

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
LIMITED

E/CONF.61/L.84
10 May 1972

Original: ENGLISH

SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
London, 10-31 May 1972
Item 15(c) of the provisional agenda

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE 7TH AND 8TH REGIONAL GROUPS
BETWEEN 1967 and 1971

Paper submitted by the Government of the
Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

**Report on the Activities of the 7th and 8th Regional Groups
between 1967 and 1971**

Praha - London 1972

Report on the Activities
of the 7th and 8th Regional Groups
between 1967 and 1971

The 7th Regional Group (countries of eastern, central and south-eastern Europe) called a joint session with the 8th Regional Group (the Soviet Union) as well as the representatives of the German Democratic Republic, which was held on October 4th to 6th, 1971, in Prague.

The representatives of Bulgaria, Hungary, the U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the D.D.R. advanced information on the activities of their national groups of experts in geographical terminology during 1961 and 1971 as well as on the present achievements and organization of terminological work.

The Conference was concerned with:

1. Information on the activities of the group of experts since the 1st U.N.O. Conference in Geneva.
2. Information on the present state of the effort in the field of the standardization of geographical names in Member States.
3. Appraisal of recent problems of latinization.
4. Appraisal of problems of the national standardization of geographical names and possibilities of the compilation of an international dictionary of geographical terms.

5. Appraisal of possibilities of the compilation of an index of geographical names from the zone along the Danube as well as the area round the Black Sea.
6. Problems relating to the standardization of celestial bodies as well as oceanic and submarine features.
7. Appraisal of possibility of the utilization of the index of the International World Map 1:2,500,000 to the compilation of an international list of geographical names.
8. The exchange among the participating countries of information and bibliographies relating to terminological effort.
9. Preparations for the 2nd U.N.O. Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
10. Plan of further activities in the field of the standardization of geographical names.

After a comprehensive discussion following the delivered reports it has been recommended:

1. to increase the activity of the participating countries;
2. to continue in exchanging information about the contemporary results achieved in individual countries, to implement an exchange of materials in the field of geographical terminology and to effect working bibliography;
3. to develop endeavour to make the results of the activities of the commissions on termino-

logy peremptory for all organizations using geographical terms;

4. after evaluating the contemporary status and ways of transcribing Chinese characters in the Roman alphabet, to accept, in the formation of geographical terminology, the Pinyin system of transcription, officially used in China since 1958;
5. to entrust Bulgarian and Soviet specialists with the construction of a peremptory official transcription of individual Cyrillic alphabets in the Roman characters;
6. to compile as soon as possible an index of the World Map at the scale of 1:2,500,000, which will considerably contribute to the standardization of geographical names;
7. to compile an international dictionary of geographical terms occurring in geographical names used in general geographical maps;
8. to make a list of geographical names from the zone along the Danube.

Before the Conference was closed, the representative of the Soviet Union gave information on the standardization of names of oceanic, submarine and celestial objects.

The next session of the 7th and 8th Regional Groups is to be held in 1973.