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

(United Nations Office at Geneva, 12-23 August 1996)

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. In pursuance of Economic and Social Council decision 1314 (XLIV), the Secretary-General invited the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEKN) to convene its eighteenth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 12 to 23 August 1996.

ATTENDANCE

2. The session was attended by 90 participants from 45 countries, representing 17 of the 21 geographical/linguistic divisions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. In addition, three observers were present. The summary by the Chairman is contained in annex I, the list of participants in annex II and the list of documents in annex III.

OFFICERS OF THE SESSION

3. The officers for the session were as follows:

Chairman: Mr. P. E. Raper

Vice-Chairman: Ms. H. Kerfoot

Rapporteur: Mr. R. L. Payne

For the names of the chairmen of the divisions, see the list of participants (annex II). The officers of the Working Groups were as follows:

Working Group on Training Courses:

Chairman: Mr. F. Ormeling

Rapporteur: Mr. N. Kadmon

Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers:

Chairman: Mr. H. A. G. Lewis

Rapporteur: Mr. R. Marsden

Working Group on Toponymic Terminology:

Chairman: Mr. N. Kadmon

Rapporteur: Mr. F. Ormeling

Working Group on Romanization Systems:

Chairman: Mr. G. Quinting

Rapporteur: Ms. J. Moore

Working Group on Country Names:

Chairman: Ms. S. Lejeune

Rapporteur: Ms. K. Van Doren

Working Group on Publicity and Funding:

Chairman: Mr. J. R. Parker

Rapporteur: Mr. R. Flynn

OPENING OF THE SESSION

4. The Chairman opened the session and welcomed the experts.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The Chairman called for any changes, amendments or additions to the agenda. Ms. Lejeune of the Romano-Hellenic Division said that the agenda had been provided in English but was not available in French or Spanish. She requested that an item be added so as to consider a draft proposal to establish a Francophone Division. It was decided to include that matter under item 5. The agenda as adopted was as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Report of the Chairman.
4. Report of the Secretary.
5. Reports of the Divisions.
6. Reports of the liaison officers, regional meetings and international organizations.
7. Reports of the Working Groups (summaries only).
8. Meeting of the Working Group on Training Courses in Toponymy.
9. Meeting of the Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers.

10. Meeting of the Working Group on Toponymic Terminology.
11. Meeting of the Working Group on Romanization Systems.
12. Meeting of the Working Group on Country Names.
13. Meeting of the Working Group on Publicity and Funding.
14. Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors.
15. Exonyms.
16. Standardization in multilingual areas.
17. Implementation of resolutions and the aims and functions of UNGEGN.
18. Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
19. Nineteenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
20. Other matters.
21. Adoption of the report.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

6. The Chairman reported that considerable progress had been made since the seventeenth session of the Group of Experts. He noted that many of the problems facing the Group were not of a technical or substantive nature, but related to communication and administration. The Chairman then highlighted various efforts over the past two years to publicize the work of the Group and further the standardization of geographical names. He noted that two articles had been published in Name Studies, volume 1 (De Gruyter), and one in Onoma by Mr. Kadmon, and that papers on geographical names standardization had been presented at the Nineteenth International Congress of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS) (Aberdeen, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 4-11 August 1996). The publication United Nations Documents on Geographical Names (Raper, 1996) had been sold in 34 countries and was serving as an excellent tool for the work of the Group of Experts.

7. Four training courses had been held during the past two years: two United Nations courses in Pretoria, South Africa, in 1995 and 1996, and two offered by the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), one in Lima, Peru (May 1995) and one in Asunción, Paraguay (May 1996). Each course stressed implementation of the resolutions of the Group of Experts and a manual on each course was in the process of preparation.

8. It was noted that the national committee for geographical names authority in South Africa was being restructured in accordance with UNGEGN resolutions.

Namibia was establishing a national names authority and there were similar efforts in Zambia and Lesotho.

9. The Chairman urged all experts to contribute to a project to publish a combined volume of the toponymic guidelines for map and other editors submitted by each country. The Chairman also noted the continued cooperation of the Group with the International Council of Onomastic Sciences, the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, the International Cartographic Association and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. It was also noted that a symposium on geographical names standardization would be convened on 10 October 1996 in Vienna by the Committees on Geographical Names of Austria and Germany.

10. The Chairman thanked all those who had contributed to and assisted him in his work, namely, the Secretariat, the chairmen of divisions, the convenors of working groups and individual experts.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

11. The Secretary, on behalf of the United Nations, welcomed the experts to Geneva. He reported on the publication of the Newsletter and explained that while most of the numerous inquiries had been answered by the Secretariat, some had been referred to the geographical/linguistic divisions and to member countries for response. He emphasized the importance of the role of national names authorities and strongly suggested that a list of such authorities with points of contact be compiled, distributed and maintained by the Secretariat. He noted the recent cutbacks and downsizing of the staff at the United Nations, because of funding difficulties, and further noted that the Economic and Social Council had approved a reduction in the number of meeting days for groups such as UNGEKN. Preparations were to be made for two United Nations regional cartographic conferences and for training courses. Preparations for the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names were already under way. Further mention was made of the necessity of completing the information brochure on geographical names and the translation of the Glossary of Toponymic Terminology from English into the other official languages of the United Nations.

REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONS

Africa South Division

12. Ms. Möller summarized working paper No. 1 for the Africa South Division. The Government of South Africa had appointed Mr. Raper Chairman of its committee for the standardization of geographical names. Ms. Möller indicated that the papers from the African Linguistic Congress in Swaziland would be published.

East Mediterranean Division (other than Arabic)

13. Mr. Kadmon presented working paper No. 4. A new list of Hebrew terms had been prepared, especially concentrating on those used with Israeli maps. The use of the term "Irish Bridge" in Israel had been studied with assistance and materials provided by the Celtic Division. The transliteration system ratified in 1977 was being examined and revised, where necessary, primarily to support changes resulting from the conversion of data from analog to digital form. Mr. Kadmon noted the continued cooperation with members of various Divisions regarding the translation of the Glossary of Toponymic Terminology.

Dutch and German-speaking Division

14. Mr. Sievers presented working paper No. 8. He noted that Mr. Raper had been elected Chairman of the Division, but because of his duties as Chairman of UNGEGN, he had asked Mr. Sievers to assume that position. Mr. Sievers noted that Belgium had participated for the first time and had submitted toponymic guidelines for Flanders. The National Geographical Institute of Belgium would prepare by the end of 1996 a toponymic database of inhabited places throughout Belgium, related to its statistical sectors. Germany had published a glossary of toponymic terms in German and English with definitions in German only. The third edition of the toponymic guidelines for map and other editors for Germany had been postponed for editorial reasons. It was announced that Rhaeto-Roman (Romansch) was the fourth official language in Switzerland. Mr. Raper noted that the booklet United Nations Documents on Geographical Names had been published in English only and called on volunteers to assist in translating it into Spanish, Russian and Chinese. Volunteers had been found for translations into French and Arabic.

15. Mr. Ormeling summarized working paper No. 47 on behalf of the Division.

China Division

16. Mr. Wang presented working paper No. 12. He noted that much work had been accomplished in the past two years, including training for more than 200 persons who worked with geographical names. Training included basic concepts, dynamics of geographical names and other aspects important to standardization. Other activities included publications relating to basic place names and important work furthering the application of geographical names of minorities. Many national seminars had been held, some especially concerned with names standardization in coastal provinces.

17. Mr. Toniolo asked about the application of minority names and the schedule for transliterating names on road signs. Mr. Wang replied that the wishes of minorities with respect to their geographical names were always given the highest consideration. He observed that road signs used Chinese characters and the Pinyin system of transcription when warranted.

United States of America/Canada Division

18. Ms. Kerfoot and Mr. Payne presented working paper No. 13. The report summarized cooperation between the two countries on various toponymic issues. Mr. Payne described the growth of the United States Western States Geographic Names Conference, which served as a forum for state and federal Governments. Ms. Kerfoot indicated that international guests were welcome to attend the annual meeting of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names. Mr. Lewis warned against the adoption and use of diacritical and special marks in North American indigenous languages unless absolutely necessary.

19. Mr. Dorion referred to the publication of the toponymic dictionary of Quebec (working paper No. 24) and said that cultural background could be invaluable in the study, analysis and application of geographical names (see also working papers Nos. 25, 26 and 27). Mr. Lewis emphasized that cultural aspects were a national matter, rather than an international one.

20. Mr. Béjar said that further cooperation regarding transboundary issues between Mexico and the United States would be beneficial. Mr. Payne agreed that procedures should be developed.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Division

21. Mr. Lewis presented working paper No. 39 and described the complexity of the new administrative structure of Great Britain. After lengthy deliberation, Scotland, Wales and England had acquired new administrative divisions. One "cultural" reaction has been people's reluctance to cease using county names even long after their administrative function had been terminated or, in some cases, the county itself abolished. The administrative structure of Northern Ireland remained unchanged.

22. Mr. O'Maolfabhail inquired about the details in Northern Ireland. Mr. Lewis explained that a "two-tier" system still existed. In England and Wales, many counties had been retained for ceremonial purposes. Mr. Lewis indicated that those counties could be shown on certain types of thematic maps but they did not appear on the standard topographic maps.

Latin America Division

23. Ms. Terron submitted working paper No. 46 as the contribution of the Brazilian Institute for Geography and Statistics to the Division report. She mentioned that most of the toponymic standardization work currently conducted in Brazil related to populated places, political, statistical and geographical areas, and census requirements.

24. Mr. Morales presented working papers Nos. 62 and 63 as the contribution of Mexico to the Division report. He noted that many Mexican authorities agreed that a national names authority would be useful and would consider the matter. Mr. Béjar had drafted a proposal for possible presentation. In Mexico, the process of standardization was complex and dynamic. Much emphasis was given to

research on geographical names of indigenous peoples, for which a high level of expertise for analysis and standardization was required. Since 1993, geographical names had been in digital format. Comparison with census files had been helpful in uncovering and correcting discrepancies, thereby assisting in standardization. He noted that much effort had been put into toponymic training. Mr. Toniolo asked if, on maps, the lack of a diacritical mark in many Mexican place names ending in "n" was an error. Mr. Morales explained that some might be cartographic errors and others the historical spelling of names of indigenous origin. Mr. Tazi inquired if there had been much research regarding names of Arabic derivation and influence in South America. Ms. Terron noted that there were areas of Arabic influence originating from immigrants in southern Brazil but that most of these names were quite recent. Mr. Morales said that although little research has been conducted, there seemed to be some Arabic influence in names transferred from Spain to Mexico.

East Central and South-East Europe Division

25. Mr. Pokoly presented working paper No. 49, the report of the Division. Meetings had been held in 1992, 1993 and 1996. It was noted that Albania should be added to the list of countries in the Division.

