2. Further recommends that in the introduction to this type of gazetteer reference should be made to recommendation E of resolution 4 of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. 22/

3. Automated data processing

The Conference,

Considering the importance of resolution 3 of the First Conference 23/ and resolution 30 of the Second Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 24/

Noting the plans for publishing gazetteers under the auspices of the United Nations, including a concise gazetteer of the world based on national standard names,

Recognizing the expanding use of automated data processing for the management of geographical names information and the production of gazetteers,

1. Recommends that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names consider the problem of compatibility of systems on geographic-name information (data elements) 25/ compiled by different nations for gazetteers and automated data processing systems;

2. Further recommends that the Group of Experts recognize the importance of the compatibility of output media generated by automated data processing (such as magnetic tapes) so that geographic-name information may be made available to international users in other than the printed form.

4. Reliability statement on geographical names in documents

The Conference,

Recognizing the desirability of providing information on the basis of which users may judge the accuracy of names contained in a particular names source document,

1. Recommends that in such documents information be provided on whether the names concerned have been approved by the national names authority or are in a provisional form. In either event the maximum possible information should be provided as to the source of the names - for example, whether field-collected, gathered from documentary sources or specially bestowed;


23/ Ibid., p. 9.


25/ Data elements are the result of separating data into categories for the purpose of determining the arrangement of gazetteers by vertical or horizontal columns or for the descriptive coding of data for either gazetteer layout or automatic data processing.
2. Further recommends that an assessment also be given of the degree of accuracy of the names, together with an indication of their completeness and currency and, if appropriate, a citation of previous documents that are now superseded as to names.

5. Divisional activities and meetings

The Conference,

Having considered resolution 7 of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names 26/ and resolution 19 of the Second Conference, 27/

Considering also the growing productiveness of divisional and interdivisional meetings and co-operative undertakings as reported to this Conference,

Recommends that the divisions continue and expand such activities and forward to the Cartography Section of the Centre for Natural Resources, Energy and Transport, Department of Technical Co-operation and Development, United Nations Secretariat reports of meetings as they are held, of agreements as they are reached and of co-operative programmes as they are initiated.

6. List of country names

The Conference,

Considering that a working group of the Group of Experts on Geographical Names has brought nearly to completion a multilanguage list of names of countries, 28/

Noting that the Terminology Service, Translation Division, Department of Conference Services of the United Nations Secretariat is also concerned with this and related matters,

1. Recommends that the Group of Experts on Geographical Names bring to completion the list of country names on which it has been working;

2. Recommends further that the Group of Experts on Geographical Names concurrently explore ways of co-ordinating its work with that of other offices or departments of the United Nations Secretariat, including the Terminology Service.