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REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL
NAMES ON THE WORK OF ITS NINTH SESSION

(held at United Nations Headquarters, 17-27 February 1981)

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- III. COMPOSITION OF WORKING GROUPS
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GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

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Terms of reference

1. In pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1314 (XLIV) and decision 1979/81 the Secretary-General invited the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names to convene its ninth session at United Nations Headquarters from 17 to 27 February 1981.

Attendance

2. The session was attended by 45 experts from 30 countries representing 16 of the 17 geographical/linguistic divisions of the world. Observers from the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), the Intergovernmental Oceanic Commission (IOC), the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), the International Cartographic Association (ICA) and the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALESCO) were also present (see annex I below).

Opening of the session

3. The session was opened on behalf of the Secretary-General by N. F. Falzon, Deputy Director, Cartography and Information Services Branch, Natural Resources and Energy Division, Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the United Nations Secretariat. The Chairman of the Group of Experts thanked the United Nations for the services set at its disposal. At the request of Mr. Falzon a minute of silence was observed in memory of C. N. Christopher, who had served as Secretary of the previous sessions.

Rules of procedure

4. It was agreed that the rules of procedure to be followed should be those of former sessions. A working group was formed to prepare a draft revision of these rules (see para. 39 below). For the revised rules of procedure, see annex IV below.

Agenda for the session

5. The Group adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session
2. Report by the Chairman
3. Report by the Secretary
4. Adoption of the agenda
5. Review of divisional composition
6. Reports by the divisions and countries
7. Review of aims and functions and recommendations of general importance

8. Report of activity by the working groups since the eighth session
 - (a) Undersea and maritime features
 - (b) Extraterrestrial topographic features
 - (c) Single romanization system
 - (d) Training courses
 - (e) International gazetteers
 - (f) List of country names
 - (g) Automated data processing
9. Discussion on Working Groups
10. Toponymic guidelines
11. Revision of rules of procedure
12. Relevant resolutions of the United Nations regional cartographic conferences
13. Review of the provisional agenda for the fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names
14. Provisional agenda for the tenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
15. Other business
16. Adoption of the report

Officers of the session

6. The officers of the session were:

Chairman: J. Breu (Austria)
Rapporteur: A. Rayburn (Canada)
Secretary: M. C. de Henseler (United Nations)

In the absence of the Vice-Chairman, Mr. W. J. Absaloms (Kenya), the Rapporteur, assumed both functions.

Review of divisional composition

7. The composition of the geographical/linguistic divisions was reviewed and accepted as follows:

- (a) Africa Central Division

Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, United Republic of Cameroon, Zaire

- (b) Africa East Division

Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia

(c) Africa West Division

Benin, Cape Verde, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Upper Volta

(d) Arabic Division

Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Sudan

(e) Asia East Division (other than China)

Japan, Republic of Korea

(f) Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division

Democratic Kampuchea, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam

(g) Asia South-West Division (other than Arabia)

Afghanistan, Cyprus, Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Pakistan, Turkey

(h) China Division

China

(i) Dutch- and German-speaking Division

Austria, Belgium, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Netherlands, Suriname, Switzerland

(j) East Central and South-East Europe Division

Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Turkey, Yugoslavia

(k) India Division

Bangladesh, India, Pakistan

(l) Latin America Division

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela

(m) Norden Division

Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden

(n) Romano-Hellenic Division

Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, France, Greece, Holy See, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey

(o) USSR Division

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

(p) United Kingdom Division

Australia, Guyana, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

(q) United States of America-Canada Division

Canada, United States of America.

The Secretary reported that he had had no responses from Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal regarding their adherence to any particular division. Mr. Kamau said he had no knowledge of geographic-name activities in Somalia or Comoros. Mr. Ramondou had not received a reply from Djibouti, Andorra or San Marino, but stated that Mr. Toniolo of the Italian Touring Club was eager to participate in the work of the Group. Mr. Lewis stated that it was premature to expect a number of Caribbean and Pacific nations to share in the work of the Group. He reported he had contacted South Africa at the request of the Group of Experts at the eighth session and has been informed that South Africa was considering attending in its own right and not as part of the United Kingdom Division. Mr. Szymczak said that he had no information on Albania's wishes to join the East Central and South-East Europe members of the Arabic Division. Mr. Tazi stated that some of the Arabic countries not yet listed as members of the Arabic Division may participate in the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. No information on Mongolia's wishes had been received. Mr. Breu had received no replies from Burma, Democratic People's Republic of Korea or Sri Lanka. The Secretary was asked to determine whether Lao People's Democratic Republic, Viet Nam and Democratic Kampuchea wanted to remain in the enlarged Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division or establish a regional division of their own. The divisions were asked to review their titles to ensure that each of them properly reflected its geographical/linguistic composition. The Secretary was also asked to investigate name standardization activities in the India Division.

Report by the Chairman

8. The Chairman reviewed his report (Working Paper No. 7) to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. He emphasized the importance of the resolutions in supporting and accelerating standardization in many countries.

Report by the Secretary

9. The Secretary introduced the Deputy Secretary of the Group, K. Stabe. He then reported that he had received notification from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations that "in the present circumstances, despite its expressed desire, his Government was unable to host the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names". He also stated that he would endeavour to produce an information newsletter four times a year and appealed to the experts to provide suitable items for the newsletter. He also said he would devote one volume of World Cartography to the standardization of geographical names, and asked for suggestions and contributions from the experts.

Reports by the divisions and countries

10. Mr. Kamau of the Africa East Division reported that Malawi and Zambia had expressed their wish to participate in the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.

11. Mr. Adebekun reported that he had succeeded Mr. Sawyerr as Chairman of the Africa West Division. He said no divisional activity had taken place since 1979.

12. Mr. Tazi said that many documents sent to him for distribution to the countries of his division were first translated into Arabic. He also noted that he had received a report of activities in Qatar.

13. Mr. Mohamed reported on a successful divisional meeting held in Indonesia in December 1980 (Working Paper No. 5). He drew attention to the proposal for a training course in Indonesia in the autumn of 1981 and to the idea of a divisional newsletter ("Geonames") to be produced by the Philippines.

14. In his report (Working Paper No. 48) for the China Division, Mr. Wang emphasized a number of developments and activities, including the convening of two conferences in 1979 and 1980 to promote name standardization, especially in the rendering of foreign names in Han characters. He noted that Pinyin has been introduced in government departments. A national gazetteer of about 40,000 Pinyin names was in preparation.

15. Mr. Ormeling noted that the members of the Dutch- and German-speaking Division had been very active since the eighth session of the Group in 1979. He briefly introduced the papers presented by the Division, which included (a) toponymic guidelines from the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany and Austria, (b) a divisional proposal to prepare a directory of national names authorities and (c) a Dutch list of country names. Working Paper No. 4 was replaced by Working Paper No. 4/Rev.1.

16. Mr. Szymczak reported that the East-Central and South-East Europe Division met at Warsaw in 1979 and was planning another meeting in May 1981. He commented on proposals for national gazetteers in his division, but had no details on specifications.

17. Mr. Ramondou drew attention in his report (Working Paper No. 32) to a meeting of the Romano-Hellenic Division held in Paris in October 1980. He emphasized the disappointment felt by the members of the division that a number of potential members had failed to respond to invitations to participate in geographical names standardization.
18. Mr. Zemtsev reported on the activities undertaken by the USSR Division after the eighth session (Working Paper No. 58). He explained that at first geographical names in different national languages are transliterated into Russian under the guidance of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and after that the transliterated names are conformed by linguists in the corresponding Soviet Republics.
19. Mr. Lewis reviewed the report of the United Kingdom Division and stated that in the period since the eighth session conversion of names from Wade-Giles to Pinyin had occupied a high proportion of the total effort available for the treatment of foreign names. He emphasized that establishing the original Irish Gaelic names in Ireland was very complex and would take until the end of the century.
20. Brief reports were presented by the Chairmen of the following divisions: Asia East (other than China), Asia South-West (other than Arabic), Norden and United States of America - Canada. Working Paper No. 3 (Spanish only) was submitted on behalf of the Latin America Division, but the Chairman, Mr. Gall, was unable to attend the session to elaborate on his report. Mr. Velasquez urged the convening of experts from the member countries of the division to examine mutual problems and promote national and divisional standardization. No reports were submitted on behalf of the India or Africa Central Divisions.

