

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
LIMITED

E/CONF.61/L.100
11 May 1972

Original: ENGLISH

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

REPORT BY THE HUNGARIAN COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Paper submitted by the Government of Hungary

SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

London, 10-31 May 1972

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS

REPORT BY THE HUNGARIAN COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHICAL
NAMES

Paper submitted by the Government of Hungary

1. The greatest part of geographical name standardization in Hungary is connected to the Committee on Geographical Names established in 1963 in the framework of the National Office of Lands and Mapping, Ministry of Food and Agriculture /earlier: State Office for Geodesy and Cartography/. The Committee is responsible for every geographical name in Hungary with the exception of administrative names /names of counties, districts, cities, towns, as well as those inside inhabited areas/.
2. As a result of standardization, two lists of names have recently been published. The first one, List of Country Names, includes the shorter and full names of 227 countries and dependent territories. The list gives not only the Hungarian pronouns and adjectives for each title, but also a short description of the given entity, the two kinds of name in the domestic language of the respective territory, as well as the English, French, German, Spanish and Russian equivalents. A short index helps to find the variants occurring in the various languages or in consequence of changes.
3. The second publication, Gazetteer of Hungary I, The More Important Names of the Relief, Regions and Hydrography, contains 715 geographical names of mountains, peaks, regions of various size, rivers, streams, lakes, and other similar features. Each title is accompanied by several data including the type of feature, its situation, variants, etc. An English language introduction helps those unfamiliar with the Hungarian language.
4. As a continuation of the above mentioned Gazetteer, lists will be published by counties. These lists will be based on name collections carried out and published under the supervision of linguists of the Institute for Linguistics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences. The geographical names of the county Zala have been prepared for approval by the Committee on Geographical Names, in 1971,

the material of which will form the second volume of the Gazetteer of Hungary. It will possibly appear in 1973. As the linguistic collection proceeds, further volumes will be prepared.

Parallel to this work, directives have been elaborated for the application and use of geographical names on large scale topographic maps. This is necessary until gazetteers will appear for all the counties, as these maps serve as the main source for geographical names identifying smaller physical features at the present.

5. In the consequence of a decree of the Government /of March 1971/, the range of administrative names have been restricted to names of counties, districts, cities and towns. Thus a considerable part of settlement names being only an outskirts of a city or a town, have been transferred to the Committee on Geographical Names. Before starting actual work on this group of names, a legal machinery has to be established, which is right now in process.

6. As our country is responsible for geographical names on the World Map 1 : 2,500,000, we have several tasks concerning international standardization as well. Among these, the third edition of the instruction Rendering of Geographical Names on the World Map 1 : 2,500,000 will appear this year. This instruction is now being revised concerning new transcription systems, first of all, those approved by the first U.N. Conference on Geographical Names.

7. Work is now starting on standardizing Hungarian exonyms used conventionally by domestic cartography and geographic literature. As a first step, exonyms appearing on maps and in the literature of the last few decades have been compiled and will be submitted for approval to the Committee, covering the area of Australia and the Pacific. Other areas will be compiled and considered in the near future.