26. Mr. Bohac presented working paper No. 51 and summarized its contents.

27. Mr. Pokoly summarized working paper No. 73, indicating recent changes in geographical names in Hungary and Bulgaria. Mr. Dragomirescu of Romania noted that numerous name changes, both major and minor had occurred over the past two years. He stressed the importance of disseminating those changes, and suggested that that could be done through the UNEGN Newsletter and possibly through the International Cartographic Association.

Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division

28. Mr. Boginskiy presented working paper No. 54, the report of the Division. He discussed the overall composition of the Division and the activities of member States, indicating that some members had well-established names: authorities, while others had only recently been organized. There had been much activity and exchange of information, as well as two Division meetings (in October 1994 and July 1996).

Norden Division

29. Mr. Ringstam and Mr. Helleland presented working paper No. 58, the report of the Division. A "place name" consultant position had been established in Sweden at the Institute for Language and Folklore, which cooperated with the National Land Survey for cartographic application of geographical names. Mr. Ringstam noted that there was a local movement to protect "old" names and referred to the preservation and use of village names that had changed over the past century.

30. Mr. Helleland indicated that in Norway, field collection of names had slowed down because of lack of access to knowledgeable informants. He provided an update on the Norden Division establishment of a joint digital file of about 20,000 names for small-scale mapping. It was reported that often the military would not place names of Sami origin on military maps. In response to a query about whether private issuers of maps used the Sami names, Mr. Helleland said that although some did, lack of standard orthography had caused problems. It was likely that orthography would be standardized in the future. Mr. Helleland noted that the military usually used other names on their maps for features bearing Sami names.

Baltic Division

31. Mr. Páll presented working paper No. 50, the report of the Division. He said that the State Committee of the Lithuanian Language of Parliament acted as the authority for names in Lithuania. A training course on geographical names for linguists had been held in Estonia and one would be held for geographers as well. He elaborated on the draft guideline in Estonia for the treatment of minority geographical names, specifically in Swedish and Russian. Mr. Toniolo stressed the need for toponymic guidelines for map and other editors for Latvia and Lithuania.

Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division

32. Mr. Parker presented working paper No. 66, highlighting the meetings and activities of the Division. He noted that the Divisional training course scheduled for 1996 had been postponed until mid-1997. Referring to the report, Mr. Kadmon asked if the possible change of the names of waterbodies referred to international bodies of water that did not have recognized endonyms. Mr. Parker explained that reference was made to larger bodies of water under the sovereignty of one or more countries having had names assigned during the colonial period and whose names might be changed. It was noted that the United States of America was represented by American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands at the Divisional meeting.

Celtic Division

33. Mr. O'Maolfabail presented working paper No. 69, the report of the Celtic Division. He noted that 1996 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Placenames Commission in Ireland. The English and Irish forms of geographical names appearing on Ordnance Survey maps at the scale of 1:50,000 were standardized, but the processing of Irish forms had not yet been completed. Ms. Lejeune noted that France supported the work of the Division because of that country's interest in geographical names in Breton.

Romano-Hellenic Division

34. Ms. Lejeune presented working paper No. 76, the report of the Division. She indicated that the Spanish Central Register decree of 1994 applied to geographical names of administrative areas, populated places and orographic and hydrographic features. The register was fully digital.

35. Ms. Lejeune said that the Military Topographic Division in Romania, through its various publications, was assisting the process of standardization. At the 1994 meeting to review the draft toponymic guidelines for map and other editors, the national names authority and the Romanian Academy had been in agreement, and the guidelines were in the process of being made official.

36. Ms. Lejeune described the procedure in France for standardizing geographical names before they became part of the geographical names database. That could be a useful application of the standardization process of indigenous geographical names. She said that research on cultural influences on geographical names in Quebec was in progress and would be published by 1999.

37. Mr. Rainone said that the Military Geographic Institute in Italy (IGMI) was working on the collection in digital form of the names of all geographical features present on the 1:25,000 scale national map series, using FACC coding. The digital gazetteer should be ready by early 1997 and available on CD-ROM.

38. Mr. Papastavrou presented working paper No. 65, the contribution of Cyprus. He noted that there was now a project to collect those names in local use, but researchers could not accomplish field collection in approximately one third of the territory of Cyprus, owing to the situation that had existed there since 1974. The Concise Gazetteer of Cyprus was to be revised. Mr. Papastavrou elaborated on the projects to compile a list of named antiquities, locations and undersea features. A digital data file of geographical names in Cyprus with software for data manipulation would soon be available.

39. Mr. Eremia presented a report from Moldova, working paper No. 84, as part of the Division report. He noted that in Moldova there were basically three areas of work: collection of names; processing names and publishing lists; and the organization and operation of cartographic offices. Fifteen volumes of geographical names data in the Romanian language had already been collected. There was also a list of populated places and administrative divisions and a publication on street names. In two universities, courses on toponymy were part of the curriculum for the disciplines of geography and philology. Publicity was encouraged by means of radio, television and the press. Mr. Eremia confirmed that the publications mentioned were in the Romanian language.

40. Ms. Lejeune presented background information regarding a draft recommendation to establish a new division, the "Francophone Division", thereby allowing interested countries to study problems common to French-speaking areas. A draft resolution (see working paper No. 76), was to be submitted to the Seventh Conference, in 1997. If it was adopted at the Conference, it would be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for approval. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the draft resolution, in which numerous experts participated. All seemed to agree with it, in principle, although several

experts cautioned that many variables should be considered and that analysis of the draft resolution should proceed slowly, consideration being given to the advantages and disadvantages of establishing such a division. It was reported that such a division might open new avenues for the funding of its work from outside the Group of Experts. Mr. Lewis suggested that the proposal be withdrawn. He indicated that the establishment of such a division could create a precedent and be a step towards the dissolution of some of the present divisions, because there would be an emphasis on language only. Mr. Dorion disagreed, noting that no precedent was being set, since divisions based upon linguistic considerations already existed. The proposed new division could involve up to 47 countries where French was spoken and could address important common problems. The proposal had been put forward in the spirit of cooperation and Mr. Dorion was surprised that there should be opposition. The funding of some geographical names programmes might be affected by the response to the proposal.

41. The Chairman said that although there were sound reasons in favour of the proposal, there were possibly reasons to deliberate. It was for the Romano-Hellenic Division to decide whether to submit the proposal to the Conference in 1997.

Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)

42. Mr. Choudhary reported on Pakistan's contribution to the Division report (working paper No. 80). Although there was currently no central authority for the standardization of geographical names in Pakistan, the Survey of Pakistan served as the organization contributing to the standardization of geographical names. Names were collected in the field in their original form, transliterated to the Roman alphabet, then applied cartographically under the authorization of the Surveyor-General of Pakistan. The National Gazetteer had been published based on maps at a scale of 1:1,000,000. Although Pakistan was a multilingual State, cartographic application problems were minimized by the use of English. Consideration was being given to establishing a central authority for the standardization of geographical names, and in the future gazetteers would be based on the map series at a scale of 1:50,000.

43. Mr. Malmirian provided a summary of the Division report (working paper No. 89), in which it was mentioned that the fifth regional meeting of the Division had been held in Tehran with representatives from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan. The report of the Islamic Republic of Iran referred to activities in connection with the standardization of geographical names since the seventeenth session of the Group of Experts (New York, 1994). Because of the economic development plans in different fields, many names had changed. The geographical information for all 139 sheets of the 1:250,000 scale maps of the Islamic Republic of Iran had been completed and a total of 3,619 geographical names related to the three sheets had been collected.

Arabic Division

44. Mr. Tazi provided a summary of the Division report (working paper No. 83), based on country activities. The Royal Geographical Centre of Jordan had completed a three-volume encyclopedia, atlas and gazetteer that was also available in digital form.

45. In the United Arab Emirates, the University of the United Arab Emirates was responsible for collecting geographical names in relation to important historical, human, linguistic and other aspects and for the preparation of a United Arab Emirates atlas. A working group had been established to conduct field work to that effect. That was in addition to the military survey programme of field work and name collection for mapping purposes.

46. In Algeria, the National Institute of Cartography was responsible for collecting information to be submitted to experts for verifying and processing. There was an index of about 40,000 names, a laboratory for toponymic research and a geographical names database. Two students had written dissertations on geographical names.

47. In Oman, the responsible authority for geographical names and their cartographic application was the National Survey Authority. Extensive field work had been conducted and a gazetteer of geographical names was being prepared.

48. In Saudi Arabia, the names contained on the base map series at the scales of 1:50,000, 1:100,000 and 1:250,000 were the basis for geographical names standardization. Considerable field work had already been completed as part of the overall mapping programme. Various offices and agencies had been consulted in the work. Universities in Saudi Arabia had published numerous works and studies involving geographical names. They were also active in the field of remote sensing. The field work which had been completed was part of the work of the Military Survey Department of the Ministry of Defence and Aviation and the Aerial Survey Department of the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. The work involved geographical name collection, processing and standardization and the creation of a database. The digital mapping programme was very advanced and involved maps at the scale of 1:250,000, among others.

49. The Syrian Arab Republic had conducted research regarding names of ancient and historical areas, and had collected names in local use but which were not official. Various offices provided official names. Geographical names were written in French and English, as well as in Arabic. A glossary of geographical names in the Syrian Arab Republic has been prepared. It contained 14,000 names of towns and villages and a detailed explanation of historical names.

50. In Morocco, the treatment and standardization of geographical names was carried out in connection with the production or updating of the topographical maps at the scales of 1:25,000, 1:50,000 and 1:100,000. Work on collecting the necessary information for the official national gazetteer had begun. Moreover, work on the processing of about 70,000 geographical names had been completed and the results disseminated.

51. It was also noted that the Academy of the Arabic Language based in Cairo had held meetings in 1995 and 1996, including a session on geographical names. The Academy, recognizing the important work of UNGEGN, expressed support for the work of and the resolutions adopted by the United Nations conferences on the standardization of geographical names. The work of the National Committee on Geographical Names of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was reported in working paper No. 101.

52. It was noted that the Moroccan index was in Arabic and French and the Algerian index in French only.

53. The question of the letter "ژ" being introduced into the transliteration of Arabic into Roman orthography was raised. After much discussion, the Chairman referred the matter to the Working Group on Romanization Systems (agenda item 11) for further consideration.

