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INDEX OF THE 1:2,500,000 WORLD MAP AS A BASIS OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL LIST OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Paper submitted by the Government of the  
Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

**Czechoslovak Socialist Republic**

**Index of the 1:2,500,000 World Map  
as a Basis of the International List of Geographical Names**

**(The viewpoint of the Czechoslovak delegation  
to the suggest of the Bulgarian delegation)**

**Praha - London 1972**

Index of the 1:2,500,000 World Map as a Basis of the  
International List of Geographical Names  
(To the suggest of the Bulgarian delegation)

The socialist countries (Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Roumania, the Soviet Union) have compiled an International World Map at the scale of 1:2,500,000, the last issues of which are to be published in 1973. By the end of 1971, 80.5 per cent of the total work had been published, i.e. 211 sheets out of the total 262.

The World Map mentioned above will be supplemented by an index of individual map sheets, which is to be published after the whole map has been completed.

The so far appearing lists of names of geographical units (the so-called Gazetteers) are based on a different conception and serve other purposes than those of the index of the 1:2,500,000 World Map being prepared.

As to the names of geographical units, the International World Map 1:2,500,000 fully respects their official rendering as well as the rights of all countries to use official names of geographical units within their administrative boundaries. If some countries use non-Roman alphabets, the official transcription is used, as worked out and applied by the countries concerned; if there is no such official transcription, the internationally acknowledged and as official considered transcription is used. Only the names at the high seas are given in Russian, transliterated in Roman characters, as well as in English.

Hence, the index to the World Map 1:2,500,000 may be of all-round use as a well-arranged reference list of world's geographical names for cartographies of all countries.

The Editorial Board of the 1:2,500,000 World Map has entrusted Czechoslovakia with the task of working out the index for Australia and New Zealand. The maps of Australia and New Zealand will represent a new set compiled on the basis of the up-to-dated sheets of the 1:2,500,000 World Map, and provided with an introduction and an index of geographical names in the forms as are given on the maps.

Let us mention some of the main ideas of the principles laid down for the compilation of the index of geographical names concerning the 1:2,500,000 World Map.

Each geographical name given in the index, with the exception of settlements, shall be supplemented by geographical characteristics in current English abbreviations. Also the names of the countries will be given in English. The names in the index will be listed in the Roman-alphabetical order, regardless their being simple or compound (for instance, Mali, Malil, Mali Kanal, Malko Tárnovo). Diacritic marks will be employed only in case they have a distinguishing function. (For instance, Melnik, Mělník.)

Geographical names followed by doublets as well as names given in two forms (names of oceans, and submarine features) will be listed in both forms with the reference to the main name.

Each name will be supplemented by the name of

the country as well as the location in the map in accordance with the place of the name. The names of administrative units presented only in the scheme of the political and administrative division will be denoted by the administrative centre and marked with asterisk.

Any changes in the terminology, which may occur during the production of the map sheets, will be mentioned in the index with the reference to the former name.

A list of abbreviations of geographical names as well as their full forms in the corresponding language will be put at the beginning of the index.

The 1:2,500,000 World Map, its index as well as further works derived from it, represent a contribution of the socialist countries to the standardization of geographical names, whose aim is to achieve that geographical names fully fulfil their informative function respecting the sovereignty of individual countries even as concerns geographical terminology.

Viewpoint:

The Czechoslovak delegation is in full favour of the Bulgarian suggestion considering it fully recommendable for further implementation.