National reports

21. National reports on the progress of names standardization were given by Mr. Brey for Austria (Working Paper No. 14), Mr. Böhme for the Federal Republic of Germany (Working Paper No. 15), Mr. Haack for the German Democratic Republic (Working Paper No. 13), Mr. Ormeling for the Netherlands (Working Paper No. 30), Mr. Lewis for the United Kingdom (Working Paper No. 41), Mr. Mavridis for Greece (Working Paper No. 45), Mr. Adebekun for Nigeria (Working Paper No. 53), Mr. Kamau for Kenya (Working Paper No. 55) and Mr. Velasquez for Cuba (Working Paper No. 62). A report on activities in Quebec, Canada was given by Mr. Beaudin. Mr. Randall's report on activities of the United States of America referred to several items, significant among which was the publication of a gazetteer of some 20,000 geographic places in China. The gazetteer showed both Pinyin and Wade-Giles spellings, along with other locational data. Mr. Randall noted that the United States Board on Geographic Names had not undertaken additional work with the Pinyin system other than the publication of the gazetteer in 1979.

Reports by international organizations

22. Mr. Kapoor reported on behalf of the International Hydrographic Organization and Intergovernmental Oceanic Commission. The fifth edition of the General

Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans, begun in 1969, was now 90 per cent complete. Work had been initiated on international specifications for all scales of charts. A directive on geographical names, based on United Nations recommendations and standards, had recently been issued. Reassessment of the limits and names of oceans and seas was planned. A project to produce a uniform bathymetric chart series of the Mediterranean was under way. The project revealed numerous nomenclature problems, particularly relating to peripheral land features. Mr. Kapoor noted the valuable assistance rendered by the United Kingdom in resolving those problems.

23. On behalf of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, Mr. Randall noted that PAIGH's Commission on Cartography endorsed the production of a series of gazetteers based on the scale of 1:250,000 maps. He stated that a committee produced a directory of geographical name authorities in the western hemisphere. The compilation of a glossary of terminology was in progress.

24. Mr. Tazi made a brief statement on behalf of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization. He said a study was under way to investigate the provision of interpretation services in Arabic at the next United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.

25. Mr. Ormeling stated, that some people attending the Conference of the International Cartographic Association in Tokyo in 1980 had had no knowledge of the work of the Group of Experts. He noted that an information paper by Mr. Breu had been distributed after the Conference to all member countries of ICA and to 25 leading journals in the mapping, surveying and related fields. Mr. Ormeling offered ICA channels to disseminate information of the work accomplished by the Group of Experts.

Reports by working groups

Working Group on Training Courses

26. Mr. Ormeling reported that the Government of Indonesia had offered to host a toponymic training course in September or October 1981. About 30 or 40 students from the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West countries would be brought together in Indonesia for two weeks of lectures in English to learn of field and office techniques from 5 to 10 international geographic name experts. Mr. Rais said that all divisions are welcome and Indonesia would provide living and accomodation expenses for the lecturers. Mr. Ormeling said he would actively pursue financial support for the travel expenses of the lecturers. He would need positive statements of participation from lecturers no later than May if the course were to be held. Mr. Rayburn reaffirmed Canada's support of toponymic training courses. The Secretary affirmed the full support of the Cartography Section, but said that the United Nations could not provide any financial assistance. However, experts of the Group of Experts would be invited to participate as lecturers by special communication from the United Nations through the respective missions. The importance of the Pilot Course to developing countries would be stressed.

Invitations to participating students would be sent out by the host country. It was agreed that 1 June 1981 would be the deadline for the decision as to whether the course would be held. It was agreed that in the event of any training course, a certificate of attendance would be jointly issued to the students by the United Nations and Indonesia. Mr. Ormeling proposed that a textbook should be produced based on the lectures.

Working Group on Extraterrestrial Topographic Features

27. On behalf of Mr. Komkov, Chairman of the Working Group, Mr. Zemtsev presented the report of the Group (Working Paper No. 56). Mr. Mavridis added that the proceedings of the 1979 meeting of the International Astronomical Union (IAU) in Montreal contained a system for the naming of features on planets and other bodies in the solar system. There were about 600 new names of various features on the planets, the Moon and Jupiter's satellites. Mr. Mavridis called on the Group of Experts to propose new names for application to extraterrestrial features and to submit them to IAU for entry into the Union's data bank. Mr. Randall noted that IAU had a large number of unused names, with features categorized to receive specific kinds of names. Mr. Lewis said it had been determined that Io had an active surface, and therefore needed a new naming system. He added that there were no agreed romanization systems for certain names and that compromises might have to be made to ensure recognition of the persons or objects being honoured. The Group of Experts agreed to invite the Chairman of the corresponding IAU Working Group on Nomenclature to participate in the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.

Working Group on a Single Romanization System

28. Mr. Földi presented the report of his Working Group (Working Paper No. 34). It was agreed that the situation had not altered since the third Conference regarding the following alphabets and scripts: Amharic, Hebrew, Khmer, Laotian, Macedonian Cyrillic, Persian, Serbocroatian Cyrillic and Thai.

Arabic. It was generally felt that no significant changes were needed to the system adopted at the Second Conference. Members of the Arabic Division would study together with other interested experts, the need for a possible modification of the romanization of some consonant letters and would present their results to the Fourth Conference.

Bulgarian. Mr. Földi pointed out that although resolution 10 of the Third United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names remains valid, there was now also a Comecon standard system in existence which differed slightly from that accepted by the United Nations. Mr. Breu suggested withholding adoption of the new system until there was more evidence of its use. Mr. Blok firmly stressed the need for stability and felt that there was no need to alter the Third Conference resolution for Bulgarian.

Burmese. The Secretary offered to contact Burmese authorities to determine the status of romanization in Burma.

Chinese. Mr. Wang confirmed that tone signs were not normally used on maps in Pinyin. Progress had been made in efforts to apply Pinyin to minority languages in China.

Greek. Mr. Kofos noted that certain differences still remained in the proposed romanization system which needed to be resolved before adoption of the system. He asked the experts to provide their comments on the proposed system as set out in Working Paper No. 27. They added that it was imperative to reach agreement reasonably soon because of Greece's entry into the European Economic Community. In an ad hoc study group with Mr. Kofos as convenor, experts from Greece and Cyprus conferred with other experts of the Group on various aspects of the romanization of the Greek alphabet.

Languages of the India Division. Mr. Földi said that a corrected edition of transliteration tables for the languages of the Indian Division was required as a consequence of resolution 12 of the Third Conference. Participation by experts from that division was required to achieve that aim. The Secretary offered to make inquiries with the Surveyor-General of India.

Japanese. Mr. Ikeda stated that no change could be reported since the Third Conference in 1977. Mr. Ormeling urged the Japanese authorities to consider the adoption of a single system.

Korean. Mr. Choi reported that the Ministry of Education in the Republic of Korea had adopted a distinctive system in 1950 and had revised it on various occasions. For geographical names the National Geographical Institute planned to finalize the system and submit a report on it at the Fourth Conference. Mr. Wang pointed out that it would be difficult to decide on a single system for romanization of Korean since a different system was currently used by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Mr. Földi stated that he would renew his efforts to get an answer to clarify the matter from the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Maldivian. It was recommended that the Secretary should contact Maldivian authorities to determine their opinion on how geographical names should be handled in the Roman alphabet.

Mongolian. Mr. Breu stated that it was necessary to have more details on the implementation of the Comecon standard. It was suggested that Mr. Földi should investigate the extent to which the Comecon standard was being implemented, with the prospect of having a draft resolution for the Fourth Conference.