REPORTS OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS, REGIONAL MEETINGS
AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research (SCAR)

54. Mr. Sievers submitted working paper No. 9 as liaison officer with SCAR. He informed the Group of Experts that the SCAR Working Group on Geodesy and Geographic Information was discussing two programmes dealing with geographical names. At its meeting in 1994, guidelines for naming features in Antarctica were submitted for consideration. The guidelines, with minor amendments, were then submitted to the SCAR Executive Committee for consideration with a view to adoption and implementation. Each member was asked to forward the proposal to his/her national names authority. By June 1996, approximately half of the 15 members had responded. The SCAR Working Group had discussed the proposal at its most recent meeting, in Cambridge, United Kingdom, in early August 1996. A revised draft recommendation was submitted to the SCAR Executive Committee. A report on the actions of SCAR would be issued.

55. The second programme was the completion of a "composite gazetteer", with the representative of Italy serving as coordinator. Currently, there were two volumes with approximately 32,000 names applied to 16,000 features. About 1,000 features had two or more entirely different names listed. The gazetteer would be kept updated and submitted to SCAR.

56. Mr. Woodman said that the proposal was clearly to avoid multiple naming of features in the future, and asked if names would be changed retroactively. Mr. Sievers agreed to discuss that matter in detail outside the session.

Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH)

57. Mr. Payne presented working paper No. 14 as liaison officer with PAIGH. He reported that in May and June 1995 the Seventh Geographical Names Course had been held in Lima, Peru, with 21 students attending. The eighth such course had

been held in May 1996 in Asunción, Paraguay, with 26 students attending. Both courses were highly successful. Most of the students were from the host country, but some students were from other PAIGH member States. The course was an introductory one and included various modules: for example, developing principles, policies and procedures of national standardization; a field exercise; an automation workshop; and guest lectures on topics specific to the area. Mr. Morales said that students should be made more aware of the modern aspects of names standardization, specifically digital cartography.

International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)

58. Mr. Flynn presented working paper No. 60 as the liaison officer for IHO. He noted the events since 1993, explaining that there had been no liaison officer since Mr. Randall retired in 1993. Mr. Flynn had been appointed to fill the liaison officer position in 1994, and submitted a report prepared by Mr. Huet, Secretary of IHO based in Monaco. The paper was summarized with special attention given to the directory of individuals associated with activities related to naming undersea features. Mr. Helleland asked whether countries were consulted in the naming of undersea features off their coasts. The Group was informed that IHO naming activity was generally outside a country's exclusive economic zone (EEZ) (200 miles or 320 kilometres) and that procedures known and agreed to by the various countries were in place for processing proposals. Mr. Flynn agreed to provide copies of these procedures (IHO-IOC publication B-6 Standardization of Undersea Feature Names) to experts upon request.

International Cartographic Association (ICA)

59. Mr. Ormeling reported as liaison officer for ICA that a three-volume manual of cartographic instructions entitled Basic Cartography for Students and Technicians had been published. Volume 3 contained an entire chapter devoted to geographical names, written by Mr. Kadmon.

International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS)

60. Mr. Helleland presented working paper No. 99 on the activities of ICOS. The nineteenth Congress had been held in Aberdeen, United Kingdom, from 4 to 11 August 1996. About 250 participants presented over 170 papers dealing with geographical and other names, many of which would probably be of interest to the Group of Experts. The next Congress was to be held in Santiago, Spain in 1999.

REPORTS OF THE WORKING GROUPS

Terminology

61. Mr. Kadmon, the Convenor, presented working paper No. 3. In 1994, the Group of Experts had proposed that the Glossary of Toponymic Terminology (in

English) be translated into the other five official languages of the United Nations. Since the Secretariat lacked the resources to do so, Ms. Lejeune and Mr. Dorion volunteered to translate the text into French; Mr. Du, into Chinese; and Mr. Cruz, into Spanish. The French and Chinese versions were complete; the Spanish version was only partially so. The updates and corrections would be translated in due course. It was hoped that the Secretariat could translate the glossary into Russian and Arabic. The combined six language forms would then be referred to as the "Dictionary of Toponymic Terminology".

62. Most experts had accepted the definition of exonym, but some thought a broader definition would be more appropriate, and one had been submitted. It was recommended that experts and the Secretariat distribute the glossary as widely as possible and that updates and amendments be submitted to the Convenor.

Romanization systems

63. Mr. Quinting, the Convenor, submitted working paper No. 21. He reported on four projects. Very little progress had been made in the romanization of Korean. Work on the romanization of Thai had been completed and submitted to the Government of Thailand for approval. The romanization of Ukrainian had not yet been completed; competing systems were being developed by the National Academy of Kiev State University and the Institute for Standards and Certification; the Government of Ukraine had not yet made either system official. There was no official system for the romanization of Byelorussian; the National Academy of Science in Belarus had proposed a system different from the approved GOST 1983 system.

Toponymic data files and gazetteers

64. Mr. Lewis, the Convenor, presented working paper No. 40. He reported that there had been no responses to his questionnaire to members requesting information on methods employed in electronic data processing. Much of the information on file regarding data processing had become out of date and so was of little use. Gazetteers of a particular country should be prepared only in close consultation with that country. More cooperation was therefore required and better methods for data exchange in the compilation of gazetteers. There was a special need for information on name changes and details of changes in administrative structure. A short discussion was held regarding the problem of typefaces. Specifically, the typeface used for computer display was often unacceptable for cartographic application.

Training courses in toponymy

65. Mr. Ormeling, the Convenor, presented working paper No. 48. He noted the increased activity in training. He needed relevant information in a timely manner to facilitate the work of the Group. Ms. Möller reported on the third and fourth United Nations training courses, which had been held in Pretoria, South Africa in August 1995 and July 1996 respectively. Mr. Payne summarized the seventh and eighth training courses offered under the auspices of the Pan

American Institute of Geography and History in Lima, Peru and Asunción, Paraguay in May/June 1995 and May 1996 respectively. While not specifically United Nations courses, these courses were conducted strictly in accordance with resolutions of United Nations conferences on the standardization of geographical names. The Convenor also mentioned the training course held in Wellington, New Zealand in November 1994. There followed a discussion regarding the training courses provided specifically by national Governments for staff working with geographical names. Such Governments included those of Mexico, China and Canada.

66. With regard to forthcoming courses, Mr. Parker said that the course originally scheduled for July 1996 would be held in late June and early July 1997 in Darwin, Australia. Ms. Möller and Mr. Raper said that several town councils in South Africa had asked for courses of various durations to be held frequently. The practicality of this request had been taken into consideration and a full two-week course was tentatively scheduled for July 1997. Mr. Payne reported that the ninth training course offered by the Pan American Institute of Geography and History was tentatively scheduled for La Paz, Bolivia in May 1997.

67. Mr. Ormeling then briefly explained the new World Wide Web site (working paper No. 79) created on the Internet for United Nations training information regarding geographical names, including information on courses and material available. He requested that material continue to be gathered and noted that there were currently several textbooks, pre-textbooks and various papers and publications in support of the various training courses.

68. There was a general discussion on less formal training, such as orientation, on-site training and on-the-job training. Various university courses in toponymy and onomastics were mentioned.

Country names

69. Ms. Lejeune, the Convenor, presented the report. She reminded the experts that in 1992 it was deemed necessary to reactivate the Working Group to review the country names list originally distributed in 1986. The new list (working paper No. 98) would be considered under agenda item 12. The country name was recorded in the original language and rendered into Roman orthography by the accepted system of transliteration. Both long and short forms were included. Most activity had been in the Arabic areas and in the area of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The Arabic names were transliterated using the amended Beirut 1972 system, and the Russian names using the GOST 1983 system. Names in other countries of the former Soviet Union were transliterated by the BGN/PCGN system, since there was no official system of transliteration. Working paper No. 98 presented country names in English, French and Spanish, in addition to the official languages of the countries concerned.

Publicity and funding

70. Ms. Kerfoot presented working paper No. 81, Mr. Robertson, the Convenor, having recently retired. The paper covered the following matters: completion

of the brochure; news releases; review of previous recommendations and reports; development of a concise statement of vision, mission and strategy; seeking a higher profile for the Group of Experts and its work; exchange of information with and exposure to other groups; expanding the scope of the Newsletter; and the more active involvement of members. It was noted that further emphasis should be placed upon issues and strategy, developing principles, and exchange of information. Although the text of the brochure had been completed, it had not been translated or printed in brochure format.

71. Funding was of great importance, and could be accomplished if the usefulness and practicality of the work of the Group could be demonstrated more widely, especially to the business community.

72. Mr. Lewis said he had contacted a number of countries not at present represented and had been informed that there was a shortage of both funds and qualified personnel. He informed the Group about his recent research on the travels of Ibn Battuta, Marco Polo and others. He and other members of the Group would collaborate further on that topic.

73. Mr. Ormeling reported on the usefulness of the brochure and that it had been incorporated into his new World Wide Web site.

74. Mr. Abdo affirmed the usefulness of the book on United Nations documents for geographical names recently prepared by the Chairman. Mr. Raper said that many documents in the book had already been translated and merely need collating. Mr. Al Harthy, Mr. Abdo and others had offered to assist with the Arabic version. Ms. Lejeune would assist with the French version. Mr. Tazi expressed the view that the book was excellent: he noted that about 75 per cent of the resolutions were from the First Conference. Ireland had taken advantage of a government-supported project celebrating place names within a major European Heritage project to publicize the work of the Group of Experts and associated United Nations documents.

75. Mr. Kadmon noted that his article in Onoma, the journal of the International Council of Onomastic Sciences, was to inform readers about UNGEGN and its work.

76. The Chairman said that since Mr. Robertson, the Convenor of the Working Group on Publicity and Funding had retired, it was appropriate to select a new convenor. Mr. Parker (Australia) was appointed and accepted the task.

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TRAINING COURSES IN TOPONYMY

77. Mr. Ormeling, the Convenor, referred to working papers Nos. 48 and 79. He listed the four topics to be addressed by the Working Group: (a) training courses planned; (b) courses held since the seventeenth session of UNGEGN; (c) teaching materials; and (d) the World Wide Web site for toponymy courses. He proposed using working paper No. 79 as the framework for discussion.

78. Planned toponymic training courses. Mr. Parker said that the course originally planned to be held in Darwin, Australia in 1996 had been postponed,

probably until June 1997, to enable participants to find funding. Some 25 persons had indicated interest in participating.

79. Mr. Payne said that the next course to be organized by PAIGH would be held in La Paz, Bolivia in May/June 1997.

80. Mr. Raper reported that the Africa South Division had been requested to hold a course tailored to metropolitan structure needs. These municipal changes required a new approach to the training course and its content. It was anticipated that a training course would be held in July 1997.

81. Mr. Päll mentioned that at the Division meeting in October 1995 it had been decided to hold a course in the Baltic States in the spring of 1997, perhaps in Riga.

82. Mr. Wang said that the Research Institute of Toponymy in Beijing held annual training courses, mainly for staff from provinces, counties and cities, with 70-80 attendees participating for one week. Two instruction texts have been produced for these courses. The next course would be held in Beijing in April/May 1997.

