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 of the United Kingdom
Submitted by the United Kingdom**

Summary

The report of the United Kingdom states that the recent administrative
restructuring of England, Wales and Scotland has now been completed. There is a
tentative plan being discussed to reorganize England again and create eight regions
outside Greater London, to be run by regional assemblies. However, there are many
procedural steps to be taken and, if the plan is approved, there are unlikely to be any
changes for at least five years.

The national mapping authority of Great Britain, the Ordnance Survey (OS),
treats geographical names in the course of its map production. OS has recently been
concentrating on digital products. A names policy review took place within OS
during 1998/99, the conclusions of which recommended that the standardization of
geographical names’ spellings throughout all of its products be addressed. In
particular, names policies have been published for the mapping of Welsh and Gaelic
place names in Wales and Scotland respectively.

* E/CONF.94/1.
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