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STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES  
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Item 8 of the provisional agenda

EVOLUTION OF NAMES OF MUNICIPALITIES IN FRANCE  
FROM 1970 to 1975 AND THEIR STANDARDIZATION

Paper presented by France

Summary

In France, the standardization of names of municipalities - to which an official form of name is given - has proceeded concurrently with the enactment of legislation introducing changes in the administrative division of the country. Since 1970, this evolution has speeded up considerably.

Although there is a well defined procedure for altering the name of a municipality, there are occasional divergencies between custom and the official form published by the Ministry of the Interior.

The work of the advisory body and the use of modern data processing methods are seen as ways and means of achieving an acceptable solution to this complex problem.

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