83. Mr. Helleland said that the Norwegian Mapping Authority continued to hold courses, especially for employees of local authorities. A special course on micro-toponymy was given. The Finnish Department for Universities also presented training courses annually.

84. Ms. Kerfoot mentioned that Canada had provided "informal" orientation training courses for individuals and that the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names would try to help with arrangements for such informal courses in English or French.

85. Mr. Kadmon reminded experts that resolution 5 of the Fourth Conference had recommended furthering toponymic education at the university level, and noted that an annual course in toponymy was offered at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

86. Mr. Dorion said that Université Laval, Québec, in cooperation with the Commission de toponymie du Québec, offered courses in applied toponymy each year; an average of 25 students registered.

87. Mr. Payne said that occasional toponymy courses were given in the United States of America by the Universities of Oregon, South Dakota and Vermont.

88. Mr. Morales said that Mexico had held annual training courses in Guadalajara, with both field and office training, including the use of computers.

89. Past toponymy courses. At the request of the Convenor, the Experts involved in past toponymy courses reported on the courses held since the seventeenth session of the Group.

90. Mr. Kadmon said that the workshop held in Wellington, New Zealand in 1994 was primarily for employees of the Department of Surveys and Land Information and familiarized them with toponymy, including the role of Maori place names.
91. Mr. Flynn informed the Group that a two-day toponymic seminar had been held in May 1995 in Kiev, Ukraine with the participation of two lecturers from the United States.
92. Mr. Payne read the main part of working paper No. 22, which also contained the syllabus (in Spanish) of PAIGH courses. He expressed the view that PAIGH was the best institution for organizing such courses in Latin America. Local experts had given additional talks on local indigenous languages. It was noted that the cultural aspects of toponymy were given attention at the PAIGH courses. There were no prerequisites for participation in these courses, although a background in mapping and geographical names was an advantage. The courses were given free of charge to participants from PAIGH member countries and certificates of attendance were awarded.
93. Ms. Möller, who had already reported on the 1996 Pretoria course (working paper No. 1), spoke of the 1995 Pretoria course. In addition to participants from southern Africa, there had been one from Oman. Field collection of geographical names had been included, as well as a full week of computer processing of the collected data. There was a mock committee session, for which students had to draft resolutions. After passing a test, all were given certificates, accredited by the University of Pretoria.
94. Ms. Lejeune referred to working paper No. 77, describing a French toponymy seminar intended mainly for people working with geographical names to meet each other. Both French and African usage were emphasized. Given resources, that meeting could serve as the preparatory stage for a future course.
95. In response to a question about the objectives of these courses and the proportion of women participants, Mr. Ormeling, as Convenor, said that the principal objectives were to make people aware of the problems involved in geographical names standardization and to provide expertise in handling the basic tools and techniques to achieve this. Mr. Payne said that the objective was international standardization through national standardization, which might be achieved by the establishment of national authorities on geographical names. The Convenor said that approximately one third of the participants in the courses he had attended were women. Ms. Möller said that in the 1996 Pretoria course, 10 out of 22 participants had been women, particularly from cartography, surveying, demography and central statistics departments.
96. Teaching materials. Mr. Ormeling noted that a detailed list of teaching materials for training courses available from the Convenor and other Experts was provided in working paper No. 79, under the heading "Material presented at UNGEGN courses". Ms. Kerfoot stated that Canada had various instruction texts available in English and French. The "training kit" from the 1988 training course held in Québec was published in its entirety in French and selected texts had been provided in English. A field manual for the collection of indigenous names had also been prepared.

97. The Convenor asked experts to amend, correct and expand the list of teaching materials available, either by sending him a copy of the relevant publications in English, French or Spanish, or by providing information on how they might be obtained.

98. Toponymy courses web site. Mr. Ormeling, Convenor, referring to working paper No. 79, stated that he had informally developed a web site on the Internet on behalf of the Working Group. He said that he would like to see a designated UNGEGN web site, with links to other United Nations sites and to official national toponymic sites. Mr. Raper welcomed that idea, which had to be further checked with the United Nations Secretariat. Mr. Helleland offered to send relevant toponymic material from the ICOS proceedings. The Convenor, in response to questions from Ms. Kerfoot, stated that as yet only the titles of books and papers were included in the list, not the full texts. He indicated that links could be established with web sites where the full texts might be offered.

99. The Convenor stressed the importance of "publishing" such information on the World Wide Web, in view of United Nations encouragement of the provision of toponymy courses.

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TOPONYMIC
DATA FILES AND GAZETTEERS

100. The Convenor, Mr. Lewis, opened the meeting with a checklist of the many working papers concerning data files and gazetteers for consideration by the Group.

101. Ms. Kovacova presented working paper No. 2 on behalf of Slovakia. It described the work completed in 1994 involved in collecting 68,314 names from the 1:10,000 basic map. The project had already begun to computerize the file and to include geographical coordinates.

102. Mr. Sievers introduced working paper No. 8. He described the GEONAM project, a digital database of 120,000 names from the 1:50,000 official Austrian maps; the Austrian database for buildings; and the database of hydrographic features. Mrs. Van Doren reported that the National Geographic Institute in Belgium was implementing a toponymic database, starting with populated places. The database would have 120,000 records with coordinates. Mr. Sievers described the programmes for revising the gazetteer of Germany at the 1:500,000 scale and expanding the gazetteer to the 1:200,000 scale, and progress on the concise gazetteer. He then reported on the preparation of a concise gazetteer for the area of the former Soviet Union, which would incorporate name changes and have 12,000 records. This work might be delayed because of the need to establish rules for romanization. Mr. Sievers undertook to provide those interested with a contact for this research-grant funded work. Mr. Raper informed the Group that the concise gazetteer of South Africa, with 2,000 entries, had been sold out twice since its initial publication in 1995. He described the work currently under way to prepare a comprehensive gazetteer, volume I of which was planned for March 1997. Mr. Stotzer described the Swiss names database programme. To date, 32,000 records had been completed and a provisional version

was available on disc. The Convenor reminded experts of the benefits of concise gazetteers, which were more easily and quickly produced. They could serve a wider public in a form more convenient than some comprehensive gazetteers.

103. Mr. Payne, presenting working paper No. 15, described the availability on the web site of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), containing 2 million United States domestic names for all feature types, except roads and highways. The United States files of Antarctic geographical names and links to the United States Defense Mapping Agency/Board on Geographic Names files of non-United States names were at that web site. Working paper No. 16 announced the availability of United States domestic names data on a CD-ROM, which included user software. Working paper No. 20 described the United States state-by-state programme for gazetteers. The programme for publication of hard-copy gazetteers had been suspended because of the overall success, widespread availability and ease of use of softcopy names data on the Internet and CD-ROM. In response to questions from experts, Mr. Payne confirmed that:

- (a) Hardcopy user specialized data remained available on demand at no or minimal cost;
- (b) The data were free of any copyright, intellectual property or any other restrictions on subsequent use made of the data by any user;
- (c) The Internet database represented a snapshot of the working database which was taken every week;
- (d) Two graphical user interfaces were available;
- (e) User needs for search criteria by different fields would be kept under review.

104. Mr. Flynn, presenting working paper No. 23, described the United States Defense Mapping Agency (DMA) Geonet Names Server (GNS) which provided Internet access to United States Board on Geographic Names (USBGN) gazetteer data on a worldwide basis. That data currently comprised 4.6 million names for 3.3 million places and features. The data were available to all Internet users without restriction and without cost. However, the data were generally identical to those available through the hardcopy BGN gazetteers and were therefore variable in currency. Mr. Flynn highlighted two significant challenges for the maintenance, development and use of the BGN Internet data and service:

- (a) There was a need to improve the currency of the names data and coverage through coordination, cooperation and exchanges with national names authorities within UNGEGN;
- (b) There was a need to develop further the international standards for the coding of all the characters and diacritics required for the processing of computerized standardized geographical names. The current database uses international standard ISO 8859. However, ISO 10646, established in 1993, had potential as an international standard for geographical names.

105. Mr. Flynn drew attention to the exponential increase of user accesses to the Internet service since it came online in October 1994. He also noted that links to other Internet names sites, for example United States domestic names and Canadian geographic names, were available at the DMA site. In response to questions, Messrs. Flynn, Payne and Morrison confirmed that:

(a) The United States intended to include further links to Internet sites established by national names authorities;

(b) United States policy made access to names data on the Internet direct and free of charges and restrictions on any subsequent use;

(c) An interim CD-ROM version of the foreign names BGN database was available, on request, but it lacked any user software;

(d) The BGN data available on the Internet was a snapshot of the working database taken at approximately monthly intervals;

(e) The currency of the BGN data was generally equivalent to that for the hardcopy BGN gazetteers;

(f) The present volume of user accesses to the Internet service would be very expensive to service by previous methods. It was cheaper, more effective, reliable and responsive for users to access data via the Internet;

(g) The Internet had provided a dramatic impetus to the standardization of geographical names.

106. Ms. Kerfoot presented working paper No. 31 on the Internet availability of the 500,000 Canadian names approved through the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (CPCGN). She noted that the web site began in August 1994. The site was primarily for reference rather than data transfer and was updated daily. Usage had grown dramatically and was currently in excess of 2,600 accesses per day. Canada would proceed with the publication of a hardcopy concise gazetteer, but did not currently have a plan to make the data available on a CD-ROM, in view of the overall success of the web site. In response to questions from experts, Ms. Kerfoot confirmed that:

(a) The names were approved by CPCGN. Names could not be queried by coordinates and could not readily be downloaded by users. However, the data were readily available on sale;

(b) The data were coded using the ISO 8859 standard, but the few special characters required for minority languages employed a unique numeric coding since they were not currently available in any international standard.

107. Messrs. Flynn and Marsden drew attention to the vital importance to all experts of the question of international standards for the coding of geographical names data for national and international use. None of the existing ISO standards met all of the requirements for the coding of all the character sets (e.g., the Canadian example). Mr. Flynn outlined some of the strengths and weaknesses of the ISO 10646 standard for geographical names

processing, publication, international standardization and exchanges. Mr. Marsden suggested that a subgroup be established to investigate the standards available and their suitability for geographical names processing. Mr. Lewis asked experts to consider that proposal; he felt that it was vital to ensure that geographical names processing requirements were considered by those developing the international standards.

108. Mr. Dorion presented working paper No. 24, describing the toponymic dictionary of Quebec. Mr. Atoui described the toponymic file for Algeria published in 1994 with 40,000 records. The file was based on the 1:50,000 scale maps in the north; the 1:100,000 and 1:200,000 scale maps in the centre; and the 1:500,000 and 1:1 million scale maps in the Sahara.