Pashto and Dari. A report was given by the convenor on a map of Afghanistan applying the system submitted at the Third Conference in document E/CONF.69/L.111 and Add.1. It was suggested that he should contact the relevant authorities in Afghanistan on the official status of that system.

Russian. Mr. Zemtsev gave information on the Comecon standard for Russian Cyrillic for the languages of the USSR (Working Paper No. 59 and Corr.1). He said the monographs were more convenient for the public at large, while digraphs were retained for automated information processing. In October 1980 the International Standards Organization drew up a new draft of the Comecon Standard. The same system without the variants in brackets had been authorized for cartographic use in the USSR. In 1981 the system would be introduced into Soviet cartographic products for international use.

Working Group on Undersea and Maritime Features

29. Mr. Randall, Convenor of the Working Group, reported that agreement had been reached with the IHO/IOC General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO) Subcommittee on Geographical Names and Ocean Bottom Nomenclature in the matter of terms and definitions. The background on that agreement was provided in Working Paper No. 49. Mr. Erinc proposed changes to the definitions contained in the document, but it was decided that, in view of the provisional approval given at the eighth session of the Group and the consensus reached by international oceanographers and scientists, the items should stand. The report was adopted as circulated. Mr. Randall also called attention to a series of terms and definitions of new undersea features developed and approved by the United States Board on Geographic Names for features being encountered on the continental shelf. The requirement for such new terms and definitions was described in Working Paper No. 52. The Group adopted them as contained in the paper. As for work on maritime features, Mr. Randall said that nations with shared bodies of water should continue to develop common names, and submit information to him accordingly. He reiterated that further work in standardizing maritime feature names would be carried out in co-operation with IHO. Annex V below contains all of the elements approved by the Group of Experts: guidelines for naming features, terms and definitions. Nations applying new names to undersea features are encouraged to use the proposal forms in annex V and to submit them to Mr. Randall for further dissemination to members of the Working Group and the Chairman of the Group of Experts as items of information.

Working Group on International Gazetteers

30. The Group of Experts concluded that political considerations and the lack of agreed romanization systems for a great number of languages made the preparation of a United Nations gazetteer an impossible task. Mr. Ormeling repeated his suggestion made at the eighth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, that owing to the considerations mentioned above, publication of such international gazetteers might be better left to commercial publishers. It was agreed to discontinue work on the item and to thank Mr. Meynen for his valuable contribution. In the meantime, Mr. Lewis undertook the preparation of a bibliography of atlases and similar works of reference. The bibliography would differentiate between indexes to names in atlases which gave latitude and longitude and those which used a reference system keyed solely to atlas plates. The information in that bibliography would be kept up to date.

Working Group on Automated Data Processing

31. Mr. Böhme reported on activities relating to the automation of geographical name information. Since the eighth session he had distributed four circulars in which he drew attention to published references and to the symposium on the automation of geographical names held at Ottawa in June 1980. He referred to the gazetteer of the Federal Republic of Germany to be produced later in 1981. The entries in this gazetteer are about 15,000 names on the 1:500,000 maps of the Federal Republic of Germany. Mr. Böhme encouraged those members of the Group of Experts whose countries are active in ADP to join the working group. He suggested that additional work for the group should include the compilation of a full bibliography on ADP and an index of the various subjects related to automating geographical names. Mr. Lewis and Mr. Ramondou spoke on research being undertaken in the automated positioning of type on maps. M. Pinther of the Cartographic Unit of the Publishing Division of the United Nations Secretariat reported on a pilot study (1982-1983) to enter information contained in gazetteers on magnetic tapes into disc storage accessible by interactive on-line terminals.

Working Group on Definitions

32. The Working Group completed its basic task of preparing glossaries of terms used in the standardization of geographical names in English, French and Spanish. Both the English and French versions had been completed before the eighth session of the Group of Experts in 1979. Some difficulty had been experienced in preparing the Spanish version, arising from the nature of terminology in the three languages and the difficulty of achieving corresponding terms and definitions in the three languages. At the conclusion of the ninth session an adequate Spanish text was agreed. That text, embodied in Working Paper No. 53 of the eighth session, was submitted to the United Nations Secretariat for reproduction together with the English and French texts already held. The only question outstanding was whether further terms were required in the Spanish text. Should they be required, they would be published as a supplement.

Working Group on a List of Country Names

33. Mr. Ramondou, Convenor of the Working Group, reported on the activities of the Working Group and requested additional information on the official names of countries from certain divisions. It was decided that the list of country names would be published for the Fourth Conference and consequently would be submitted to the Secretariat before the end of 1981. The divisions were invited to send the additional information requested to the Convenor of the Group as soon as possible. Following a meeting with Mrs. Cestac, Director of the Translation Division of the United Nations Secretariat, it was decided that Arabic translation would also be included together with the existing Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Mr. Arnold, Chief of the Documentation and Terminology Section of the United Nations Secretariat, drew attention to the new Terminology Bulletin No. 317, published by the United Nations, on 9 July 1980. He also noted that Terminology Bulletin No. 3, "Names of countries, territories and other areas" dated 29 July 1980 was an internal document produced by the United Nations Environment

Programme and was not to be regarded as having any official status in the United Nations. A discussion ensued on the Russian language forms of the Federal Republic of Germany but led to no agreement. It was therefore decided to refer the matter to the Documentation and Terminology Section of the United Nations Secretariat to resolve the differences. Mr. Zemtsev requested that the name "Democratic Kampuchea", which appears several times in the present report, be changed to "People's Republic of Kampuchea". The Secretary replied that this could not be done as it was not in conformity with the Terminology Bulletin.

Toponymic guidelines for cartography

34. The Group of Experts reviewed 10 working papers distributed on the subject of toponymic guidelines. The Chairman said he would request other countries to submit toponymic guidelines to him. The addition of administrative and linguistic maps and of pronunciation keys to each of the guidelines was recommended. The Group requested the Chairman to design a suitable model on which all countries could fashion their own guidelines. The Secretary suggested that countries having already existing guidelines should send them to the Chairman for format-standardization purposes. The guidelines could later be submitted to the Fourth Conference.

Resolutions on geographical names at cartographic conferences

35. The Group of Experts reviewed the resolutions on geographical names adopted at the Second United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas, held at Mexico City from 3 to 14 September 1979, and at the Ninth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific held at Wellington, New Zealand from 11 to 22 February 1980. Resolution 19 of the Second United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas affirmed the need for regulatory names authorities in the countries of the Americas, recommended that priority be given to technical and financial assistance for name standardization, and urged the preparation of a document on the social and economic benefits of standardizing names at both the national and the international levels. The Group of Experts recommended the submission of papers at the Fourth Conference on the social and economic advantages of name standardization. The Wellington Conference urged the strengthening of national and divisional activities of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division. The proposal at the Wellington Conference to have the Group of Experts compile and publish a composite map of the world depicting standardized names of countries, major cities and important features was not deemed feasible because of a number of political, geographical and linguistic problems, especially the romanization of names of countries and the portrayal of boundaries. In addition, there would be the problem of assigning responsibility for compilation, printing and distribution. In this connexion, Mr. Mohamed, Division Chairman of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division noted that the map of his Division, produced by Malaysia and contained in Working Paper No. 57, had been acclaimed by several member countries of that division. Mr. Wang (China Division), while expressing appreciation for

the progress made by the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division in toponymic work, pointed out two errors on that map: the name "Formosa" should be placed in parenthesis after the place name "Taiwan" and the name "Taiwan Strait" should be placed after "Formosa Strait". Mr. Mohamed took note of those corrections. Mr. Randall proposed, and it was agreed, that each division should investigate the compilation and publication of the maps of its own division.

