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FIFTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
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REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION
IN THEIR REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON PROGRESS IN THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE
FOURTH CONFERENCE

Activities of Turkey in the field of geographical
names standardization**

Paper submitted by Turkey

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The Turkish National Committee, composed of relevant governmental departments, has continued its work since the 4th Conference held in Geneva. Activities were mainly focused on some particular items of international interest, namely maritime features, exonyms and the gazetteer of Turkey.

Maritime features (Agenda item No.1Q/c). A special working group was set up for standardization of maritime features around Turkey. As a result of the work, which was carried out in close co-operation with the Navigation, Hydrography and Oceanography Department of the Navy, the sole producer of hydrographic charts, a list of standardized names of maritime features was prepared and submitted to the Conference Secretariat for circulation. The list is a supplement to that of name proposals for some undersea features previously distributed during the Twelfth Session of UNGEGN in Geneva (Working paper No. 29).

Exonyms (Agenda item No.9). Considering the great importance of exonyms, particularly for identification of those geographical features, the names of which have been subjected to changes several times in certain areas, Mr. Erinc continued his work in this field of historical geography. As a product of efforts along this line, a list of nearly 150 widely used Turkish exonyms in Balkan countries was prepared and presented to the Conference Secretariat for distribution to the interested participants. It should be noted that coordinates of geographical names given in the list are centrally located.

National Gazetteer (Agenda item No.6/e). For this particular task a special committee was set up, which worked in co-operation with the Survey Department of the Army. But the work

confronted with difficulties posed by the existence of a considerable number of geographical names awaiting national standardization, and consequently, could not be completed in due time. Nevertheless, after having overcome this problem, the work is in full progress and the final list comprising nearly 30.000 standardized names will be published in a near future.