109. Mr. Wang Jitong announced the preparation of a dictionary of geographical names of China with 180,000 entries. He noted that publication was planned for 1997 (working paper No. 97).

110. Ms. Kerfoot presented working paper No. 32, describing the preparation of a concise gazetteer of Canada, planned for publication in 1997 and containing approximately 50,000 entries. She also presented working paper No. 33 on the feature types to be used in the concise gazetteer. In the discussion which followed experts noted that:

(a) There was no standard model for coded designations of feature types; a single one would not suit all areas;

(b) It was difficult to define and categorize populated places in a uniform way;

(c) For some production purposes, there was a need for links between toponymic data files: feature types and feature attribute coding.

111. Mr. Maruyama presented working paper No. 38, which described the programme for geographical names databases in Japan. A database of 9,000 names had been prepared from the 1:500,000 scale regional maps and another database with 120,000 names from the 1:200,000 scale maps. Further work was planned so as to create names databases from the 1:25,000 series and from the 1:1,000,000 scale international map. Mr. Maruyama confirmed that the names were romanized using the Kunreisiki system.

112. Mr. Lewis presented working papers Nos. 40 and 59. He emphasized that hardcopy gazetteers were expensive to produce, very difficult to maintain and hard to keep up to date. At the current stage of development, softcopy names data were relatively cheap to produce, comparatively straightforward to maintain and could be made readily available to users. It was necessary to concentrate less on gazetteers and more on toponymic databases. Experts needed to consider field collection; names processing; names archiving; links to map production systems; links to desktop publishing systems; links to administrative data, population data and other geographical information system data; and finally transfers and exchanges of toponymic data.

113. Mr. Lewis presented working paper No. 41, which described the United Kingdom postal directories as a source for place names. The United Kingdom post code system was very widely used and available on CD-ROM for many applications. The directory was a form of softcopy gazetteer which was kept permanently up to date and could be linked to many types of data in GIS and other systems. The Group of Experts discussed the variety of standards for gazetteer production, noting the Austrian model, the PAIGH specification, the BGN model and the NATO specifications. Mr. Abdo raised the question that experts might consider the incorporation of recorded voices of the pronunciation of names within toponymic data sites since the technology to achieve that had become available (working paper No. 93). Mr. Payne said that standard formats for gazetteers might no longer be as important an issue, since the trend was to print on demand according to user-tailored requirements. Experts should be focusing on standards for toponymic data fields and standards for toponymic data exchanges.

114. Ms. Terron presented working paper No. 46, which described the programme for toponymic data of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) in preparation for the 2000 census. She explained that Brazil had no names standardization authority, but that IBGE was the de facto authority. Mr. Morales described the work on the collection of names data from the 1:50,000 scale maps of Mexico.

115. Mr. Pokoly presented working paper No. 49 on behalf of the East Central and South-East Europe Division. He outlined progress on toponymic data files and gazetteers for Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia. Albania planned to computerize geographical names in 1996 and 1997. Bulgaria was currently maintaining toponymic data in hardcopy form. Hungary was enlarging its names database from the 1:10,000 scale map. To date, 20,000 new records had been prepared, and links to GIS systems through the use of a relational database management system were planned for the future. Poland had a project for a database from the 1:10,000 scale maps and other sources. Slovenia had been preparing a names database since 1992, employing a relational database management system, and planned to publish a gazetteer in 1996.

116. Mr. Päll presented working paper No. 50 on behalf of the Baltic Division. Estonia was preparing a toponymic database from the digital 1:50,000 scale maps. To date, it had completed 10,000 records. In addition, the Institute of Estonian Language was preparing a database, which, to date, had 30,000 records from its archive of 500,000 names records. The Latvian Language Institute had 1,500,000 names records and the University of Latvia had 50,000 records. Work had commenced on a toponymic database at the State Land Survey of Latvia. Four gazetteers had been published between 1990 and 1994. Lithuania had published three gazetteers during the period 1994-1995. In addition, planning had commenced for a comprehensive dictionary of Lithuanian place names.

117. Mr. Bohac presented working paper No. 51. The Czech Republic planned to complete by the year 2000 a vector database from the 1:10,000 scale maps with an associated toponymic database employing a relational database management system.

118. Mr. Boginskiy presented working paper No. 54 for the Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division. The Russian Federation was implementing a three-phase plan to create a toponymic database working from the 1:1 million,

1:500,000 and 1:100,000 scale maps. Mr. Bondar presented working paper No. 57. Ukraine was implementing a programme for a toponymic database from the 1:100,000 scale map. He emphasized that although the rate of change for renaming places was slowing down, some significant problems for the standardization of Ukrainian names remained to be solved.

119. Mr. Ringstam presented working paper No. 58 on behalf of the Norden Division. He highlighted the plan for a common Nordic toponymic database with 20,000 records for Denmark with the Farøe Islands and Greenland; Finland; Iceland, Norway with Jan Mayen and Svalbard, and finally Sweden. Denmark planned to complete in 1996 a relational database with 120,000 records. Finland planned to complete in 1997, from the 1:20,000 scale maps, a toponymic database with 600,000 records. Iceland had been automating its name records in the past three years and had completed half the country. The records were available for users in digital form. Norway was implementing a relational toponymic database from the 1:50,000 scale map. To date, 7 of the 18 counties had been completed. The Norwegian Mapping Authority was considering the use of ISO 8859-10 Latin (1992 standard). Sweden had three names databases: the real estate register; the national land survey records for 450,000 names from the 1:50,000 scale map; and the Institute for Language and Folklore Research, which had manual records that were planned for scanning and indexing.

120. Mr. Parker presented working paper No. 67 on the Gazetteer of Australia, which had 210,000 names and was available on five discs. Australia had planned to issue the data on CD-ROM, but might now be in favour of establishing an Internet web site.

121. Mr. Phunsanong presented working paper No. 71 on geographical names in Thailand. To date, gazetteer preparation for 140 of the 830 1:50,000 scale sheets had been completed. However, that work would need to be revised again to conform to the proposed new romanization system.

122. Mr. Malmirian presented working paper No. 89 concerning the gazetteer programme for the Islamic Republic of Iran. He explained the reasons for the relatively high rate of name changes and revisions in some of the 26 provinces. The working paper provided name changes and new names with coordinates for six sheets of the 1:250,000 scale map. Mr. Lewis commended the provision by the Islamic Republic of Iran of this type of data. In response to questions from experts, Mr. Malmirian confirmed that:

- (a) A list of names could be provided in Farsi script, on request;
- (b) A 1:4 million scale regional map was in preparation with names in Farsi; later the same map would be produced with names in Roman script;
- (c) The 1:250,000 and 1:500,000 scale maps were available, on request, to assist experts with the location of name changes.

123. There was further discussion on working paper No. 93 submitted by Mr. Abdo. Various views were expressed on the suggestion to consider the addition to toponymic data files, when possible, of voice records of pronunciation. There was general acceptance of the suggestion. Mr. Lewis stated that guides to

pronunciation were part of existing resolutions which could be readily extended to include voice recording.

124. In conclusion, Mr. Lewis returned to the question of the establishment of a small group to advise the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names on the question of international standards for geographical names processing and exchange. The establishment of a Working Group on Toponymic Data Transfer was accepted by experts. The members would be Messrs. Flynn, Marsden and Päll. The aim of the Group would be to gather information on the various international and other standards which were available and to assess how far they met the requirements for processing toponymic data. The Group would report its findings to UNGEGN in time for the Seventh Conference. Mr. Raper stressed the importance of the Group in meeting the requirements of previous resolutions on exchanges of toponymic data. Ms. Kerfoot suggested that future Division reports always include a reference to the coding standards employed for toponymic data files and gazetteers.

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TOPONYMIC TERMINOLOGY

125. The Convenor, Mr. Kadmon, welcomed the experts and thanked all the members of the Working Group for their contributions, especially those who had volunteered to do translations.

126. Mr. Sievers of the Dutch and German-speaking Division, in introducing working paper No. 10, stated that, in accordance with UNGEGN recommendations, the German section had translated version 2.0 of the glossary. It contained the same number of entries as the English language version 2.0 and included a reference to each of the English language entries.

127. Mr. Kadmon referred to organizational aspects of the "dictionary" of toponymic terminology. While it was a single language list, it was a "glossary"; with the addition of other language versions, it would become a "dictionary". Working paper No. 61 constituted version 3.0 of the English part of the dictionary. It had more entries than version 2.0 and the numbering system was different. Because version 2.0 had errors in alphabetization and because six new terms had been introduced (place name gazetteer, maritime name, lingua franca, long form, short form and synonym) a newly numbered version was deemed necessary.

128. Publication languages. The Group discussed whether to publish the current compilations (Chinese, English and French) or to wait until the missing versions (Arabic, Russian and Spanish) had been prepared. The Convenor preferred to wait for all the language versions, provided that the missing ones were made available before the Seventh Conference. The Arabic Division Chairman had already mentioned the Division's intention to translate Mr. Raper's book United Nations Documents on Geographical Names, which included the glossary. Thus an Arabic translation of the glossary was within reach.

129. Mr. Kadmon asked for a volunteer from the Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division to undertake the translation into Russian. Mr. Boginskiy stated that the Division had been guided by the recommendation of the

seventeenth session to the effect that a translation be done by the United Nations Secretariat. As this had not been possible because of budgetary restrictions, the Division would reconsider the possibility of doing this work and would try to have a Russian translation ready by the nineteenth session. Mr. Kadmon agreed to provide a diskette and a printout. He thanked the Division for its willingness to cooperate and said he would try to finalize all the material for the Seventh Conference. Mr. Kadmon systematically indicated the 70 changes between version 2.0 and the new version 3.0 detailed in working paper No. 61. Many experts participated in the extensive discussions on these changes. The discussion on "endonym" and "exonym" was postponed. A number of general problems were raised:

(a) Examples in the various language versions. Mr. Dorion asked whether the same examples as those provided in the English-language version were required for all language sections of the dictionary. Mr. Abdo and Mr. Du expressed concern that the examples in the English-language glossary would be clear only to English speakers. The Convenor said he preferred to have all the other language versions contain the same examples as the English version, as those examples had been taken from a wide selection of languages, and the dictionary should illustrate the problems contained in different languages. Examples that were relevant to a particular language could also be added to that language version;

(b) Eponyms. Mr. Papastavrou stated that, contrary to the information in working paper No. 61, eponyms could refer only to surnames and not to first names. Ms. Ioannidou said that in Greek, eponyms could refer to both family names and other names since eponym meant "a name following another name". Mr. Lewis stated that in English the term could refer only to family names. Mr. Dorion said that in French the term referred to both first names and family names. It remained to be clarified whether for an international professional dictionary, a term in the main language could have a wider meaning than it currently had for a non-professional audience. The Convenor agreed to consult the latest dictionaries. Messrs. Páll and Raper requested that examples be updated as necessary;

