

On the other level is the identification of names other than those of municipalities. The authority responsible for toponymy in this field is the National Geographical Institute, which is represented on the advisory body mentioned above. In 1942, immediately after the establishment of the Institute — the successor to the Army Geographical Service — the Toponymy Commission was set up as part of the Institute to deal with problems arising in the collection of place names in metropolitan France and the fixing of the spellings to be used for those names. The National Geographical Institute was able to draw on the results of previous cartographic work and on the experience of government services such as the Cadastral Survey and the national education authorities. This enabled it to elaborate a method of work and general and special instructions which its operating staff could use in constructing, from numerous and often conflicting items of information, the best and most correct form of identification for each geographical feature in the light of the local context and national requirements.

The National Geographical Institute has not confined its toponymic activities to metropolitan France and has sought to contribute as far as it can to the standardization of overseas toponyms as well. The Institute has continued this work since the granting of independence to the overseas countries, either under general agreements for co-operation on cartography with particular Governments or under agreements for special services concluded with national technical authorities.

As far as the transcription and transliteration of toponyms are concerned, agreements were concluded in the period before the 1967 session of the Conference at Geneva with the competent authorities of the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Gabon, the Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Morocco and the Upper Volta.

Since that session of the Conference, the French Government has been represented at all sessions of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts on Geographical Names, but has not participated in any regional activities of the division representing the Romance-language area except for Latin America, having received no information on their organization. The present Conference should provide an opportunity for remedying that situation for the future. However, since the toponymic authorities of foreign countries — in any of the divisions — are represented on national cartographic bodies, agreements for exchanging publications between these bodies and

the National Geographical Institute help in the circulation of the practical results of national standardization activities to foreign countries.

Also between 1967 and 1971, the National Geographical Institute participated, because of its interest in national standardization, in the verifications undertaken in connexion with the preparation of the Official Geographical Code published in 1971 by the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Research. The Official Geographical Code gives the names of all French municipalities. The main activities of the National Geographical Institute have been the field collection of toponyms for use on the maps published by the Institute and the standardization of their spellings. This work covers an area of some 76,720 square kilometres, mapped on the 1:25,000 scale, and relates to the basic map, from which the smaller-scale maps are derived. A number of sheets containing standardized toponymic spellings have been published on the 1:20,000, 1:50,000 and 1:100,000 scales for the New Hebrides, French Polynesia and the French Southern and Antarctic Territories.

Outside French territory, the work of collecting toponyms and standardizing their spellings has been carried out by the National Geographical Institute under aid or co-operation programmes relating to map series on the 1:200,000 scale for Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Dahomey, Gabon, the Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Senegal, Togo and the Upper Volta. These activities cover a total of 115 sheets on the 1:200,000 scale in the sheet format of the International Map of the World. Similar work has been undertaken with a view to the publication of maps on the 1:50,000 scale for Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Dahomey, Gabon, the Ivory Coast, the Niger and Togo, either at the request of the State concerned or under aid or co-operation programmes. This involves 98 sheets on the 1:50,000 scale.

Lastly, under cartographic co-operation agreements concluded with the official authorities of Algeria, the National Geographical Institute has collected and standardized the names used on the 1:25,000 map series (which covers an area represented by 97 sheets) and on the 1:50,000 and 1:200,000 series (which each cover an area represented by 15 sheets). All three series are sets of basic maps appropriate for areas with well-defined characteristics, but only in the case of the 1:25,000 and 1:50,000 maps has there been any recent field work on name-collection.

REPORT PRESENTED BY BRAZIL*

At the national level, responsibility for decisions on matters involving geographical names lies with the National Committee on Planning and Standards for Geography and Cartography (CONPLANGE), a body set up as part of the I.B.G.E. Foundation (which comprises the Brazilian Institute of Geography and the

Brazilian Institute of Statistics) by Legislative Decree No. 161 of 13 February 1967, and consisting of representatives of various federal and state authorities.

At its plenary meeting in July 1971, the National Committee on Planning and Standards discussed and adopted modifications to the nomenclature appearing on the sheets of the *International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale* which cover Brazilian territory.

* The original text of this report was contained in document E/CONF.61/L.69.

The Committee has established a sub-committee on geographical information which is responsible for considering questions on geographical names and toponymy, as well as related matters.

