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SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
London, 10-31 May 1972
Items 7 and 9 of the provisional agenda

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR REGIONS
AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE FIRST UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION

Paper submitted by the Government of Austria

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In accordance with resolution 4, recommendation A of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names 1/ a national and three regional committees for the standardization of geographical names have been established.

National Committee

The National Committee is the Abteilung für Kartographische Ortsnamenkunde der Österreichischen Kartographischen Kommission in der Österreichischen Geographischen Gesellschaft (Department for Cartographic Place-Names Research of the Austrian Cartography Commission of the Austrian Geographical Society) which was founded in 1968. Correspondence should be addressed to this Department Attention Mr. Josef Brey, Österreichisches Ost- und Südost-europa-Institut, Josefplatz 6, A-1010, Wien.

The aims of the Committee are laid down in the Statutes parts of which are quoted below:

1/ United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, Vol. I, Report of the Conference, (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.I.9), p. 10.

- Section 1. It shall be the principal aim of the Department for Cartographic Place-Names Research to further the standardization of geographical names in Austria in accordance with the recommendations made by the United Nations.
- Section 2. Since, on the one hand, the federal structure of Austria precludes the establishment of a central governmental names authority whereas, on the other, it is necessary to harmonize the efforts of the various bodies concerned with the spelling of geographical names, it shall be the task of the Department for Cartographic Place-Names Research to act as a co-ordination centre for all the competent federal and provincial bodies and the respective scientific institutions.
- Section 3. The meetings of the Department for Cartographic Place-Names Research shall be conducted as discussions among experts under the chairmanship of the head of the Department who shall be elected by the Board of the Austrian Geographical Society.
- Section 4. The institutions or individuals to be invited to the meetings of the Department for Cartographic Place-Names Research shall be named from meeting to meeting with due regard to the problems under discussion.

Provincial commissions

A. Nomenklaturkommission beim Amte der Burgenländischen Landesregierung (Toponymic Committee of the Office of the Provincial Government of Burgenland), attention Mr. August Ernst, Landesarchiv - Landesbibliothek, Freiheitsplatz 1, A-7001, Eisenstadt. Founded in 1969.

Extracts from the Statutes are quoted below:

- Section 1. The Office of the Provincial Government of Burgenland, Dept. XII/2 - Provincial Archives-Provincial Library, includes a Toponymic Committee whose members shall be appointed by the Provincial Government of Burgenland. The Toponymic Committee shall be entitled to appoint additional experts for special problems. Subject to the respective legal situation it shall act as the competent authority for all questions concerning the naming of geographical features in Burgenland. This is to guarantee the correct rendering - both from the technical and the linguistic points of view - of the geographical names used in Burgenland in the official maps, books, lists etc.