Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names
New York, 31 July-9 August 2012
Item 9 of the provisional agenda*
Geographical names as culture, heritage and identity
(including indigenous, minority and regional language names)

Official bilingual settlement names in Austrian Carinthia

Summary**

The report presents the new regulations regarding official bilingual (German-Slovene) names according to Austrian Federal Law No. 46/2011 in the Austrian federal province of Carinthia [Kärnten].

Federal Law No. 46/2011 and its annexes rule that 164 settlements in the southern parts of Carinthia must have officially bilingual names. The number is based on the fact that approximately 17.5 per cent of the population is Slovene-speaking, according to the population census conducted in 2001.

The number includes 93 settlements that are already bilingual, in accordance with the new law. The 164 settlements are dispersed over four political districts in Austria, which comprise units of state administration at the lower regional level.

The report also provides an alphabetized list of all officially bilingual settlement names, according to political district and commune.

* E/CONF.101/1.
** The full report was prepared by Peter Jordan (Austria), Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Urban and Regional Research, and Chair, Austrian Board on Geographical Names, and is available in the language of submission only from http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/ungengnConf10.html.