Within the framework of the IBGE Foundation, the Department of Geographical and Cartographic Documentation and Information considers and gives rulings on the spelling of geographical names and on toponymic matters.

The Department receives many applications for such rulings, particularly over the nomenclature of geographical features of direct concern to railways. The functions in question are co-ordinated by the Division for Information Co-ordination of the Department, which maintains specialized staff for this purpose.

Special mention should be made of the activities of the Brazilian Technical Standards Association, which since 1970 has been co-ordinating action by various public and private bodies in the field of geographical terminology.

In this connexion, the Association has established a committee to study urban planning terminology. The committee consists of representatives of the Institute of Architects of Brazil, the Brazilian Institute of Municipal Administration, the IBGE Foundation, the Engineering Association, the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Administration of the State of Guanabara, and other authorities; and also of eminent personalities connected with architecture and town planning, such as Lúcio Costa, Oscar Niemeyer, Burle Marx, Henrique Mindlin and Maurício Roberto, to mention only a few.

The Brazilian Institute of Geography has prepared a paper entitled "Léxicos sobre urbanismo" (Urban planning glossaries) as a basis for the committee's work.

In 1970, the IBGE Foundation set up a committee to consider outstanding cases of disputed spellings of names of Brazilian towns and villages, on the basis of the work previously undertaken by the Foundation, and to submit suggestions for adoption as

the criteria to be observed in the examination of existing or future problems.

An index of the toponyms appearing on the sheets of the *International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale* which cover Brazilian territory was prepared by the University of São Paulo and published in 1968.

In 1971, the Brazilian Institute of Geography republished the index of toponyms in the light of more detailed research and in conformity with the agreements reached at the United Nations Technical Conference on the International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale held at Bonn in 1962.

Annex

DECISION No. 18/70, 3 NOVEMBER 1970, OF THE BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND STATISTICS

The President of the Foundation styled Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics, pursuant to the powers conferred on him by article 19 (e) of the Statute, and in the light of the contents of IBG Proceedings No. 1845/69, and further.

Considering the advisability and necessity of establishing rules to ensure the satisfactory standardization of spellings of names of Brazilian towns and villages appearing in publications sponsored by the IBGE Foundation.

Decides to appoint Professor Orlando Valverde, Assistant Professor (4-C), a former staff member of the National Geographical Council, of the Department of Geography of the Brazilian Institute of Geography, Henrique de Azevedo Sant'anna, Chief of the Division for Information Co-ordination, and Maria Baker de Andrade Botelho, Chief of the Map Library, both of the Department of Geographical and Cartographic Documentation and Information of the Brazilian Institute of Geography, Paulo Augusto de Alencar, Chief of the Documentation Division, and Nélia Leão Dos Santos, Chief of the Periodicals, Photograph and Records Section, both of the Centre for Statistical Documentation and Information of the Brazilian Institute of Statistics, to form a committee under the chairmanship of the first member above-named to consider outstanding cases of disputed spellings of Brazilian towns and villages, on the basis of the work previously undertaken by the IBGE Foundation, and to submit a detailed report on their findings in the form of suggestions for adoption as the criteria to be observed in the examination of existing or future problems.

REPORT PRESENTED BY GUATEMALA*

The following is a brief description of activities undertaken by Guatemala since the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held at Geneva in September 1967.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES AUTHORITY

The Joint Commission on Geographical Names was established in 1959 by Alfredo Obiols Gómez, who was then Director General of the National Geographical Institute, and laid the basis for the standardization of geographical names in Guatemala. On 2 March 1968, pursuant to note No. 420 of the Director General of the

National Geographical Institute, the name of the Commission was changed to the National Geographical Names Authority of Guatemala.

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION

National standardization is the responsibility of the National Geographical Names Authority of Guatemala. The standardization procedures introduced by Alfredo Obiols Gómez on 22 July 1960 have been up-dated and expanded in the light of resolution 4 adopted by the 1967 Geneva Conference.

A document entitled "National standardization", prepared by Francis Gall, has been submitted as a working paper of the present Conference under item 9 of the provisional agenda. It describes the procedure

* The original text of this report, submitted in Spanish, was contained in document E/CONF.61/L.72.