Documentation of United Nations information on the
standardization of geographical names

36. Mr. Beaudin, Convenor of the Ad Hoc Study Group on Documentation and Indexing, proposed that the names authorities in Ottawa and Québec City draft a list of United Nations documents on the standardization of geographical names, work out a classification of the documents and determine the availability of a complete set of relevant published material and working papers. N. Abelson, Map Curator of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, stated that the library would offer to produce microfiches of the documents after the Group of Experts agreed at its tenth session on the materials selected for microreproduction. Thereafter a system of indexing and a schedule of updating would be set up. It was decided that the Secretary would investigate the suitability of publicizing the availability of the reports and working papers on microfiches according to United Nations regulations. The feasibility of photocopying and distributing working papers presented at the earlier sessions of the Group of Experts would also be examined.

Preparation of a directory of national names authorities

37. The Group of Experts agreed with the proposal of the Dutch- and German-speaking Division to prepare a directory of national names authorities which would be a valuable reference tool. Mr. Randall called attention to a document produced by the Committee on Geographical Terminology of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), entitled "Directory of agencies in the Americas involved with geographical names and terminology", copies of which were circulated to members. Issued in 1978, the publication identified names agencies in the PAIGH member nations. It was compiled according to information supplied by PAIGH nations in response to a form circulated by the Committee requesting information in several categories: (a) name of agency or agencies engaged in names work; (b) identification of principal officials; (c) date when the agency or agencies had been created and the law that created them; (d) brief description of the structure of the organization(s); (e) summary of procedures followed; and (f) list of publications giving further details about the agency or agencies or about names and terminology of the country. It was agreed that the Group of Experts should encourage each of the divisions to compile a similar publication.

Review of aims and functions

38. In response to discussions held at the eighth session concerning the aims and functions of the Group of Experts, several papers were prepared on the topic. The

Group established an Ad Hoc Study Group to review the papers and to develop a statement on aims and functions. Mr. Randall was appointed Convenor of the Study Group. During discussion of a resulting draft report, the Group of Experts called attention to views concerning the different meanings of aims, functions, procedures and modus operandi. Since other papers addressed procedures and modus operandi, it was necessary for the Study Group to isolate and define aims and functions with clarity. The resulting paper, presented in annex VI below, identified aims cited in United Nations documents as early as 1959. The paper then spelt out a series of functions that, if faithfully implemented, would bring significant benefits in programmes to standardize names at both the national and international levels. By approving the paper presented in annex VI, the Group of Experts signified its earnest intention to regenerate standardization activities, with emphasis on national and divisional work. It was agreed that additional papers on the aims and functions should be submitted to the Group of Experts at its tenth session. The Study Group also recommended that the Secretary of the Group of Experts should investigate the feasibility of holding only a single session of the Group mid-way between United Nations conferences.

Review of rules of procedure

39. Mr. Blok, Convenor of the Ad Hoc Study Group on Rules of Procedure, presented the report of the Group, which was approved by the Group of Experts and is presented in annex IV below. The Secretary stated that the revised rules of procedure would be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for adoption. The Secretary added that in the absence of specific rules, the Council's rules of procedure would apply. Some paragraphs of the modus operandi were shifted to the rules of procedure, thereby reducing the modus operandi to 16 paragraphs. The modus operandi will be amended formally after the draft revision of the rules of procedure is accepted by the Economic and Social Council.

Venue of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names and the tenth session of the Group of Experts on Geographical Names

40. The Group of Experts after studying the calendar of international conferences dealing with cartographic matters recommended that the Fourth Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names should be held from 24 August to 14 September 1982, preferably at Geneva. The tenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names would be held, as in the case of previous conferences, one day before and one day after the Conference - that is, on 23 August and 15 September 1982. The proposal was referred to the Department of Conference Services and to the Economic and Social Council for approval.

Provisional agenda for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

41. The provisional agenda for the Fourth Conference 1/ was modified by adding the

1/ See para. 43 of the report of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names on the work of its eighth session (New York, 26 February-9 March 1979) (ESA/RT/C/GN/6).

following: (a) toponymic guidelines for cartography, (b) procedures regarding documentation and exchange of information and (c) economic and social benefits of national and international standardization of geographical names. It was agreed to change the title of the item on training courses to "Toponymic education and practice"; four subitems would be included. On the proposal of the Secretary, it was agreed that national reports should be circulated at the Fourth Conference, but no specific time was allotted for their formal presentation. Instead, relevant points and issues identified in reports would be raised under various agenda items. The revised provisional agenda for the Fourth Conference read as follows:

Revised provisional agenda for the Fourth United Nations
Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Adoption of the rules of procedure
3. Election of officers
4. Report on credentials
5. Adoption of the agenda
6. Organization of work
7. Reports by divisions and Governments on the situation in their regions and countries and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names since the Third United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names
8. National standardization:
 - (a) Field collection of names
 - (b) Office treatment of names
 - (c) Treatment of names in multilingual areas
 - (d) Administrative structure of national names authorities
 - (e) Toponymic guidelines
9. Toponymic education and practice:
 - (a) Existing education and practice
 - (b) Report on pilot training courses
 - (c) Future seminars and courses and prospective developments
 - (d) Exchange of personnel

10. Gazetteers:
 - (a) National gazetteers
 - (b) United Nations series of gazetteers
 - (c) Other publications
11. List of country names
12. Automated data processing:
 - (a) Data collection procedures
 - (b) Data elements required
 - (c) ADP systems
 - (d) Compatibility and structure of systems
13. Terminology in the standardization of geographical names
14. Exonyms:
 - (a) Categories and degree of use of exonyms
 - (b) Principles to be followed in the reduction of exonyms
 - (c) Provisional list of exonyms
15. Policies, procedures and co-operative arrangements for the naming of features beyond a single sovereignty:
 - (a) Features common to two or more nations
 - (b) Maritime features
 - (c) Undersea features
 - (d) Extraterrestrial features
16. Writing systems:
 - (a) Conversion of names from one writing system into another:
 - (i) Romanization
 - (ii) Conversion into non-Roman writing systems
 - (b) Writing of names from unwritten languages
17. International co-operation:

- (a) United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
- (b) Divisional and interdivisional meetings and programmes
- (c) Exchange of information:
 - (i) Reliability statement
 - (ii) Aids to pronunciation of names nationally standardized in non-phonemic writing
 - (iii) Procedures regarding documentation and exchange of information
 - (d) Technical assistance
 - (e) Co-operation with international organizations
 - (f) Co-operation with public information media
- 18. Economic and social benefits of national and international standardization of geographical names
- 19. Report of the Conference.

Provisional agenda for the tenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

42. The Group of Experts drew up the following provisional agenda for its tenth session:

- 1. Opening of the session
- 2. Adoption of the agenda
- 3. Reports of the Working Groups
- 4. Organization of the Fourth Conference
- 5. Election of officers
- 6. Review of Conference recommendation
- 7. Programme for the Group of Experts
- 8. Review of the Working Group
- 9. Review of aims and functions
- 10. Review of modus operandi
- 11. Eleventh session of the Group of Experts
- 12. Other business.

Other business

43. The subject of Esperanto forms of geographical names was raised, but the Group of Experts concluded that this was outside the scope of the Group's deliberations.

44. The Group of Experts proposed to designate the following experts to speak on behalf of the Group at various international meetings: Mr. Rostvik at the Fourteenth International Congress on Onomastic Sciences at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in August 1981; Mr. Szymczak at the International Cartographic Association at Warsaw in July-August 1982; Mr. Lewis at the Conference of Commonwealth Survey Officers and Survey, 1981, in the United Kingdom; and the Secretary at the Congress of the Fédération Internationale des Géomètres at Montreux, Switzerland, in August 1981. It was also agreed that the Chairman should make representations on behalf of the Group at other international meetings related to subjects of interest to the Group.

45. Mr. Haack reported (Working Paper No. 61) that the German Democratic Republic had a map in the final stages of production which reflected agreement on names of geographical regions beyond a single sovereignty.

46. The Chairman of the Africa West Division, Mr. Adebekun, presented Mr. Falzon, representative of the Secretary-General, with a copy of the latest edition of the National Atlas of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, produced by the Federal Survey Department of Nigeria. Mr. F. Beaudin, United States-Canada Division, also presented Mr. Falzon with copies of the French and English editions of the Canada Gazetteer Atlas, produced by the Canada Energy, Mines and Resources Department of the Ministry of Supplies and Services. Mr. Falzon expressed his sincere thanks on behalf of the Secretary-General and said that the atlases would be placed in the Dag Hammarskjöld Map Library.

