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**Eighth United Nations Conference on the
Standardization of Geographical Names**

Berlin, 27 August-5 September 2002

Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

**Reports by Governments on the situation in their countries and
on the progress made in the standardization of geographical
names since the Seventh Conference**

**Report on work in the standardization of geographical
names in Poland between 1998 and 2002**

Submitted by Poland**

Summary

Organizational changes have occurred in Poland in the standardization of geographical names. The Commission for Standardization of Geographical Names Outside Poland, operating in the Ministry of National Education, has been assigned to the Surveyor-General of Poland and appointed at the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography. Within the reporting period, the Commission focused mainly on standardizing the geographical onomastics of the world. *Toponymic Guidelines of Poland for Map Editors and Other Users* was elaborated and published in English (edition III, updated and extended). These guidelines were also published in Russian. Work was commenced with the purpose of making the decisions taken by the Commission for Standardization of Geographical Names Outside Poland obligatory (legally sanctioned).

Work was undertaken within the Commission for Establishing Names of Localities and Physiographic Objects on a new act concerning official names of localities and physiographic objects (amendment of the regulation of 1934) to adapt it to regulations of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland and the requirements of European Union legislation.

A programme of work has been drawn up in the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography on standardizing hydronyms for the needs of the State Register of Geographical Names, with the ultimate goal of issuing a detailed national gazetteer.

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Work has been proceeding since 1999 on the concept of drawing up onomastic material. Implementation commenced in 2000. Almost 50,000 hydronyms have been collected in language elaborations within two years.

Toponymic guidelines have been drawn up in the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography and prepared for printing in the form of instructions on collecting names, to be used by topographers when updating topographic maps.

As in the previous reporting period (1992-1997), there are two committees in Poland dealing with the establishment of geographical names:

- The Commission for Establishing Names of Localities and Physiographic Objects, dealing with Polish onomastics
- The Commission for Standardization of Geographical Names Outside Poland, dealing with world onomastics.