(c) Geographical names/place names/toponym. Mr. Helleland and Mr. Abdo expressed a preference to see the terminology used in UNGEGN reflected in the definitions, and would like to have the definitions made more consistent, by using either "geographical name", "place name" or "toponym", but not alternating them. The Convenor would prefer to keep some latitude in the definitions, and pointed out that "geographical name" referred only to a place on earth and "place name" was sometimes used to designate a populated place only;

(d) Miscellaneous issues. Ms. Kerfoot requested that an alternative term be found to replace "man-made feature". Mr. Malmirian suggested that it would be useful for the dictionary to be extended to include remote-sensing terminology. Although the Convenor agreed, he felt that a number of experts would not favour this. Ms. Kerfoot indicated that some terms in the dictionary were cross-referenced and some were not; she asked for consistency of presentation. Mr. Woodman asked how concepts should be treated if they occurred in one language, but were not translatable into other languages. The Convenor answered that the basic body of terms as contained in the English language text

should be kept in all translations, but that the terms included could certainly be extended as required in the translated versions;

(a) Procedures for publication. Mr. Sievers stated that the Working Group had been re-established in 1989 as a small group of experts to produce the dictionary. Much energy had been invested in the endeavour and the bulk of the work had been accepted in 1994. He proposed that definitions that had been accepted earlier should not be opened up again for discussion, unless there were obvious errors or omissions of important entries. The Convenor stated that there were definitely a number of mistakes in version 2.0, and it had to be presented to the experts again. Moreover, in resolution 11, the Sixth Conference had asked for periodic revision and updating of the glossary.

130. Mr. Dorion suggested publishing the French version as soon as possible, rather than waiting for the other versions that were still outstanding. Mr. Eremia proposed that experts send in their corrections in writing as soon as possible. The Convenor concurred with this suggestion; he would consider all suggestions provided during the present session.

131. Mr. Sievers urged the Convenor to keep as close as possible to version 2.0 and to add only "synonym", "lingua franca", and "gazetteer" as new terms. Mr. Páll proposed numbering only defined terms and not the cross-references; this would reduce the number of entries and make translation easier.

132. Mr. Lewis suggested deleting the term "proper name", as it did not exist in English; it should be "proper noun". Mr. Sievers stated that since the term had been in the dictionary since the first version, it was too late to delete it. Instead, there could be a reference to "proper noun".

133. Mr. Atoui asked for the inclusion of the term "ethnonym". As there was no objection, the Convenor proposed the inclusion of that term, and asked the Romano-Hellenic, United Kingdom and Arabic Divisions to prepare a proposal for the definition before the end of the session.

134. Based on a request from Ms. Buljat to change "Serbo-Croat" to "Serbian", it was decided by the experts that the terminology used in past resolutions should be retained when referring to those resolutions. Mr. O'Maolfabhall agreed, but proposed that a statement to that effect be included in the dictionary to explain that usage to non-experts. Finally it was decided to omit the reference to the specific romanization system in the term "romanization".

135. Endonym/exonym. The discussion on "endonym"/"exonym", and on working papers Nos. 90, 40 and 46 could not be concluded with a consensus on the definitions. Consequently, the discussion was adjourned until the Group of Experts considered agenda item 15 (Exonyms).

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ROMANIZATION SYSTEMS

136. Mr. Quintang, the Convenor, opened the meeting by inviting Mr. Kim to report on developments regarding a single romanization system for Korean. Mr. Kim reported that currently both a transcription system for general use

(including geographical names) and a transliteration system which had two versions adopted by ISO, for specialized use (e.g., telecommunications) were in operation. The intention was to consolidate these latter two versions into a single system in three years' time. Mr. Lee added that little progress had been made since the seventeenth session of UNGEGN, but that any future developments would be reported to the Seventh Conference. Mr. Quinting said that the subject would therefore have to be deferred until the system was finalized. He added that an example of a single system could be seen in the International Map of the World (1:1 million scale) compiled in 1995 by the National Geography Institute of the Republic of Korea. That system was in accordance with the 1984 guidelines presented to the Fifth Conference, in 1987. The Convenor encouraged the two countries involved to continue their efforts to establish a joint system.

137. Turning to the question of the romanization of Thai, the Convenor recalled that in 1985 Thailand had begun to improve its system to reflect current pronunciation. The Sixth Conference had two versions presented to it, one for transliteration and one for transcription. Mr. Phunsanong reported that an ad hoc committee had been set up to undertake this revision and had completed its work in June 1996. The revision affected the vowels, but not the consonants. Assuming government ratification, the revised system would be submitted to the Seventh Conference. The Convenor requested that as soon as the system had been ratified, it be sent to him for distribution as a draft to members of the Working Group. The Secretary suggested that if the document was not of great length it might be included in a forthcoming UNGEGN newsletter. The Working Group agreed with that suggestion.

138. The Convenor noted that working papers Nos. 57 and 78 referred to a romanization system for Ukrainian which differed from the system discussed at the seventeenth session of UNGEGN. By way of explanation, Mr. Krynytsky reported that in December 1993 the National Council on Geographical Names and the Academy of Sciences had organized an international conference on the development of rules for the romanization of Ukrainian. No unanimous conclusion had been reached. Further work involving the Ministry of Standardization and the Institute of the Ukrainian Language, begun in 1995, did not achieve its goal either. Assistance had then been sought from the Ministry of Justice, which had established a system for the romanization of proper names, including geographical names, having decided that that could best be achieved through the medium of English orthography.

139. In May 1996, a meeting of the National Council on Geographical Names and the Ministries of Justice, Foreign Affairs and Internal Affairs designated the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to contact Ukrainian bodies worldwide to inform them of the system. However, not all departments had yet fully considered the system and comments were still required so that the system can be finalized in time for submission to the Seventh Conference.

140. In response to a question from Mr. Dorion relating to the romanization system used on maps, Mr. Krynytsky replied that as the new system had only just been adopted, most available maps still utilized the previous system. Mr. Sievers asked whether the use of the words "English language" at the head of the new romanization system in working paper No. 78 implied that parallel

systems would be devised for other languages such as German and French. Mr. Krynytsky reiterated that, for many reasons, English orthography had been considered the best medium to produce a romanization system appropriate for all languages.

141. Mr. Atoui asked whether a programme of name changes was under way in Ukraine. Mr. Krynytsky replied that a substantial number of name changes had taken place immediately following independence in 1991, but that fewer were occurring at the present time.

142. In response to a question from Mr. Woodman, Mr. Krynytsky explained that the precise transliteration system was intended for use on maps for international use, while the simplified version would be permitted for publishing articles in journals and newspapers. Mr. Páll considered the table to constitute a transcription system rather than a transliteration system, to which Mr. Krynytsky replied that any transliteration table included transcription features. Mr. Krynytsky agreed with Mr. Abdo's suggestion that the title of the table should read "Romanization of Ukrainian geographical names". Mr. Kadmon welcomed the inclusion of a finite list of exonyms in the paper. Mr. Abdo considered that in practice, in non-Roman script languages, three forms of a name often existed: the original form, the romanized version and a conventional or exonymic form, often based on English. Mr. Krynytsky agreed that the exonym existed, but felt that transliteration was more important. The Convenor noted that some elements of the system were not reversible and Mr. Krynytsky replied that the principle of reversibility had not been found practical.

143. Mr. Kadmon introduced working paper No. 5, concerned with possible modifications to the Survey of Israel system for the romanization of Hebrew. Despite that system's stability over a period of 40 years, the national mapping authority of Israel felt that simplifications were required to make the romanized forms easier to use. For example, the distinctions between the Hebrew characters representing "q" and "k" and between alef and ayin were becoming lost. Possibly a single romanized form of "q"/"k" and alef/ayin would suffice, though nothing had yet been finalized. Mr. Woodman stressed the stability and the excellent scientific basis of the current Survey of Israel system, and regretted the simplifications being proposed. He felt that their implementation would introduce serious flaws into a system noteworthy for its adherence to UNGEGN recommendations. Mr. Abdo noted that resolution 15 of the Fourth Conference recommended that States should refrain from revising systems previously adopted for international use. He argued that there should be very good reason for revising a system because if the alterations were substantial, considerable costs would be incurred through having to change many names on maps. Mr. Kadmon replied that change was occasionally necessary, but that great caution would be exercised before any implementation of the modifications. He felt that some countries might not welcome the changes because of the cost involved but Mr. Lewis assured him that cost was not a factor in the present discussion.

144. Mr. Choudhary presented working paper No. 85 concerning the romanization of Urdu. Names on Survey of Pakistan maps appeared in Roman letters in accordance with the Hunterian system. He added that there was no separate authority for

the standardization of geographical names in Pakistan. A technical discussion on languages written in Arabic script followed, with Mr. Choudhary noting that Urdu was a different language from Arabic and contained more characters. In that connection, a list of diacritic marks and vowels had been provided as working paper No. 85/Add.1.

145. Mr. Al-Zoqurti introduced working paper No. 86, dealing with the romanization of geographical names in Jordan. The Amended Beirut System, approved by the United Nations, was essentially acceptable and had long been used in Jordan, though underscoring was used instead of the cedilla. Mr. Kadmon agreed with Mr. Al-Zoqurti that underscoring was clearer, especially on maps. Mr. Flynn cautioned that, in the context of the encoding of names for digital exchange purposes, the presence of alternative diacritic for the romanization of one particular character might cause problems. Mr. Tazi called on the Group of Experts to disseminate more widely the Arabic Division's approval of the Amended Beirut System. The Convenor agreed that publicity through such dissemination was a desirable goal.

146. The Convenor summarized the proceedings by pointing to those subjects requiring attention at the Seventh Conference. He urged the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to continue their efforts towards a joint romanization system. He noted that the revised system for Thai awaited government approval, and repeated his request that the finalized system be sent to him as soon as possible for distribution to the members of the Working Group. The system for Ukrainian might also be finalized in time for the Seventh Conference.

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COUNTRY NAMES

147. The report of the meeting of the Working Group on Country Names was presented by Ms. Lejeune, Convenor.

148. Ms. Lejeune drew attention to working papers No. 57, containing the report of Ukraine, No. 74 on the meeting of the Working Group on Country Names and No. 98, containing the list of country names prepared by the Working Group.

149. Ms. Lejeune said that, owing to lack of time, the last-mentioned document would not be considered in detail, but that if there were any questions they would be answered.

150. She recalled that the Working Group on Country Names had been established for a twofold purpose.

151. On the one hand, its aim was to find out and to disseminate country names in their official, local forms, both short and long. The United Nations Terminology Section did not publish the names in the official languages of the respective countries but only in the six official languages of the United Nations. Dissemination of the official, local forms would be of obvious cartographic interest and might contribute, to a lesser degree, to reducing the use of exonyms.

