

38. Indice alfabético	Generalmente una lista de nombres contenida en una publicación y en la que se indica el lugar de la misma, en que aparece el nombre en cuestión
39. Diccionario	Catálogo de palabras en donde se dan todas las definiciones conocidas por el autor
40. Glosario	Colección de términos genéricos con sus significados en los nombres geográficos
41. Léxico	Conjunto de palabras de un individuo o grupo

## GLOSSARY OF THE TERMINOLOGY USED IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES\*

### Report presented by France

In September 1967, the French Government submitted to the Geneva Conference a draft amendment to the list of technical terms which was annexed to the report of the Group of Experts on Geographical Names (New York, 20 June to 1 July 1960).

This initial draft has been recast into a glossary of terminology used in the standardization of geographical names. In order to cover the work done by the Group of Experts since the First Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names as fully as possible, some definitions have been re-included, but the number of terms listed has been considerably increased. This is partly because more account has been taken of developments in modern linguistics and also because greater attention has been given to phonetic notation, which is of paramount importance in matters of transliteration and transcription. It was also thought useful to give English and Spanish equivalents for the French terms contained in the glossary.

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\* The original text of this paper, submitted in French, was contained in E/CONF.61/L.67. The glossary itself was issued as document E/CONF.61/L.67/Add.1. Copies are available for reference at the Map Collection of the United Nations. It was decided not to reproduce this glossary at this stage, pending its completion and acceptance by the United Nations Group of Experts on the Standardization of Geographical Names.

## STANDARDIZATION OF THE TERMINOLOGY OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES: TERMS AND DEFINITIONS\*

### Paper presented by Norway

Place-name investigators, as well as cartographers and geographers, use a number of terms to describe various categories of place names. The meaning which they attach to these terms may at times appear rather vague and ill-defined, and this frequently leads to misunderstandings. Even in the Nordic countries the use of terms varies from one country to another.

Place names are proper names, just as personal names are. The category of "proper name designating a locality" is in Norwegian called *stadnavn* or *stedsnavn* (place name), in Danish *stednavn*, in Swedish *ortnamn*, in Icelandic *örnefni* and in Faroese *staðanavn*. In Nordic the term is briefly defined as "the designation for a place having the quality of a proper name, the name of a geographical locality".

In 1813 the Dane Rasmus Rask suggested the term "stedsnavn" as a translation of *nomina locorum*. Versions with and without -s- (*stedsnavn*, *stednavn*) were both used, without distinction, from 1819 up to the end of the nineteenth century. Since then, the form "stednavn" without -s- has been the only version of the term in Danish. The form of Norwegian known as *bokmål* (or *riksmål*) has the version with an -s-, "stedsnavn", borrowed from the older Danish form. The Swedish word "ortnamn" is first recorded as used

in 1884. Corresponding terms in other Germanic languages are also nineteenth-century innovations. The German word "Ortsname", for example, was used for the first time in the writings of Goethe about 1800. English used "names of places" or "local names" until the term "place name" was created on the Nordic patterns.

The Nordic terms "stadnavn", "ortnamn", "örnefni" etc. comprise all names, whether of topographic features or of human settlements and communities. The German "Ortsname" covers the same wide range of meaning as the English "place name", a comprehensive term that embraces a whole number of subcategories, such as those corresponding to the German "Siedlungsname" and "Flurname", the Norwegian "bustadnavn", the English "field name" and the Danish "marknavn".

A number of terms are used to describe the composition of place names: "first element", "last element", "compound name" etc. There are also terms such as "secondary name", "primary name" and "related name". There is no uniformity in the use of these terms in the Nordic countries, so that misunderstandings are likely to occur. And in reading literature on the subject written in foreign languages misunderstandings of this kind will inevitably occur because the terminology is not always clearly defined.

For this reason a Nordic symposium will be held in Oslo during the autumn of 1972, at which Nordic terminology will be discussed and clarified. It will hardly

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\* The original text of this report was contained in document E/CONF.61/L.60.