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

GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS

Presented by the Governments of Austria, the Federal Republic
of Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland

Corrigendum

The subtitle of document E/CONF.61/L.26 should read as above.
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A. Classification of geographic entities

1. The classification of geographical names (for example, oronyms, hydronyms, minor names) is of no use for the purpose of international standardization, and may even lead to confusion because place-names may be originally river names, river names may be originally field names etc. Therefore classification of geographic names may better be deleted from the agenda and recommended to the International Congress of Onomastics.

2. The classification of geographical entities must provide the framework for the glossaries which are to be included in the gazetteers, that is, first for the glossary of designations and secondly for that of generic terms. If this classification has to promote the uniformity of presentation of these glossaries, it should have to be restricted to large categories, leaving to the single gazetteers the task to work out the sub grouping and ultimate details in accordance with national needs. For the time being it seems impossible to achieve a generally acceptable systematization within these large categories. The classification of geographical entities may read as follows (see also examples in the annex to this paper).

   1. Hydrographic entities;
   2. Relief and land forms;
   3. Terrain: fields, meadows, forests etc.;
   4. Political entities, administrative divisions;
   5. Regions, natural and historical;

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6. Populated places, buildings, structures;

7. Routes: railways, roads, streets etc.

B. Uniformity of presentation of glossaries in gazetteers

3. Uniformity in the presentation of glossaries in gazetteers is achievable to a certain degree only, namely by presenting in each gazetteer four glossaries or lists as described below.

(a) A survey of designations and generic terms in use in the gazetteer, in accordance with the classification of geographic entities mentioned in paragraph 2. The designations should be numbered, and a short definition should be given where the meaning of any designation is not obvious. See example B in the annex to this paper.

(b) An alphabetical list of generic terms found in the gazetteer with references to the numbering in the systematic survey. See example C in the annex to this paper.

(c) An alphabetical list of abbreviations of designations, or of other codes used for them. See example D in the annex to this paper.

(d) An alphabetical glossary of abbreviations used in maps on which the gazetteer is based.

C. Translation of designations and definitions

4. As regards translation of designations and definitions into other languages, refer to the proposals of the Dutch-German speaking group (E/CONF.61/L.27, para.1(b)).
A. EXAMPLE: CLASSIFIED DESIGNATIONS

1. Hydrographic entities

anabranch, bay, bight, canal, channel, cove, current, deep, distributary, drainage canal, estuary, fjord, ford, geyser, glacier, gulf, harbor, headwaters, inlet, interfluve, intermittent lake, intermittent stream, lagoon, lake, marine channel, narrows, pond, rainpool, rapids, reach, reservoir, river bend, roadstead, salt lake, sea, section of lake, section of river, section of stream, sound, spring, stream, stream mouth, swamps, wadi, waterfall, waterhole, waterway, well.

2. Relief and land forms

arch, bar, basin, beach, bluff, canyon, cape, cave, cleft, cliff, coast, dale, delta, depression, ditch, divide, dune, escarpment, gorge, gully, headland, heights, hill, hillock, hummock, island, isthmus, kettle, landslide, lowland, mesa, mound, mountain, mountain pass, mountain ridge, nunatak, pass, peak, peninsula, plain, plateau, promontory, ravine, reef, ridge, rift valley, rock in water, rock on land, sandbar, shoal, shore, slope, spit, spur, terrace, upland, valley, volcanic cone, volcano, watershed.

3. Terrain: fields, meadows, forest etc.

abandoned airfield, airfield, airport, bog, coal basin, desert, estate, farm, flat, forest, forest reserve, game reserve, gardens, gasfield, glade, grazing land, land, landing field, locality, marsh, meadow, moor, national park, peat-cutting, works, salt basin, salt flat, sands, section of estate, slough, steppe, tree nursery, tundra.