Summary of recommendations

47. The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names recommends:

(a) To the Economic and Social Council and to the Department of Conference Services, that the convening of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names should be held, preferably at Geneva, from 24 August to 14 September 1982; 2/

(b) To the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, that it should adopt a strong resolution requesting the establishment of a post for a specialist in geographical names within the Cartography Section of the Department of Technical Co-operation and that it should also request that adequate financial provision be allocated for the purchasing of a microfiche reader and related printing devices;

(c) To the Cartography Section of the Department of Technical Co-operation, that a special issue of World Cartography should be devoted to geographical names and that an informal newsletter/bulletin should be circulated on a quarterly basis.

2/ It is of course understood that if a host country can be found within a suitable time, the offer will be accepted, but the dates will remain (see also para. 40 above).

Annex I

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Annex II

LIST OF WORKING PAPERS

- Working Paper No. 1 Provisional agenda for the ninth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Agenda item 4
- Working Paper No. 2 Comments on guidelines for geographical names and features. Agenda item 10 (submitted by F. Gall, Guatemala)
- Working Paper No. 3 Report of the Latin America Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Agenda item 6 (submitted by F. Gall, Guatemala)
- Working Paper No. 4 CANCELLED
- Working Paper No. 4/Rev.1 Report on the standardization of geographical names in the Federal Republic of Germany. Agenda item 6 (submitted by R. Böhme, Federal Republic of Germany)
- Working Paper No. 5 Report on the fifth meeting of the United Nations Divisional Group of Experts on Geographical Names - Asia, South-East Division. Agenda item 6 (submitted by A. M. Bin Mohamed, Malaysia)
- Working Paper No. 6 Report by the Chairman of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Agenda item 2 (submitted by J. Breu, Austria)
- Working Paper No. 7 The standardization of geographical names within the framework of the United Nations - Information Paper for the International Cartographic Association. Agenda item 2 (submitted by J. Breu, Austria)
- Working Paper No. 8 Proposal for a revision of the Modus Operandi of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Agenda item 7 (submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division)
- Working Paper No. 9
Add.1 and Add.2 WITHDRAWN
- Working Paper No. 10 Toponymic guidelines for cartography. Agenda item 10 (submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division)

- Working Paper No. 11 Toponymic guidelines for cartography -
Federal Republic of Germany. Agenda
item 10 (submitted by the Dutch-
and German-speaking Division)
- Working Paper No. 12 Toponymic guide-lines for cartography -
Suriname. Agenda item 10 (submitted by
the Dutch- and German-speaking Division)
- Working Paper No. 13 Progress report on the standardization
of geographical names in the German
Democratic Republic, 1979-1981.
Agenda item 6 (submitted by the Dutch-
and German-speaking Division)
- Working Paper No. 14 National progress report of Austria
on the standardization of geographical
names in Austria between the 8th and
9th sessions of the United Nations Group
of Experts on Geographical Names.
Agenda item 6 (submitted by the Dutch-
and German-speaking Division)
- Working Paper No. 15 National progress report of the
Federal Republic of Germany on the
standardization of geographical names
between the 8th and 9th sessions of the
United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names. Agenda item 6
(submitted by the Dutch- and German-
speaking Division)
- Working Paper No. 16 Toponymic guidelines in Canada.
Agenda item 10⁹ (submitted by A. Rayburn,
Canada)
- Working Paper No. 17 Progress in Canada in automating
geographical name information. Agenda
item 8 (g) (submitted by A. Rayburn,
Canada)
- Working Paper No. 18 United States of America-Canada Division.
Agenda item 6 (submitted by A. Rayburn,
Canada)
- Working Paper No. 19 L'oeuvre des Nations Unies dans la
normalisation des noms géographiques.
Agenda item 6 (submitted by J. Ramondou,
France)
- Working Paper No. 20 Principes de transcription des toponymes
africains. Agenda item 6 (submitted by
J. Ramondou, France)

- Working Paper No. 21 Guide de toponymie cartographique. Agenda item 9 (submitted by J. Ramondou, France)
- Working Paper No. 22 Mode de fonctionnement du Groupe d'experts des Nations Unies pour la normalisation des noms géographiques. Agenda item 7 (submitted by J. Ramondou, France)
- Working Paper No. 23 Traitement automatique des écritures cartographiques. Agenda item 8 (g) (submitted by J. Ramondou, France)
- Working Paper No. 24 Report of the Working Group on Automated Data Processing. Agenda item 8 (g) (submitted by R. Böhme, Federal Republic of Germany)
- Working Paper No. 25 Random thoughts on the functions and aims of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Agenda item 7 (submitted by A. Rayburn, Canada)
- Working Paper No. 26 National gazetteers. Agenda item 8 (e) (submitted by the Chairman of the Working Group on Gazetteers)
- Working Paper No. 27 Transcription system of the Greek alphabet. Agenda item 8 (c) (submitted by L. Mavridis, Greece)
- Working Paper No. 28 Toponymic guidelines for cartography - Greece. Agenda item 10 (submitted by L. Mavridis, Greece)
- Working Paper No. 29 Proposal for a directory of names, authorities and toponymic commissions. Agenda item 6 (submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division)
- Working Paper No. 30 Progress report of the Netherlands. Agenda item 6 (submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division)
- Working Paper No. 31 The present state of automation in the compilation of Japanese geographical names. Agenda item 8 (g) (submitted by M. Ikeda, Japan)
- Working Paper No. 32 Rapport d'activité de la division romano-hellénique. Agenda item 6 (submitted by J. Ramondou, France)
- Working Paper No. 33 Programmes de formation à la toponymie. Agenda item 8 (d) (submitted by J. Ramondou, France)

- Working Paper No. 34 Report of the Working Group on a Single Romanization System for each Non-Roman Writing System. Agenda item 8 (c) (submitted by E. Földi, Convenor of the Working Group on a Single Romanization System for each Non-Roman Writing System)
- Working Paper No. 35 Toponymic guidelines for Hungary. Agenda item 10 (submitted by E. Földi, Hungary)
- Working Paper No. 36 Report of the Norden Division. Agenda item 6 (submitted by A. Rostvik, Sweden)
- Working Paper No. 37 Toponymic guidelines for international cartography - Finland. Agenda item 10 (submitted by A. Rostvik, Norden Division)
- Working Paper No. 38 Toponymic guidelines for cartography - Sweden. Agenda item 10 (submitted by A. Rostvik, Norden Division)
- Working Paper No. 39 Romanization report. Agenda item 8 (c) (submitted by the United Kingdom Division)
- Working Paper No. 40 International gazetteers. Agenda item 8 (e) (submitted by the Convenor of the Working Group on Gazetteers)
- Working Paper No. 41 Report by the Division Chairman of the United Kingdom Division. Agenda item 6 (submitted by the United Kingdom Division)
- Working Paper No. 42 Antarctic and Sub-antarctic place names. Agenda item 15 (submitted by J. Breu, Austria)
- Working Paper No. 43 Rapport de la Division Arabe. Agenda item 6 (submitted by A. Tazi, Morocco)
- Working Paper No. 44 Intervention du Dr. A. Tazi, Délégué de Royaume du Maroc, Représentant du groupe Arabe et de l'Alesco à la IX Session du Groupe des experts des Nations Unies chargés de la normalisation des noms géographiques. Agenda item 6 (submitted by A. Tazi, Morocco)
- Working Paper No. 45 Standardization of geographical names in Greece. Agenda item 6 (submitted by L. Mavridis, Greece)
- Working Paper No. 46 Nueva relación de exónimos españoles. Agenda item 15 (submitted by J. M. González Aboín, Spain)
- Working Paper No. 47 Provisional rules on giving or changing place names in China promulgated by the State Council of the People's Republic of China. Agenda item 6 (submitted by the China Division)

