Ninth United Nations Conference on the
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Item 12 (f) of the provisional agenda*
Toponymic data files: national gazetteers

Beyond the polygon

Submitted by Australia**

Summary***

Gazetteers, varying in form and content, have been maintained by each of the
naming jurisdictions in Australia. In the past, these gazetteers have tended to contain
point feature references only, although many of the processes used during the
naming of a place clearly indicate the extent of the subject features.

Recent discussion at meetings of the Committee for Geographical Names in
Australasia has included the need for the extent of features to be established and
held as spatial data. The present paper will discuss the options considered and the
possible directions to be followed in the creation of extents of features.

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* E/CONF.98/1.
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*** The full text of the paper is being issued in English only as document E/CONF.98/19/Add.1.