Item 16 of the Provisional Agenda

Activities relating to the Working Group on Geographical Names as Cultural Heritage

Map of North Frisia, Germany, Nordfriislon – Nordfrisland - Nordfriesland

* Prepared by Antje Arfsten and Thomas Steensen, Nordfriisk Instituut (Germany), submitted by Dutch- and German-speaking Division (DGSD).
Map of North Frisia, Germany, Nordfriislon – Nordfrisland - Nordfriesland **

Summary

At a scale of 1:125.000, the map “Nordfriesland Karte. Nordfriislon – Nordfrisland – Nordfriesland” offers about 500 Frisian place names and a number of Danish names in the original Danish settlement area of Germany. The Frisian and Danish place names are highlighted differently. Pictures of the area complete the map image. On its backside, a trilingual register of the place names is displayed in Frisian, Danish and German. Also on its backside, the article “Ortsnamen in Nordfriesland” (place names in North Frisia) by Prof. Dr. Thomas Steensen gives a brief insight on the origin of Frisian place names. The article is also translated into Danish and Frisian.

Information and purchase: http://www.nordfriiskinstituut.de/verlagsprogramm/titel_landkarte.php
Map of North Frisia, Germany, Nordfrislon – Nordfrisland - Nordfriesland

In Germany in 2004, the Parliament of Schleswig-Holsteinisch adopted the „Frisian Law“ . This has led to a fundamental change in terms of dealing with multi-lingual place names in North Frisia and on the island of Helgoland. The law was presented on the initiative of the Danish-Frisian minority party SSW and it was passed with unanimous assent. Since then, many municipalities have introduced signs with bilingual road and place names on the North Frisian mainland. Also, the location information at all train stations between Husum and Westerland and in Dagebüll were signed bilingually.

Furthermore, in November 2004 the Kultusministerkonferenz (Conference of all Ministers for Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany) decided on initiative of Schleswig-Holstein that all atlases used in classrooms etc. within the Frisian culture area should be bilingual (German-Frisian). In this way, the awareness of the linguistic diversity of Schleswig-Holstein should be raised.

To support the implementation of the “Frisian law” in practice, the Nordfriisk Instituut has already contributed the Frisian place names to several publications, such as the Westermann's school atlas. Only a multilingual map of Northern Frisia in the current Frisian orthography and with Danish notations was missing.

The „Nordfriesland Karte. Nordfrislon – Nordfrisland – Nordfriesland“ based on a many years out of print German-Frisian map from 1970 and was updated by Antje Arfsten, Frisian lecturer at Nordfriisk Instituut. The map has a scale of 1:125.000. It offers about 550 place names and the naming of landscapes, terps and areas in the Wadden Sea. On its backside is a trilingual register of place names (Frisian-Danish-German), in which further Frisian and Danish place names are listed. They are missing on the map in order to keep it plain and digestible.

The map contains a valid list of Frisian and Danish place names, which are generally lacking in common available dictionaries. So the map can support the further implementation of the “Frisian law” by being a guide for local authorities in North Frisia and on the island of Helgoland.

The editing and printing of the map have been made possible by the financial support of the Sydlesvigudvalg (committee for managing the grants from the Danish Government for Danish culture working in South Schleswig) through the Friisk Foriining (Frisian Association).

Information and purchase:
http://www.nordfriiskinstituut.de/verlagsprogramm/titel_landkarte.php
Map details of
“Nordfriesland Karte
Nordfriesland – Nordfriesland – Nordfriesland”

map detail with a picture of the area

cover

detail from the trilingual register of place names (Frisian-Danish-German)

example for differently highlighted place names (Frisian purple, Danish green)

the island of Föhr with the surrounding Wadden Sea