152. In addition, as several countries had noted differences between their own national forms and those which appeared in documents issued by the United Nations, the Working Group's aim was to find out the national forms in the official languages of the United Nations.

153. The Group hoped thereby to establish an official, standardized list of the official and local forms of country names. The work was therefore being done within the context of international standardization, which was one of the goals of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

154. Mr. Krynytsky introduced working paper No. 57 containing the report of Ukraine. He said that the agency Ukrheodezkartohrafiia had published a repertory of names of countries and territories of the world. It included the short and long forms of the names of States and their dependencies as well as the names of the capitals and administrative centres. The geographical names were given in Ukrainian and also in their official form, in the case of countries which used the Roman alphabet, or in their transliteration into the Roman alphabet, in the case of countries which used another alphabet. He added that, in 1995, in agreement with the experts of the National Council on Geographical Names, the Ukrainian Standardization Institute had published a national version of ISO Standard 3166 "Codes for the Representation of Names of Countries".

155. Ms. Lejeune then introduced working paper No. 74, containing the report of the Working Group on Country Names and working paper No. 98, containing the list of country names prepared by the Working Group. Since its seventeenth session, UNGEGN had been able to resolve a number of problems concerning the status and choice of official languages, existing local forms and systems of transliteration. For some countries, in particular the Marshall Islands, Nauru and Palau, it had not yet been possible to determine all the official forms. With regard to the countries of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics there was, on the one hand, the problem concerning the status of Russian in each of them and, on the other, the problem of what new script or system of transliteration was to be established. The information contained in the list was therefore subject to numerous changes.

156. So far as the status of States was concerned, the list had been drawn up on the basis of United Nations terminology bulletin No. 347 Country Names (1995).

157. Ms. Lejeune invited the group to turn to general questions which might arise in connection with working paper No. 98.

158. Mr. Morales pointed out that the official name of his country, Mexico, did not contain an article. Accordingly it should read "Estados Unidos Mexicanos" rather than "Los Estados Mexicanos".

159. Mr. Kadmon had two objections. First, he felt that in publishing such a document the Group of Experts had two choices: it could either use the various national scripts or it could use the six official languages of the United Nations. He would advocate the latter, in which case the name of China should be given in Chinese characters.

160. Secondly, given that Hebrew was the language spoken by 80 per cent of the population, he was surprised to see that Arabic was listed before Hebrew as the official language of Israel.

161. On the first point, Ms. Lejeune confirmed that it would, indeed, be useful to have a list in the other official non-Romance languages of the United Nations. It had not been done for purely practical reasons - there were no experts from either China or the Russian Federation in the Working Group.

162. As for the second point, she said that the languages had been listed in alphabetical order according to the 150 codes for their names.

163. Mr. Tazi thanked Ms. Lejeune and congratulated her on the work done. He hoped that United Nations documents would be corrected accordingly.

164. He stressed one particular point: that he would like the letter "z" to be transliterated by "dh".

165. Ms. Lejeune replied that, as had already been explained, when transliterating words from Arabic the system used was the Amended Beirut System of 1972. Obviously if the System was amended to reflect such a change that would be taken into account.

166. Mr. Eremia pointed out that the official designation of his country in French should be "République de Moldova" not "République de Moldavie".

167. Ms. Lejeune pointed out that, so far as French forms were concerned, the document reflected the list prepared by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Moldavie was the traditional French exonym which merely reflected the current state of national usage.

168. Ms. Lejeune asked the representative of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division, Mr. Parker, for clarification regarding the status of Niue and the Cook Islands. Mr. Parker said he would contact New Zealand and provide an answer in the next few days.

169. Ms. Lejeune then asked Mr. Maruyama whether the long form of his country's name was Nihon-koku or Nihon as in more recent sources. Mr. Maruyama confirmed that the long form was Nihon-koku.

170. Mr. Dragomirescu raised a more general problem. He felt that there should be consistency between the official names of countries as shown on postage stamps and, at the very least, the short form as shown on the list prepared by the Group of Experts. Moreover, he was surprised that the bibliography made no reference to the Universal Postal Union, which was also part of the United Nations system.

171. Ms. Lejeune said that there was no shortage of reference material. However, the constitutions of the various States were the primary source of information for the official forms of country names.

172. Mr. Sievers, referring to the list, said that he did not understand what was meant by the note "effective 3 October 1990" with regard to the Federal Republic of Germany.

173. Ms. Lejeune pointed out that the date had been given as a matter of interest, as had been done in the case of all the countries which had emerged since the list was last published. She agreed to delete those words.

174. Mr. Kadmon returned to the question of the use of the article already raised by Mr. Morales. He pointed out that frequently the article was written in lower case letters even though sometimes, as in the case of the Sudan, it was an integral part of the country name. He proposed that the article should be kept only when it was, indeed, part of the country name.

175. Ms. Lejeune said that as regards the official form in French, it was useful to give the article, for it provided additional information about the gender of the toponym.

176. Mr. Helleland pointed out that in the case of Sweden and Norway the article was an integral part of the toponym in its long form. Accordingly he suggested that in such situations the article should be spelt with a capital letter.

177. Ms. Lejeune said that, essentially, it was a question of usage. In French, for example, the article was always given in lower case. She asked Mr. Lewis what the practice was in English.

178. Mr. Lewis replied that, if the article was part of the name, it should be spelt with a capital letter. However, in country names, the article was generally omitted.

179. Ms. Lejeune proposed that the article be omitted when its use was optional, and placed before the toponym when it was an integral part of the name.

180. Ms. Ioannidou pointed out that in lexicography, the article was always dropped. According to Ms. Lejeune, the rules which were used in lexicography were only partially applicable to the local forms of the toponyms.

181. After a final comment from Ms. Kovacova to the effect that in the name of her country, the term "republika" should be written in lower case, Ms. Lejeune concluded by expressing the hope that the Working Group would continue its study so as to come up with a final version of the list at the Seventh Conference. She therefore appealed to those experts who wished to make a contribution regarding other non-Romance forms of toponyms to do so.

182. Later in the session, Mr. Parker informed the Working Group that he had been in touch with officials in New Zealand who reported that Cook Islands and Niue were independent countries, and entries for them should remain as entries in the list of country names contained in working paper No. 98.

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PUBLICITY AND FUNDING

183. In the absence of the Convenor, Mr. Robertson (retired), Mr. Parker of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division served as interim convenor.

184. Mr. Parker began the meeting of the Working Group with introductory remarks emphasizing the importance of the related topics of publicity and funding, especially in a fiscal environment of reduced funding and organizational shrinkage. Four specific objectives were presented to the Working Group for in-depth consideration: identification of the audience for UNGEGN publicity; a clear definition of the goal or objective of publicity; arriving at a well thought-out message to convey to the intended audience; and a statement of short- and long-term strategies leading to the attainment of these objectives.

185. Ms. Kerfoot presented working paper No. 34, the text of the UNGEGN brochure to be used as a publicity tool. The text had undergone several reviews, and the present form reflected conclusions reached at the seventeenth session, in 1994. The sense of the Group of Experts at that time was that the brochure might be prepared for distribution using United Nations resources, and would be used by the United Nations, UNGEGN divisions and individual countries to inform a wide audience of the work of the Group of Experts and the importance of the standardization of geographical names.

186. A more general discussion ensued regarding resources required for the publication of the brochure; the languages into which it might be translated; methods of distribution, including the Internet and the UNGEGN Newsletter; the quantity of copies of the brochure required by each division; and the revision strategy for keeping the brochure current.

187. Mr. Parker summarized the discussion by making the following points:

(a) Countries or divisions requiring a translation of the brochure text should carry this out with their own resources, given the lack of United Nations funding in this area. It should be noted that any use of the United Nations logo required approval through the Secretary. Advice to the Secretary and a copy of the brochure would be appreciated;

(b) Action should be taken to publish the brochure text in international professional journals devoted to related fields (e.g., cartography and surveying);

(c) Divisions/countries should distribute the brochure to internal government departments and agencies, with an accompanying letter explaining the benefit of the work of UNGEGN in international standardization;

(d) The Internet, as a mechanism for distribution (World Wide Web or e-mail), needed to be seriously considered in the context of publicity;

(e) Use of other media (radio, television, video presentations) was encouraged in view of their far-reaching impact;

(f) The text of working paper No. 34 was generally satisfactory; however, it could be augmented or translated by divisions and countries to meet local needs;

(g) When invitations were issued to countries to attend UNGEGN sessions, information on UNGEGN would be included, based on the wording of the proposed brochure;

(h) The Secretary was requested to follow up with the appropriate United Nations departments to obtain approval of the text of the proposed brochure and obtain an estimate of costs. This would be publicized through the Newsletter, providing the opportunity for countries/divisions to offer their services to print the brochure in one or more languages. A copy of the agreed text would be circulated to divisions/countries as soon as approval was obtained, pending final printing.

188. Working paper No. 68 was presented by Mr. O'Maolfabhair, who referred to leaflets issued by Ireland and the Council of Europe promoting the European Union's Heritage Days. He encouraged countries members of the European Union to consider the promotion of the cultural and heritage aspects of geographical names by working with national names authorities, universities and other appropriate organizations. Both Mr. Tazi and Mr. Helleland noted the value of the heritage represented by geographical names. The Convenor remarked that, from a publicity viewpoint, the subject of toponymic heritage was particularly effective with the public at large and was a catalyst for media coverage.

189. Mr. Atoui proposed extending United Nations-sponsored regional cartographic conferences to include substantive treatment of geographical names standardization. If it gained favour, the proposal could be discussed at a future time as a draft resolution for the Seventh Conference.

190. Ms. Kerfoot began the discussion of the Internet as a tool for UNGEGN publicity by introducing working paper No. 87. She noted that the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names had already taken steps to make UNGEGN documents and information accessible through CPCGN at the Natural Resources Canada's web site. United Nations documents were available in English and French (if available), and included the UNGEGN aims and functions and the draft text of the publicity brochure. The site was also linked to Mr. Ormeling's Toponymic Training Web Site. A discussion ensued regarding the establishment of an UNGEGN Home Page at the United Nations web site. The Secretary would investigate and report on the process required to establish such an Internet presence. Once established, the UNGEGN Home Page could be announced and advertised in the UNGEGN Newsletter.

191. On behalf of Mr. Dorion, Ms. Kerfoot presented working paper No. 30, which extended the discussion to future perspectives of Internet use in the support of UNGEGN objectives. It would be desirable at some point to maintain a database, accessible by the Internet, of standard name spellings. The provision of digital versions of United Nations documents, a process already begun, could be extended to cover lists of country names, agendas and logistical details for United Nations meetings, news about (or links to) national nomenclatures, and more detailed information about toponymic training opportunities and material.

