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FIFTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE  
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MEASURES TAKEN AND PROPOSED TO IMPLEMENT UNITED NATIONS  
RESOLUTIONS ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Information on the carrying out of more important United  
Nations Resolutions in the field of standardization  
of geographical names in the CSSR

Paper submitted by the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

Czechoslovak Socialist Republic  
Fifth United Nations Conference  
on the Standardization  
of Geographical Names  
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I N F O R M A T I O N

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On the basis of mutual agreement of the states, the members of the Tenth Division, which was accepted at the Eighth Session /Sofia 1-5 June, 1987/, we introduce a brief information on the carrying out of more important resolutions which were accepted on the preceding four conferences on the standardization of geographical names in the CSSR.

1. Establishment of official authorities for standardization of geographical names

In the CSSR the main question of the establishment of official authorities has been carried out only partly. Since 1970 the Ministries of Interior of the Czech Socialist Republic and the Slovak Socialist Republic have been competent to determine names of communities and their parts /residential geographical names/. Expert advisory authorities - the Commissions of Geographical Names - form part of these Ministries. Residential geographical names standardized by the Ministries are universally obligatory.

The official authorities with the possibility to standardize geographical names in the field of non-residential geographical names from the territory of the CSSR have not been founded yet. Till 1970 the standardization of this more extensive group of geographical names has been carried out by the Czech Office of Geodesy and Cartography /CUGK/

and the Slovak Office of Geodesy and Cartography /SUGK/. The CUGK and the SUGK also established expert advisory authorities - the Commissions of Geographical Names. Recommendation of these commissions after the approval by the CUGK /resp. SUGK/ are obligatory for editors of cartographical products. For other users there are only recommended. The extension of the liability of these geographical names has been solved by interresort agreement between the CUGK, the SUGK and determined central authorities of the state administration.

## 2. Creation and publication of national lists

The Ministries have published residential geographical names in the central gazettee every 5th year by form of the list of communities and their parts. The list includes also changed names. The Federal Statistical Office publishes "Statistical Lexicon of Communities" every 10th year after state census of inhabitants /last ed. 1982/. These periodical publications are designed mainly for national use. They do not have the character of national lists in the sense of appertaining United Nations resolutions.

The CUGK and the SUGK publish non-residential names from the territory of the CSSR and geographical names of the world by the form of cartographical products and by the form of selling unperiodical publications. Till 1980 the Slovak Office of Geodesy and Cartography published 13 publications in edition "Cartographical Informations". These publications do not include all data recommended by the Resolutions 2 of the Third United Nations Conference and by the Resolution 4 of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. In 1981 the CUGK and the SUGK founded common edition "UNO Gazetteers of Geographical Names-CSSR". This edition answers to the demands of appertaining United Nations Resolutions. In the period 1982 - 1986 eight publications have been published in this edition / specification in the Report on the work in the field of standardization of geographical names in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in the period 1982 -

- 1986/.

### 3. Reduction of exonyms

The Resolutions 28, 29, 35 of the Second UN Conference, 18, 19 of the Third UN Conference and 20 of the Fourth UN Conference on the use of exonyms, the publication of the lists and gradual reduction of exonyms have been carried out.

The Slovak exonyms have been codified by these publications:

- Zoznam vžitých názvov riek a vodných plôch sveta, 1974 /The List of Current Names of Rivers and Water Surfaces/;
- Zoznam štátov a krajín sveta, 1974 /The List of States and Countries of the World/;
- Zoznam vžitých slovenských názvov miest sveta, 1974 /The List of Current Slovak Names of Towns of the World/;
- Zoznam vžitých slovenských názvov útvarov horizontálneho členenia zemského povrchu, 1975 /The List of Current Slovak Names of Formations of Horizontal Division/;
- Zoznam vžitých slovenských názvov útvarov vertikálneho členenia zemského povrchu, 1975 / The List of Current Slovak Names of Formations of Vertical Division/;
- Zoznam vžitých slovenských názvov mimozemských objektov, 1976 /The List of Current Slovak Extraterrestrial Feature Names/.

The Czech exonyms issued in the publication "Vžitá česká vlastní jména geografická", 1982 /Current Czech Geographical Proper Names/. The CUGK prepares the publication "Jména moří, mořských proudů a podmořských tvarů" /Names of Seas, Sea Currents and Undersea Features/. Czechoslovakia supports the tendency of gradual reduction of exonyms in the creation of cartographical products.

### 4. Toponymic guideline for editors of cartographical products and for other users

In the CSSR the Resolution 4 of the Fourth United Nations Conference had been carried out by the publication "Toponymický návod na používání geografických názvov z územia Československa" /Toponymic Guideline on the Use

of Geographical Names from the Territory of the CSSR/. It will be published in 1987. By its extent it answers to the recommended Austrian model. It is more concise as more detailed regulation for the editors in the CSSR. It is designed mainly for international use.

5. List of states of the world

The publication "Jména států a jejich územních částí" /Names of States and their Territorial Parts/ had been published in the CSSR in 1982. It answers to the demands of the resolutions of the UNO concerning the publication of the list of state names in the world. For the year 1987 there is prepared the second actualized edition of this publication. Its cyclical actualization will be realized in regard to the number of changes in the world.