Conventional Name	Area	Conventional Name	Area
Meshed Messina, Strait of Middle Atlas Montenegro, Socialist Republic of Mosquito Coast Mount Athos (administrative division) Mukden Murman Coast	Iran Italy Morocco Yugoslavia Nicaragua Greece China USSR	Samothrace San Juan Hill Saragossa Seistan Serbia, Socialist Republic of Seville Shantung Peninsula Shantung Promontory Skaraborg Slovenia, Socialist Republic of Södermanland Soochow Stockholm (Län) Stockholm (Stad) Svanetia Syracuse	Greece Cuba Spain Afghanistan, Iran Yugoslavia Spain China China Sweden Yugoslavia Sweden China Sweden China Sweden China Sweden USSR Italy
Nanking Naples, Bay of Natuna Islands Niger River Normandy Norrbotten	China Italy Indonesia Dahomey, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria France Sweden		
North Cape North East Land Northern Province	Norway Norway Sudan	Taranto, Gulf of Teheran (populated place) Teheran (region) Tehuantepec, Gulf of	Italy Iran Iran
Örebro Ossetia Ostend Östergötland	Sweden USSR Belgium Sweden	Tehuantepec, Gulf of Tehuantepec, Isthmus of Thessaly (administrative division) Thrace (administrative division) Tiflis	Mexico Mexico Greece Greece USSR
Parece Vela Pelée, Mount Peloponnesus (administrative division) Peloponnesus (region) Picardy Pines, Isle of	Japan French West Indies Greece Greece France Cuba	Timbuktu Transylvania Tuamotu Archipelago Tunis Turin Turkmenia	Mali Romania South Pacific Tunisia Italy USSR
Pohai Strait Pompeii Po River	China Italy Italy	Ulan Bator <i>Upper Nile</i> Province Uppsala	Mongolia Sudan Sweden
Po Valley Prince Charles Foreland Pripet River Qatar	Italy Norway USSR Arabia	Värmland Västerbotten Västernorrland Västmanland	Sweden Sweden Sweden Sweden
Rif Riga Rio Muni, Province of Saint Paul Island Saint Vincent, Cape	Morocco Latvia Equatorial Guinea Indian Ocean Portugal	Venetia Wadi Halfa Wenchow Wuchow Yakutia	Italy Sudan China China USSR
Salerno, Gulf of	Italy	Yunkwei Plateau	China

CONVENTIONAL NAMES*

Report presented by Norway

A "conventional name" (exonym) is a geographial name used in a given language to denote a geographical feature which is situated outside the area in which this language has official status. The spelling of the conventional name may differ considerably from the spelling used in the official language of the area in which the feature in question is situated. Thus, "Vienna" is the English conventional name for the official Austrian Wien, and "Copenhagen" the English conventional name for the official Danish København. In some cases, particularly where names of countries are concerned,

* The original text of this paper was contained in document E/CONF.61/L.62.

conventional names may be quite different from the official ones.

The use of conventional names is probably less common today than formerly, partly owing to the efforts of educational authorities, and partly also because of political changes which have led to the renaming of many geographical features. Many conventional names for such geographical features as oceans, large rivers and mountains, and those for large cities, have become part of the vocabulary of languages with long and strong literary traditions. The existence of conventional names of this type is a linguistic fact, and the substitution of official names for conventional names in such cases constitutes a linguistic change rather than a mere

change in nomenclature.

In the case of traditional names with roots in classical or mediaeval nomenclature, the replacement of conventional names by local official names (and local official spelling) in foreign languages may create difficulties of spelling as well as of pronunciation. On the other hand, in the case of new states and new national languages, when new spellings are introduced for many names and new official names substituted for others, the use of the older traditional names may be misleading.

There are two distinct points of view in this matter—one national and one international. Although it may be desirable to have quite clear rules in this matter, it is our view that it would be difficult to formulate recommendations for the replacement or for the use of conventional names. It would probably be impossible to make complete lists of the conventional names which are in use in different languages at present. The conclusion must therefore be that the abolition of conventional names will have to be left to the future.

DEFINITION AND USAGE OF EXONYMS*

Report presented by Hungary

Though exonyms (conventional names), geographical names used by a language for the identification of features outside the area where this language is official, are generally incompatible with international standardization, in that they multiply a given geographical name, we must accept their existence as a necessary part of almost any language.

We feel it is useful, therefore, that this conference should deal with the question of the definition and usage of exonyms. At the same time means should be discussed by which the "harmful effect" of exonyms on international standardization may be diminished.

In the definition, we find it necessary to include as a decisive factor the boundary of the area in which the official language is spoken, which will in most cases coincide with an international boundary.

While the usage of exonyms is an internal matter for the national authorities in each language, it should be stated that exonyms must never be used in order to express territorial demands or in a way that would enable such a conclusion to be drawn. At the same time exonyms of settlements should be distinguished from those of all other features, as the latter kind are more stable and cause fewer complications.

As a means of diminishing the "harmful effect"—implicit in the co-existence of several variations of an original geographical name—lists should be prepared and published containing only those exonyms which reflect actual usage, and not the results of historical research. It is also advisable to include in these lists a classification of exonyms (into such categories as "suggested" and "acceptable") as compared to an indication of their various fields of application. Obsolete exonyms (clearly marked as "not suggested") may be included in an annex to such lists. All entries in the lists must refer to the geographical name in the original language.

^{*} The original text of this paper was contained in document E/CONF.61/L.98.