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

Report for the Netherlands 1982-1987

Paper submitted by Netherlands
In his capacity as Chairman of UNGEGN, Mr. D.P. Blok has carried out an extensive correspondence. He chaired the Eleventh and Twelfth sessions of UNGEGN and attended the first meeting of the Latin America division in Cuba. He assisted in the production of Volume XVIII of World Cartography, devoted to toponymy.

Mr. D.P. Blok has studied the subject "Research and experiments in assisting in name pronunciation". His results were submitted as a working paper to the Eleventh session of the UNGEGN.

Mr. D.P. Blok contributed, as member of the ad hoc Working Group to review the aims and functions and modus operandi of the UNGEGN, to the new "Statute of the UNGEGN".

Mr. F.J. Ormeling jun. has published in 1983 a fundamental study "Minority toponyms on maps, the rendering of linguistic minority toponyms on topographic maps of Western Europe". The work on minority toponyms has been carried on and resulted in a paper for the ICA congress at Perth in 1984 and a working paper for the Twelfth session of the UNGEGN.

A map of the Netherlands with Frisian toponyms (Frisian is a minority language in the Netherlands) was published in 1985.

Mr. F.J. Ormeling sen., as convenor of the Working Group on Training Courses in Toponymy, has made great efforts to continue the project of "Training courses", which had begun successfully at Cisarua, Indonesia, 1982. He participated as a lecturer in the second U.N. Training course in Toponymy, held in Rabat in 1985.

Toponymical Guidelines for the Netherlands were presented at the 12th Session of the UNGEGN by the Netherlands delegation. Though the principles of spelling of Dutch geographical names have been elaborated and submitted to the Minister of Education and Science in 1974, unfortunately no decision has been made. The toponymic guidelines therefore reflect the de facto situation, as does the topographical map of the Netherlands.

The Topographic Survey of the Netherlands has published in 1987 a list of all the names contained in its topographical map series on the scale of 1:50,000. To these names the nature of the named object, its position both in geographical and local coordinates, and the map-sheet on which it occurs are given.