

UNITED NATIONS

Fifth Session of the Group of Experts
on Geographical Names
5-16 March 1973

ON THE WORK ON THE NATIONAL
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL
NAMES CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE PERIOD
AFTER THE 2ND UN CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES,
HELD IN MAY, 1972

Submitted by A.M.Komkov, U.S.S.R.

On the work on the national
standardization of geographical names
carried out within the period after
the 2nd UN Conference on the Standard-
dization of Geographical Names, held
in May, 1972

1. 1972 was the jubilee year for the Soviet State celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation and construction. The fifty years that have passed have demonstrated the triumph of Soviet national policy, the policy guaranteeing the full equality for all nationalities of this country in all fields of their social and cultural life. This in full concerns the languages of Soviet nationalities which number over 100.

2. As it was stated in the National Report subjected by the Soviet delegation to the 2nd UN Conference on the standardization of geographical names / Document of the Conference E/CONF. 61/L.40/, the work on preparing a series of guides for the rendering of geographical names of Soviet Republics had in general been fulfilled by the beginning of the Conference (May, 1972) and the guides co-ordinated with scientific centres and Soviet power bodies - the Presidiums of the Supreme Soviets - of all Republics. At the present time this work has been completed and guides for 13 Republics published while 2 guides (for Kirghiz and Uz-

/...

bek Soviet Republics) are in print.

3. The work on preparing the guides for rendering geographical names of autonomous republics and dictionaries of local geographical terms has further been developed. A lot of new materials has been added to those already published by 1972.

The preparation of reference-dictionaries of geographical names covering the U.S.S.R. territory is now in good progress.

4. Expansion of economic, scientific and cultural contacts with foreign countries required the revision of already existing guides for transfer of geographical names of different countries and preparation of gazetteers. Special attention is being given to the rendering of foreign names in the Russian writing as exactly as possible. Therefore, giving the form of a name in the language adopted in a given country is compulsory in our dictionaries. The parallel presentation of the Russian and national form of a name and then the repetition of their contents in the index of national forms, as was made in the sample of the gazetteer for Columbia, slows down the work and makes it more complicated, but at the same time undoubtedly raises scientific and practical value of such dictionaries.

/...

List of works on geographical
names issued in 1972 - 1973

1. Инструкция по русской передаче географических названий Грузинской ССР, изд. "Известия", М. 1972.
2. Инструкция по русской передаче географических названий Латвийской ССР, изд. "Известия", М. 1972 г.
3. Инструкция по русской передаче географических названий Таджикской ССР, изд. "Известия", М. 1972.
4. Инструкция по русской передаче географических названий Эстонской ССР, изд. "Известия", М. 1972.
5. Инструкция по русской передаче немецких географических названий, изд. Мин. культуры СССР, М. 1973.
6. Инструкция по русской передаче географических названий стран испанского языка, изд. Мин. культуры СССР, М. 1973.
7. Инструкция по русской передаче географических названий Кореи, изд. ЦНИИГАиК, М. 1973.
8. Словарь хантыйских, мансийских, селькупских географических терминов, тип. Президиума Верховного Совета РСФСР, М. 1972.
9. Словарь географических терминов Дагестана, изд. Мин. культуры СССР, М. 1972.