B. EXAMPLE: SURVEY OF DESIGNATIONS AND GENERIC TERMS

Water hydrographic entities

1. afwateringskanaal drainage canal

Definition: level waterway for drainage mainly

Generic terms: boezem, broot, braaf, breg, brep, trap, trup, leiding, loop, ringvaart, sloot, tocht, vliet, watergang, watering, wetting, wijk, wet.
2. baai bay

3. haven harbour

Generic terms: dok, haven, kolk.

4. Definition: level waterway for navigation mainly

Generic terms: boezem, diep, gat, gracht, hoofdvaart, kanaal, opvaart, opvaartje, singel, vaart, vaartje, vaarweg, zielvaart.

5. meer lake, pool

Definition: body of fresh water, exceptionally brackish, of any size, surrounded either by land or by land and a bordering lake. Generic terms: boezem, braak, breek, dobbe, gat, kolk, meer, poel, plas, put, ven, waai, waal, veel, wiel, wijde.

6. stromend water

Generic terms: beek, beekje, diep, diepje, gat, loop, maar, sprang, sprank, sprenk, sprink, strang, stroom.

7. vaarwater in zee marine channel

Definition: marine channel or gully.

Generic terms: balg, diep, gastje, gat, meul, kanaal, nauw, priel, raken, ril, straat, stroom, vaarwater, vaarweg, zeegat.

8. zeeregebied sea area

Definition: part of the sea not 2, 7 or 9, bay, inlet or marine channel

Generic terms: zee, zeegat.

9. zwin inlet

Generic terms: slenk, slufter, zwin.

RELIEF EN TERREINVORMEN, Relief and land forms

10. ....etc. etc.
C. EXAMPLE: ALPHABETICAL LIST OF GENERIC TERMS, WITH REFERENCES TO THE DESIGNATIONS

balg 7  leiding 1  strang 6
beek 6  loop 1, 6  stroom 6, 7
tocht 1
beekje 6  meer 5  vaart 4
vaartje 4
boezem 1, 4, 5  nauw 7  vaarwater 7
daarwater 4
break 5  onvaart 4  vaarwater 4, 7
diep 4, 6, 7  opvaartje 4  ven 5
vliet 1
diepje 6  plas 5  waal 5
waal 5
dobbe 5  poel 5  watergang 1
watering 1
dok 3  priel 7  wel 5
wetering 1
gaatje 7  put 5  wiel 5
wijd 5
gat 4, 5, 6, 7  rak 7  wijk 1
zee 8
giool 7  ril 7  zee-at 7, 8
zeilvaart 4
goot 1  ringvaart 1  zet 1
zwem 1
graaf 1  singel 4
gracht 4  slenk 9
gras 5
greb 1  sloot 1
wijd 5
grep 1  slufter 9
wijk 1
grub 1  sprang 6
zee 8
grup 1  sprank 6
zeemat 7, 8
haven 3  sureng 6
zeilvaart 4
hooi 4  sverk 6
kanaal 4, 7  sprink 6
zwet 1
tolk 1, 5  straat 7
zwin 9

D. EXAMPLE: ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS OF DESIGNATORY TERMS, OR OTHER CODES USED FOR THEM

AFW  AFWATERINGSKANAL  drainage canal
BERG  BERG  hill
BEW  BEWOOND OORD  populated place

/...
BRUG  BRUG  bridge
DAL   DAL  valley
DIST  DISTRIKT  district
DIJK  DIJK  dam, dike
FAB   FABRIEK  factory
GEB   GEBOUW  building
GEM   GEMEENTE  municipality
HAV   HAVEN  harbour
HEI   HEIDE  heath, moor
HEUV  HEUVEL  hill
HRUG  HEUVELRUG  ridge
KAN   KANAAL  canal
LAEN  LANDENOTE  isthmus
MEER  MEER  lake, pool
PROV  PROVINCIE  province
STR   STROMEND WATER  stream
VLW  VLIESTRAAL  airfield
VZ   VAARWATER IN ZEE  marine channel
VEG   WEB  road
ZEE   ZEEGBIED  sea area
ZPL   ZANDPLAAT  flat
ZWIN  ZWIN  inlet