gora has been mapped to the feature type mountain.

The SCAR CGA has also been linked to the:
1. SCAR map catalogue
2. SCAR Feature catalogue
3. SCAR flora and fauna databases.

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APPENDIX A

SCAR CGA - LIST OF FIELDS

DEFINITIONS

Name - existing field
Name of a feature in a national gazetteer.
Mandatory

Description – existing field
Who, what or why the feature was named for.
Optional for existing names
Mandatory for new names

Latitude - existing field
Decimal degrees in data base with option of entering data in degrees, minutes and seconds. Mandatory

Longitude - existing field
Decimal degrees in data base with option of entering data in degrees, minutes and seconds Mandatory

Coordinate accuracy (Coord_accu) – new field
The estimated accuracy of the coordinates in metres.
Optional for existing information
Recommended for new names and when updating coordinates.

Elevation - existing field
Height of feature in metres
Optional if height is not known,
Recommended for new features if height is known.

Elevation_accuracy – new field
The estimated accuracy of the altitude in metres
Optional for existing information,
Recommended for new names and when updating heights if the information exists.

Feature Type – new field
Feature type - derived from the generic feature term and mapped to the SCAR Feature Catalogue.

Feature type code
Code in the SCAR Feature Catalogue relating to a particular Feature Type.

Feature class – existing field
Feature classes will be mapped to the SCAR Feature Catalogue using the features described on the SCAR Composite Gazetteer web site Annex F and G.

Institution – new field
The name of the institution that provided or calculated the coordinates and elevation.
Optional for existing information
Recommended when updating coordinates.

**Person – new field**
Name of the person in the institution that derived the coordinates.
Optional for existing and new information.

**Accepted and / or Verified by – new field**
The name of the institution that either accepted, verified and / or checked the coordinates, levation, coordinate accuracy and elevation accuracy.
Optional for existing information,
Recommended when updating or accepting new coordinates.

**Gazetteer – existing field**
Name of country and custodian responsible for the feature name and where the gazetteer information came from.
Pick list from existing list of countries, Australia, USA, United Kingdom etc.,
Mandatory

**SCAR_GAZ_ID**
The unique identifier in the SCAR Composite Gazetteer Antarctica.
Automatically generated

**Source type – new field**
Origin of the coordinates.
Pick list from Topographic map, GPS hand held, GPS differential, survey control, satellite image, geo-referenced aerial photo, unknown
Optional for existing information.
Recommended when updating coordinates and adding new features.

**Source name – new field**
Name of the map, satellite image etc where the coordinates were derived from.
Pick list from Map name, satellite image type (pick list ASTER, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, SPOT 1, SPOT 2, SPOT 3, SPOT 5, Landsat, date and number and or path, row.)
Optional for existing information
Recommended when updating coordinates.

**Publisher**
Where coordinates are derived from a map, the publisher of that map.
Recommended if information is known.

**Source Identifier**
Where a coordinate or elevation is derived from a map, the unique identifier of that map in the national catalogue.
Recommended when updating coordinates

**Map scale – new field**
Scale of the map from which the coordinates were derived.
Optional
Recommended if a map has been used to improve the location of the feature.

**National map number - new field**
Where agencies have a map number then include that wherever possible. For example the scanned USGS topographic maps
Optional
Recommended if a map has been used to improve the location of the feature and national identifier exists for the map.

**SCAR map catalogue number - new field**
Catalogue number of the map in the SCAR map catalogue used to derive the coordinates of a feature. Optional for existing information, Recommended when updating coordinates from a map that is in the SCAR map catalogue or that should be in the SCAR map catalogue.

**Status**
This is to show the status of a name if it is different from other names – for example if a feature has disappeared or if the name does not meet place name standards in a national gazetteer. Pick list from historical, disappeared or acknowledged.
Historical – where a feature was incorrectly identified or may never have existed but was shown on maps and is now recognised as being incorrect. The information is preserved for historical and research purposes. Disappeared – where a feature did exist but due to natural or human forces now no longer exists. The term “Acknowledged” is used by the UK Antarctic Place Names Committee where names are acknowledged as being in use but insufficient evidence exists for their approval. Mandatory if the status is changed.

**Status notes**
Note on status – notes on when it was discovered it was incorrectly identified or links to historical research, when it disappeared or why a feature is acknowledged. Mandatory if the reason for the status change is known.

**Comments – new field**
Notes by those updating the coordinates or other fields. For example, if the location of a feature is still in question or unable to be determined from the quoted coordinates or description.
APPENDIX B

Example of Feature Name with New Fields Completed

David Range

Australian Gazetteer Ed 2230

This name originates from Australia. It is part of the Australian Antarctic Gazetteer.

A range about 11 km west of and parallel to the Masson Range in McRoberts Land. BANZARE saw the peak of this range, together with those of the Masson and Casey Ranges, mounded on the horizon during the evening of 4 January 1931. They were again seen the following day from the aeroplane. The range was mapped on 14 February, 1931, from the Discovery named by Sir Douglas Mawson after Professor Sir T. W. Edgeworth David, a member of the BANZARE Committee.

Latitude: 67° 50' 00.0" S
Longitude: 62° 32' 17.0" E

Region: Francisc Mountains
Feature Type: Range
Date Named: Unknown

Altitude: 670.833
Lat/Long Precision: 50 m
Alt. Precision: 20 m

Remote Sensor Data: Not Applicable

Meeting Paper: Named by Mawson

Status: Official
Status Notes: None

- Species seen - Fauna, Flora or All within 1.0 degree of this location
- Australian Maps - Large scale ( upto 100,000 ) | Medium scale ( 100,000 to 250,000 ) | Small scale ( above 250,000 )
- Maps (from all countries) - Large scale ( upto 100,000 ) | Medium scale ( 100,000 to 250,000 ) | Small scale ( above 250,000 )
- Australian Place names within 1.0 degree of this location
- Place names from all countries within 1.0 degree of this location
APPENDIX C

Sources of the SCAR Composite Gazetteer Antarctica

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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>ISO Code</th>
<th>No. of names</th>
<th>Data taken from</th>
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<td>Austria</td>
<td>AUT</td>
<td>2371</td>
<td>Sent by the Manager of the Australian Antarctic Data Centre in 1987. Continuously updated.</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
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<td>Letter of the Embassy of Belgium at Canberra. 1994.</td>
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<td>Chile</td>
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<td>1885</td>
<td>&quot;Diccionario de Nombres Geográficos de la costa de Chile&quot;, 2.ª Edición - 1999.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>Diccionario de la Antártida, China. 1990.</td>
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<td>Ecuador</td>
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<td>Cartas de cartas de la Antártida, Ecuador.</td>
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<td>&quot;Toponymies de la Terre Adélie&quot;, Last updating 2003.</td>
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<td>&quot;Gazetteer&quot; 1952 and updating from the German web site.</td>
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<td>Letter by Dr. A. Mith. Principal Scientific Officer (Antarctic), 12/1/94.</td>
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