- Working Paper No. 48 Report on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names in China. Agenda item 6 (submitted by the China Division)
- Working Paper No. 49 Report of activity by the Working Group on Undersea and Maritime Features since the eighth session. Agenda item 8 (submitted by R. R. Randall, United States of America)
- Working Paper No. 50 Review of recommendations concerning aims and functions. Agenda item 7 (submitted by the United States of America)
- Working Paper No. 51 Activities of the United States of America in geographical names since the eighth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Agenda item 6 (submitted by the United States of America)
- Working Paper No. 52 Terms and definitions of new undersea features. Agenda item 8 (a) (submitted by the United States of America)
- Working Paper No. 53 National progress report to the Group of Experts on the Standardization of Geographical Names in Nigeria between the eighth and ninth sessions. Agenda item 6 (submitted by O. Adebekun, Nigeria)
- Working Paper No. 54 Report on the activities of the Asia South-West (other than Arabic) Division. Agenda item 6 (submitted by Sirri Erinç, Turkey)
- Working Paper No. 55 Progress made in standardization of geographical names in Kenya since the eighth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Agenda item 6 (submitted by D. Kamau, Kenya)
- Working Paper No. 56 Extraterrestrial topographic feature names. Agenda item 8 (b) (submitted by A. M. Komkov, Chairman of the USSR Division)
- Working Paper No. 57 Divisional report of the Asia South-East Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Agenda item 6 (submitted by Abdul Mohamed, Divisional Chairman)
- Working Paper No. 58 Activities concerning the standardization of geographical names in the USSR (1979-1980). Agenda item 6 (submitted by A. Zemtsev, USSR Division)

Working Paper No. 59 and Corr.1

Introduction of a new system for the Roman transliteration of geographical names of the USSR in cartographical publications for international use. Agenda item 8 (c) (submitted by A. Zemtsev, USSR Division)

Working Paper No. 60

Toponymic guidelines for cartography in the German Democratic Republic. Agenda item 10 (submitted by E. Haack, German Democratic Republic)

Working Paper No. 61

Regional geographical names in the German Democratic Republic. Agenda item 10 (submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division)

Working Paper No. 62

Informe de la Republica de Cuba. Agenda item 6 (submitted by Idelis Velasquez, Cuba)

Information Paper No. 1

The romanization of Chinese geographical names (submitted by Zeng Shiyong, China)

Annex III

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Working Group on International Gazetteers

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F. Gall (Guatemala)
J. González (Spain)
C. Heyda (United States of America)
A. Komkov (USSR)
H. Lewis (United Kingdom)
J. Wang (China)

Annex IV

REVISED RULES OF PROCEDURE a/

CHAPTER I. REPRESENTATION

Rule 1

Each expert shall attend with the authority of his Government.

Rule 2

Each participant shall participate as an expert rather than as a representative of a State.

Rule 3

The experts shall work within the framework of the linguistic/geographical divisions as defined in the modus operandi of the Group.

CHAPTER II. AGENDA

Rule 4

The provisional agenda set forth by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and communicated to the Governments invited to the session by the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall establish the provisional agenda for the session. Any expert participating in the session may propose any item for inclusion in the provisional agenda.

CHAPTER III. OFFICERS

Rule 5

The Group of Experts will elect the following officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur.

Rule 6

The elections mentioned under rule 5 will be held at the termination of the respective United Nations conferences on the standardization of geographical names.

a/ See para. 39 above.

The officers will serve until their successors are elected at the next conference. The Cartography Section of the United Nations will provide the secretariat for the Group.

Rule 7

In the absence of the Vice-Chairman, the Rapporteur will assume the office. In case of retirement of either the Vice-Chairman or the Rapporteur, the Chairman will appoint an expert to complete the unexpired portion of the terms of office.

Rule 8

The Secretary of the Group, appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Group. He may appoint a deputy to take his place at any meeting.

Rule 9

The Secretary or his representative may at any meeting make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 10

The Secretary shall as far as possible provide and direct such staff as is required by the Group. He shall be responsible for making all necessary arrangements for meetings and generally shall perform all other work which the Group may require.

CHAPTER V. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 11

A majority of the divisions participating in the session shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 12

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each plenary meeting of the session, shall direct the discussion at such meetings, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. He shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules of procedure, shall have complete control over the proceedings.

Rule 13

The Chairman may, in the course of the discussions, propose to the session the closure of the list of speakers or the closure of the debate. He may also propose

the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting or the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. He may also call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the matter under discussion.

Rule 14

The Chairman, in the exercise of his functions, remains under the authority of the Group.

Rule 15

During the discussion on any matter, an expert may at any time raise a point of order, and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the Chairman in accordance with the rules of procedure. An expert may appeal against the ruling of the Chairman. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote and the Chairman's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of divisions present and voting. An expert raising a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 16

During the discussion of any matter, an expert may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. Any such motion shall have priority. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one expert shall be allowed to speak in favour of, and one expert against, the motion.

Rule 17

During the course of the debate, the Chairman may announce the list of speakers and with the consent of the session declare the list closed. The Chairman may, however, accord the right of reply to any expert if, in his opinion, a speech delivered after he has declared the list closed makes this desirable. When the debate on an item is concluded because there are no other speakers, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by the consent of the Group.

Rule 18

An expert may at any time move the closure of the debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other expert has signified his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the closure of the debate shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.

Rule 19

The session may limit the time allowed for each speaker.

Rule 20

A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided that the motion has not been amended. A motion which has thus been withdrawn may be reintroduced by any expert.

Rule 21

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be considered unless the session, by a two thirds majority of the divisions present and voting, so decides. Permission to speak on the motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall be immediately put to the vote.

CHAPTER VI. VOTING

Rule 22

For the purpose of these rules, the phrase "divisions present and voting" means divisions present and casting an affirmative or negative vote. Divisions that abstain from voting shall be considered as not voting.

Rule 23

Experts will have the right of voice and their attendance will be co-ordinated with the expert who represents the division in question and who will vote on behalf of the division.

Rule 24

Agreement on technical matters will be achieved by consensus and not by voting. Voting will be reserved for matters solely of a procedural character.

Rule 25

Roll-call votes, if required, shall be taken beginning with the division whose name is drawn by lot by the Chairman.

Rule 26

After the Chairman has announced the beginning of the vote, no expert shall interrupt the vote except on a point of order in connexion with the actual conduct of voting. Explanations of their votes by experts may, however, be permitted by the Chairman either before or after the voting. The Chairman may limit the time to be allowed for such explanation.

Rule 27

Parts of a proposal shall be voted on separately if an expert requests that the proposal be divided. Those parts of the proposal which have been approved shall then be put to the vote as a whole; if all the operative parts of a proposal have been rejected, the proposal shall be considered rejected as a whole.

Rule 28

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the session shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom, and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote. When, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter amendment shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the proposal shall be voted upon. A motion is considered an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal.

Rule 29

If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the session shall, unless it decides otherwise, vote on the proposals in the order in which they have been submitted. The session may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

Rule 30

All elections shall be decided by secret ballot unless otherwise decided by the session.

Rule 31

If, when one expert or one division is to be elected, no candidate obtains the required majority in the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken, which shall be restricted to the two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes. If, in the second ballot, the votes are equally divided, the Chairman shall decide between the candidates by drawing lots.

In the case of a tie in the first ballot among the candidates obtaining the second largest number of votes, a special ballot shall be held for the purpose of reducing the number of candidates to two. In the case of a tie among three or more candidates obtaining the largest number of votes, a second ballot shall be held; if a tie results among more than two candidates, the number shall be reduced to two by lot.

Rule 32

If a vote is equally divided upon matters other than elections, a second vote shall be taken after an adjournment of the meeting for fifteen minutes. If this vote also results in equality, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

/...

CHAPTER VII. LANGUAGES

Rule 33

English, French and Spanish shall be the working languages of the session. Working papers shall be submitted in one of those languages.

