

AGENDA ITEM 14

Names of features beyond a single sovereignty

- (a) Features common to two or more nations
- (b) Maritime features
- (c) Undersea features
- (d) Extraterrestrial features

FEATURES COMMON TO TWO OR MORE NATIONS

Report presented by Austria, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland*

For the purposes of the definitive establishment of names for such geographical-topographical features as are under the sovereignty of more than one country, or are divided among two or more countries, the following principles should apply in the field of international standardization.

If the countries that share a particular geographical-topographical feature use the same official language but identify that feature by different forms of names, they

should endeavour to reach an agreement on a uniform name for that feature.

If countries that share a particular geographical-topographical feature do not use the same official language, it should be a general rule for international cartography to admit the name-forms of each of the languages in question. A policy of admitting only one or only some of such name-forms, while excluding the rest on principle, would be inconsistent in theory as well as inexpedient in practice. Technical reasons alone may make it sometimes necessary, especially on small-scale maps, to dispense with the recording of certain name-forms belonging to one language or another.

* The original text of this report was contained in document E/CONF.61/L.22.

FEATURES COMMON TO TWO OR MORE NATIONS

Report presented by Norway*

Some geographical features are under the sovereignty of more than one country or are divided between a number of countries. In such cases the following rules should apply.

If the countries in question have the same official language, or languages which are closely related, they should make every effort to reach agreement on the use of one name and one spelling. As an example of such a procedure it may be mentioned that Denmark,

Norway and Sweden have previously used three different spellings of the name of the arm of the North Sea which is situated just north of Denmark, namely "Skagerak" (Danish), "Skagerak" (Norwegian) and "Skagerack" (Swedish). The three countries have now agreed on one spelling, "Skagerrak", which is to be used in all three countries.

If the countries in question do not have the same official language, or closely related ones, the official forms of the name used in each of the languages concerned should have the same status internationally. It would not be correct to prefer one national form to another for international use.

* The original text of this report was contained in document E/CONF.61/L.61.

NAMES OF FEATURES SITUATED OUTSIDE A SINGLE SOVEREIGNTY

Report presented by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*

The modern age is characterized by intensive develop-

ment of research into the world's oceans and into the other bodies of the solar system. The mapping of territories and water areas outside national jurisdictions is a constituent part of such research, and many coun-

* The original text of this report was contained in document E/CONF.61/L.76.