Rule 34

Speeches made in either English, French, Spanish, Russian or Chinese shall be interpreted into the other four languages.

Rule 35

Any expert may make a speech in a language other than the official languages of the United Nations. In this case, he shall himself provide for interpretation into one of the working languages of the session. Interpretation into the other working languages of the session by the interpreters of the Secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first working language.

CHAPTER VIII. RECORDS

Rule 36

Sound recordings of the plenary meetings of the session are made by the Secretariat. The Group of Experts will prepare a final report in English as the record of the session. This report will be distributed by the Secretariat as soon as possible after the closing of the session.

CHAPTER IX. PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS

Rule 37

The meetings of the Group and the meetings of its working groups shall be closed.

CHAPTER X. WORKING GROUPS

Rule 38

Working groups of specialists may be formed by the Group of Experts under the chairmanship of one of the national experts referred to in rules 1, 2 and 3 above to study particular problems between meetings of the Group of Experts.

Rule 39

During the meetings of the Group of Experts, ad hoc study groups may be appointed to deal with particular issues. Upon completion of the appointed task, the ad hoc study group will be automatically disbanded before the end of the session unless especially directed to remain in existence.

Rule 40

So far as they are applicable, the rules of procedure of the Group shall apply to the proceedings of the working groups. A working group may dispense with certain language interpretations.

CHAPTER XI. SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 41

Observers of specialized agencies, of other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations invited to the session may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Group and its working groups upon the invitation of the chairman or the convenor of a working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Written statements of such specialized agencies shall be distributed by the Secretariat to the delegations at the session.

CHAPTER XII. AMENDMENTS

Rule 42

These rules of procedure may be amended by a decision of the Group of Experts. None of these rules may be amended until the amendment has been approved by the Economic and Social Council.

Annex V

DEFINITIONS OF UNDERSEA AND MARITIME FEATURES a/

Contents

Guide-lines for naming features

List of undersea terms and definitions approved provisionally
by the Working Group on Undersea and Maritime Feature Names

Names proposal form

Guide-lines for the standarization of undersea feature
names for national use b/

I. GENERAL

A. International concern for naming undersea features is limited to those features entirely or mainly (more than 50 per cent) outside waters under the jurisdiction of States.

B. "Undersea feature" is a part of the ocean floor or seabed that has measurable relief or is delimited by relief.

C. Names used for many years may be accepted even though they do not conform to normal principles of nomenclature.

D. Names approved by national names authorities in waters beyond national limits (i.e., international waters) should be accepted by other States if the names have been applied in conformance with internationally accepted principles. Names applied within the territorial limits of a State should be recognized by other States.

E. In the event of a conflict, the persons and agencies most directly involved should resolve the matter. Where two names have been applied to the same feature, the older name generally should be accepted. Where a single name has been applied to two different features, the feature named first generally should retain the name.

a/ See para. 29 above.

b/ These guide-lines and the list of terms and definitions attached to them have been worked out through collaboration between the International Hydrographic Organization and the Working Group on Maritime and Undersea Features of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names in accordance with provisions of appropriate resolutions of United Nations Conferences on Geographical Names. It is understood that the guide-lines, terms, and definitions are intended for the naming of undersea features. The definitions are based almost exclusively on physiographic descriptions of the features themselves and must not be construed as having any legal or political connotations whatsoever. Nor do they necessarily conform to their hydrographic/navigational usage as appearing in the Hydrographic Dictionary issued by IHO as Special Publication No. 32.

F. Names not in the writing system of the country applying the names on maps or other documents should be transliterated according to the system adopted by the national authority applying the names.

G. In international programmes, it should be the policy to use forms of names applied by national authorities having responsibility for the pertinent area.

H. States may utilize their preferred versions of exonyms.

II. PRINCIPLES FOR NAMING FEATURES

A. Specific terms

1. Short and simple terms (or names) are preferable.

2. The principal concern in naming is to provide effective, conveniently usable, and appropriate reference; commemoration of persons or ships is a secondary consideration.

3. The first choice of a specific term, where feasible, should be one associated with a geographical feature - for example, Aleutian Ridge, Aleutian Trench, Peru-Chile Trench, Barrow Canyon.

4. Specific terms for other features can be used to commemorate ships or other vehicles, expeditions or scientific institutes involved in the discovery of the feature, or to honour the memory of famous persons. Where a ship name is used, it should be that of the discovering ship, or if that has been previously used for a similar feature, it should be the name of the ship verifying the feature - for example, San Pablo Seamount, Atlantis II Seamounts.

5. If names of living persons are used (surnames are preferable) they should be limited to those who have made an outstanding or fundamental contribution to ocean sciences.

6. Groups of like features may be named collectively for specific categories of historical persons, mythical features, stars, constellations, fish, birds, animals and the like. Examples are as follows:

Musicians Seamounts

Bach Seamount, Brahms Seamount,
Schubert Seamount

Electricians Seamounts

Volta Seamount, Ampere Seamount,
Galvani Seamount

Ursa Minor Ridge and
Trough Province

Suhail Ridge, Kochab Ridge, Polaris
Trough

7. Descriptive names are acceptable, particularly when they refer to distinguishing characteristics (e.g., Hook Ridge, Horseshoe Seamounts).

8. Names of well-known or large features that are applied to other features should have the same spelling.

9. Specific elements of names should not be translated from the language of the nation providing the accepted name.

B. Generic terms

1. Generic terms should be selected from the attached list of definitions to reflect physiographic descriptions of features.

2. Generic terms applied to features appearing on charts or other products should be in the language of the nation issuing the products. In those cases where terms have achieved international currency in a national form, that form should be retained.

3. It should be recognized that as ocean mapping continues, features will be discovered for which existing terminology is not adequate. New terms required to describe those features should conform to these guide-lines.

III. PROCEDURES FOR NAMING FEATURES

A. Individuals and agencies applying names to unnamed features in international waters should adhere to internationally accepted principles and procedures.

B. The attached form is recommended as a model for new proposals.

C. Prior to the naming of a feature, its character, extent and position shall have been established sufficiently for identification. Positions should be given in terms of geographic co-ordinates. If it is necessary to refer to a feature before such full identifiability has been established, it is suggested that the reference be by co-ordinates and generic term with the addition of (PA) - Position Approximate - after the co-ordinates if the position is not adequately established and (?) after the generic term if the nature of the feature is in some doubt.

D. New names should be approved by the appropriate national authorities before being published.

E. If a national authority has reason to change the name of a feature it named originally, information explaining the change should be circulated to other concerned authorities. If there is opposition to a name change, the involved authorities should communicate with each other to resolve the question.

F. National authorities approving names of features should regularly publicize their names decisions.

G. National authorities naming features within their territorial jurisdiction should conform to the principles and procedures stated above.

List of undersea terms and definitions approved provisionally by the Working Group on Undersea and Maritime Feature Names

<u>Term c/</u>	<u>Definition</u>
ABYSSAL HILLS	A tract of small elevations on the sea floor.
ABYSSAL PLAIN	(Plain) A flat, gently sloping or nearly level region at abyssal depths.
APRON	(Archipelagic apron) A gentle slope with a generally smooth surface of the sea floor, particularly found around groups of islands and seamounts.
BANK	An elevation over which the depth of water is relatively shallow, but normally sufficient for safe surface navigation.
BASIN	A depression more or less equidimensional in plan and of variable extent.
BORDERLAND	(Continental borderland) A region adjacent to a continent, normally occupied by or bordering a shelf, that is highly irregular with depths well in excess of those typical of a shelf.
CANYON	(Submarine canyon) A relatively narrow, deep depression with steep sides, the bottom of which generally has a continuous slope.
CONTINENTAL MARGIN	The zone, generally consisting of the shelf, slope and rise, separating the continent from the abyssal plain or deep sea bottom.
CONTINENTAL RISE	A gentle slope rising from the oceanic depths towards the foot of a continental slope.
ESCARPMENT	(Scarp) An elongated and comparatively steep slope separating flat or gently sloping areas.
FAN	(Cone; deep-sea fan; deep-sea cone; Submarine fan; Submarine cone) A relatively smooth feature normally sloping away from the lower termination of a canyon or canyon system.

c/ Terms in parentheses may also be found in the literature. The terms guyot (see tablemount) and scarp (see escarpment) may also be used for naming.

FRACTURE ZONE	An extensive linear zone of irregular topography of the sea floor, characterized by steep-sided or asymmetrical ridges, troughs or escarpments.
GAP	(Abyssal gap) A narrow break in a ridge or a rise.
HILL	A small isolated elevation, not as high as a knoll (see Abyssal hills).
HOLE	A small depression of the sea floor.
KNOLL	A relatively small isolated elevation of a rounded shape.
LEVEE	An embankment bordering a canyon, valley or deep-sea channel.
MEDIAN VALLEY	(Rift, rift valley) The axial depression of the mid-oceanic ridge system.
MOAT	(Sea moat) An annular depression that may not be continuous, located at the base of many seamounts, islands and other isolated elevations.
MOUNTAIN	A large and complex grouping of ridges and seamounts.
PEAK	A prominent elevation either pointed or of a very limited extent across the summit.
PINNACLE	Any high tower or spire-shaped pillar of rock, or coral, alone or cresting a summit.
PLATEAU	A flat or nearly flat area of considerable extent, dropping off abruptly on one or more sides.
PROVINCE	A region identifiable by a group of similar physiographic features whose characteristics are markedly in contrast with surrounding areas.
REEF	Rocks lying at or near the sea surface that may constitute a hazard to surface navigation.
RIDGE	The word RIDGE has several meanings: (a) A long, narrow elevation with steep sides; (b) A long, narrow elevation often separating ocean basins; (c) The major oceanic mountain system of global extent.

RISE	A broad elevation that rises gently and generally smoothly from the sea floor.
SADDLE	A low part resembling in shape a saddle in a ridge or between contiguous seamounts.
SEACHANNEL	(Channel) A continuously sloping, elongated depression commonly found in fans or abyssal plains and customarily bordered by levees on one or both sides.
SEAMOUNT	A large isolated elevation characteristically of conical form.
SEAMOUNT CHAIN	Several seamounts in a line.
SHELF	(Continental shelf) A zone adjacent to a continent (or around an island) that extends from the low water line to a depth at which there is usually a marked increase of slope towards oceanic depths.
SHELF-EDGE	(Shelf break) A narrow zone at the outer margin of a shelf along which there is a marked increase of slope.
SHOAL	An offshore hazard to surface navigation composed of unconsolidated material.
SILL	The low part of a gap or saddle separating basins.
SLOPE	(Continental slope; island slope) The slope seaward from the shelf edge to the beginning of a continental rise or the point where there is a general reduction in slope.
SPUR	A subordinate elevation, ridge, or rise projecting outward from a larger feature.
TABLEMOUNT	(Guyot) A seamount having a comparatively smooth, flat top.
TERRACE	(Bench; deep sea terrace) A relatively flat horizontal or gently inclined surface, sometimes long and narrow, which is bounded by a steeper ascending slope on one side and by a steeper descending slope on the opposite side.
TRENCH	A long, narrow, characteristically very deep and asymmetrical depression of the sea floor, with relatively steep sides.

TROUGH

A long depression of the sea floor characteristically flat bottomed, and steep sided and normally shallower than a trench.

VALLEY

(Submarine valley) A relatively shallow, wide depression, the bottom of which usually has a continuous gradient. This term is generally not used for features that have canyon-like characteristics for a significant portion of their extent.

UNDERSEA FEATURE NAME PROPOSAL

Ocean or Sea _____ Name proposed _____

Location of midpoint: Lat. _____ (N) (S), Long. _____ (E) (W);

_____ kilometers in _____ direction from _____

Description: Kind of feature: _____

Identifying or categorizing characteristics (size, shape, dimensions, least depth, steepness, etc. - use additional

co-ordinates for extremities of lineal features): _____

Associated features: _____

Chart reference:

Shown and named on chart (map) _____

Shown but not named on chart (map) _____

Not shown but within area covered by _____

Reason for choice of name:

If for a person, state how associated with the feature to be named _____

Discovery facts: Date _____; by (individuals or ship) _____

By means of (equipment): _____

Navigation used: _____

Estimated positional accuracy in nautical miles: _____

Description of survey (track spacing, line crossings, grid network, etc.): _____

Names proposal form

...

Nature and repository of other survey activities (dredge samples, cores, magnetics, gravity, photographs, etc.) _____

Supporting material: Enclose, if possible, a sketch map of the survey area, profiles of the feature, etc. Reference to prior publication, if any: _____

SUBMITTED BY: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

CONCURRED IN BY (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

...



Annex VI

AIMS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS
ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES a/

Aims

The Group of Experts on Geographical Names was established as an ad hoc body by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 715 A (XXVII) of 23 April 1959, with the following terms of reference:

"(i) To consider the technical problems of domestic standardization of geographical names, including the preparation of a statement of the general and regional problems involved, and to prepare draft recommendations for the procedures, principally linguistic, that might be followed in the standardization of their own names by individual countries;

"(ii) To report to the Council at an appropriate session, in the light of its discussion on the above points, on the desirability of holding an international conference on this subject and of the sponsoring of working groups based on common linguistic systems."

Subsequently, the Council, by its resolution 1314 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968, established the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names on a permanent basis to further international standardization of geographical names.

A review of these documents and other relevant materials shows that standardization of geographical names at the national level remains the single most important aim. By virtue of national standardization activities, another important aim - international standardization - will be well served.

Functions

To further the stated aims, it is essential that the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names exercise the following functions:

1. Provide liaison between countries in their work on geographical names.
2. Co-ordinate the efforts of countries in the standardization of geographical names.
3. Undertake the preparatory work for periodic international conferences on the standardization of geographical names.
4. Provide continuity of action between conferences.

a/ See para. 38 above.

5. Assist in implementing resolutions adopted at conferences.
6. Consider the formation of linguistic/geographical divisions as rational bases for furthering work at national levels.
7. Co-ordinate the activities of the divisions.
8. Provide liaison between member countries and divisions.
9. Encourage the divisions (and nations) to take a more active role in standardization programmes. To this end, divisions should formulate their own working procedures and should co-ordinate them with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names for the sake of assuring uniform content and philosophy. Further, the divisions should adopt a schedule of reporting their activities to the Group of Experts. To the extent that divisions and individual nations become more active, the aims of the Group of Experts will be promoted.
10. Encourage divisions, wherever feasible, to participate in United Nations regional cartographic conferences. Such participation could entail having an observer attend and perhaps presenting a paper. Alternatively, a division could have a divisional meeting either as part of the conference or immediately afterwards. Both levels of participation would be beneficial. A presented paper could acquaint cartographers with the work of the Group of Experts and the benefits of name standardization. By having a divisional meeting in conjunction with a conference, the divisions could also take advantage of the conference facilities. The latter possibility would have to be worked out in co-operation with United Nations authorities.
11. Take steps to make the working groups of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names more effective:
 - (a) Working Groups will be established only where the tasks assigned to them have a direct bearing on the aims of the Group of Experts.
 - (b) The need for the existence of working groups will be reviewed at successive sessions of the Group of Experts for the purposes of continuing or terminating their mandates.
 - (c) Immediately after conferences, the Group of Experts will discuss and evaluate conference proceedings. Working groups and their mandates will be evaluated. New working groups will be formed as required.
12. Prior to conferences, the Group of Experts will consider possible subjects for conference resolutions. During conferences, the Group of experts will invite officers of the conferences to call upon its services in helping to administer conference activities.
13. New romanization systems will not be adopted without evidence that the sponsoring nations have implemented such systems in the most important areas, particularly in maps and charts. To ensure maximum stability of usage and reference the Group of Experts will not accept further changes in romanization systems.