192. Ms. Ioannidou noted that an Internet discussion list, with membership limited perhaps to authorized experts, could facilitate information exchange among UNGEGN members. Mr. Ormeling and Ms. Kerfoot commented favourably on the idea, with Mr. Ormeling stating that he would investigate setting up such a list in connection with the Toponymic Training Page on the World Wide Web.

193. Mr. Lewis introduced working paper No. 42, relating to his investigation into published material about Ibn Battuta and to recommendations made at the seventeenth session of UNGEGN, in 1994, to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. Following an exchange among the experts, Mr. Parker concluded the discussion, noting that time for preparation of corroborated material before the Seventh Conference was growing short. A further report on the preparation of such material would be taken up under agenda item 18: (Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names).

194. The Working Group proceeded to the topic of funding, with Ms. Kerfoot presenting working paper No. 37, much of which was based on comments received from participants in the Sixth Conference. While United Nations funding for UNGEGN activities was desirable, the Secretary made the point that direct United Nations funding was not possible. Mr. Raper reminded the Working Group that the establishment of a trust fund was a priority identified at the seventeenth session. He recommended that the Secretary pursue that idea with appropriate United Nations authorities.

195. Working paper No. 81 was introduced by Mr. Parker, who noted that many of its points had already been raised by Ms. Kerfoot and others. The mission statement for the Working Group, found in the working paper, succinctly captured the objective to be sought. The means of reaching the objective required definition in terms of short-term realizable goals and long-term strategic direction. The long-term strategy would identify the target audiences for UNGEGN publicity, elaborate a communication plan with key messages for target audiences, and pinpoint ways to maximize publicity opportunities. A similar strategy would be developed for funding.

196. Working from the 1994-1996 Activity Plan, the Convenor led the Working Group through a number of short-term targets that might be within range for the Seventh Conference:

- (a) A publicity brochure or leaflet could be published;
- (b) News releases could be prepared;
- (c) A concise vision and strategy for the Working Group could be prepared and coordinated across UNGEGN divisions;
- (d) Contacts between the Group of Experts and other related professional groups (e.g., the International Geographical Union, the International Federation of Surveyors) could be strengthened and used to expand publicity;
- (e) The operation of the UNGEGN Newsletter could be systematically reviewed, with implementation of concrete improvements suggested by the

divisions. At a minimum, the Newsletter could be issued semi-annually, with submission deadlines of 30 March and 30 September each year. Improving the Newsletter distribution process by employing the Internet would be given serious consideration; consideration would be given to placing past Newsletters on the Internet. Contributions in electronic form would facilitate production using Wordperfect for DOS 5.1 or Wordperfect for Windows 6.0;

(f) An action plan to exploit United Nations communication channels to publicize the work of UNGEGN and to seek funding opportunities would be drafted;

(g) The need within divisions and in individual countries for wider dissemination of UNGEGN documents and other useful material would be investigated.

197. Mr. Parker reiterated that it was incumbent upon the Working Group to define a strategic plan for publicity and funding that identified UNGEGN's target audiences, the Group's publicity objectives for each audience, the key messages to be publicized and the strategies to take advantage of all possible funding opportunities. He requested that a small group of volunteers be formed to elaborate this strategic plan. Ms. Kerfoot and Messrs. Abdo, Flynn, Helleland, Lewis and O'Maolfabhail offered their assistance.

198. The Working Group on a commemorative publication met on 22 August 1996, the members were Messrs. Abdo, Kadmon, Lewis (Convenor), Malmirian and Tazi.

199. Instead of a single comprehensive work, it was agreed that each member of the Working Group would make an individual contribution covering a separate topic. The title of the collective work would be Some Ancient Contributors to Toponymy (to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the United Nations conferences on the standardization of geographical names).

TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR MAP AND OTHER EDITORS

200. Ms. Krauze-Tomczyk presented working papers Nos. 6 and 7. There was a limited distribution of five volumes of the guidelines on terminology, pronunciation, policies and so forth with respect to geographical names in Poland. Mr. Woodman noted that the volumes were exceptional and could be a model for many. For clarification on a linguistic matter, Mr. Toniolo was referred to Professor Rymut, who compiled much of the information on the Polish language. Ms. Ioannidou inquired about the transcription for the country name, Greece. Specifically, why had the accepted transcription system (ELOT 743) not been followed? She further objected to the use of "Macedonia" without the inclusion of "the Former Yugoslav Republic of", and requested that attention be given to these issues. Mr. Markoski reported that the official name was "Republic of Macedonia". Ms. Ioannidou insisted on the importance of using only the United Nations accepted name for that country, which was "the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia". It was noted that the report of the present session would be edited in accordance with United Nations procedures and the information should be reflected as such.

201. Mr. Ormeling presented working paper No. 8. Following further consultation with experts from Belgium regarding names in Flanders, additional editing was required and the presentation of toponymic guidelines for Belgium would be postponed until 1997.

202. Mr. Kim introduced working paper No. 11, including six map sheets showing geographical names transliterated into the Roman alphabet according to the system developed in 1984. There was a glossary of toponymic terms, and it was noted that there were numerous changes to the names of populated places in 1995 and 1996.

203. There was much discussion regarding the use of the names "Sea of Japan" and "East Sea", and many comments by experts regarding the nature of the controversy. The Chairman noting that the issue involved a feature that did not lie within a single sovereignty, and was therefore not within the purview of UNGEGN, terminated the discussion.

204. Ms. Lejeune presented and summarized working paper No. 28, in which the criteria for approving names in Quebec were listed. Specifically, these criteria included uniqueness, local use, cultural precedence, indigenous groups, avoiding names of living persons, and lack of controversy. Mr. Tazi remarked that not allowing pejorative names would be a useful addition to a national names authority's policies.

205. Ms. Kerfoot presented working paper No. 29 for information purposes. She provided a brief summary of the paper, elaborating various policies and procedures of the Commission de toponymie du Québec. The paper discussed the topics of linguistics, terminology and indigenous names. In response to Mr. Kadmon, Ms. Kerfoot explained that French was the only official language of Quebec, while both English and French were official languages at the national level. It was noted that other provinces in Canada recognized either English, or English and French as official languages at the provincial level.

206. It was noted that policies of various national names authorities could vary and even conflict, but the results were standardized geographical names. Mr. Tazi asked why disallowing commemorative names for living persons was so important to some countries. During the discussion it was noted that such an honour should be well thought through and not subject to emotional reaction or whimsical change. Mr. Tazi said that it could be a political trap. It was noted that commemorative naming could be political in either case.

207. Ms. Kerfoot presented working paper No. 35, specifically indicating the division in 1999 of the present Northwest Territories into two territories: Nunavut (eastern portion) and another territory (western portion) for which a name had yet to be determined. Mr. Kadmon questioned the use of the letter "q" in certain names of indigenous origin. These names could be confusing when transliterated. There was a discussion but no real resolution of the issue.

208. Ms. Kerfoot presented working paper No. 36, dealing with Canadian features with official names standardized in both English and French. Although such a practice was not encouraged, the paper addressed a variety of types of examples. The type of map being produced determined how the names would be used. For

example, topographic maps (bilingual products) would use both the English and the French forms, while thematic maps (produced in two language forms) will use one or another, as appropriate. It was noted that there were some apparent discrepancies, aberrations or anomalies in the written forms of geographical names. After discussion, it was determined that often individual cases required individual treatment regarding consistency or lack of it. Mr. Kadmon commented that that perhaps indicated the need for a pronunciation guide. Mr. Helleland noted that pronunciation could not be listed in all cases because of local differences as well as other factors. Ms. Kerfoot indicated that there had been several different writing systems for some Canadian indigenous languages, but that a retroactive change in spelling had not been attempted; differences were therefore perpetuated.

209. Ms. Terron presented working paper No. 46, which referred primarily to procedures and rules applied to Brazilian political and administrative divisions, and pointed out that these divisions were dynamic and that the working paper included a table as an example of such territorial mobility.

210. Mr. Bohac presented working paper No. 52, giving a summary of the guidelines for map and other editors for geographical names in the Czech Republic. There were six sections dealing with script: alphabet and pronunciation; orthography; linguistics and specific problems; and dialects.

211. Mr. Krynytsky presented working paper No. 57, regarding activity in Ukraine. Legislation regarding the treatment of geographical names was pending, and in the interim there were provisional instructions regarding data collection. A set of rules for transliteration had been developed for about 10 different countries using the Roman alphabet and others would be completed soon. The National Council on Geographical Names, under the Minister of Education, had developed procedures for a "pan-Ukrainian history of microtoponymy". The first stage had been completed, 2,500 names having been collected. The second stage would be completed in 1996.

212. Mr. Helleland expressed satisfaction about the pending legislation in Ukraine and asked if it applied to orthography as well. Mr. Krynytsky replied that the legislation will be a legal document dealing with "naming and renaming" and would be extended to naming physical features as well; administrative features remained the responsibility of the legislature.

213. Mr. Morales presented and briefly summarized working paper No. 64, which discussed the development of automated cartography and the relationship of geographical names to the cartography programme in Mexico. He reiterated that toponymy was dynamic and that it was most important, whenever possible, to field verify geographical names. He discussed the importance of digitizing historical maps. He indicated that the project of recording the names on 1:50,000 scale maps should be complete in about three years, and the use of the Internet would be explored. Mr. Lewis noted that the association of digital data with historical material was not always easily achieved.

214. Mr. Hornansky presented working paper No. 72, relating to the standardization activities in Slovakia, which had been accomplished in

accordance with resolutions of the United Nations conferences on the standardization of geographical names.

215. The Chairman said that there was a preliminary project to publish a combined volume of national toponymic guidelines that had already been developed and distributed. He encouraged experts to contact him regarding format, layout and so forth. Mr. Payne suggested that such a volume include an explanatory introduction, especially if some guidelines included national policies that also related to national standardization procedures.

216. Mr. Lewis reminded the experts that Ms. Närhi of Finland had prepared a list of the United Nations documents in which toponymic guidelines were to be found. The list had been included in UNEGN Newsletter, No. 17 (1996). He reiterated that many guidelines were out of date and should be revised. There was a discussion on how to determine which were no longer relevant and how to inform the appropriate experts. It was suggested that a working group be formed or an editor be appointed to address the problem. It was also noted that some guidelines existed for scientific publication only, but were not necessarily adopted or official for the country.

217. It was suggested that the title of the publication be changed because the word "toponymy" was not readily known outside the discipline. Numerous suggestions for a title were made.

218. The discussion continued and it was noted that headings, format, and so forth should be established. Mr. Lewis reminded the Group of Experts that all that information was already set out in resolution 4 of First Conference. He pointed out that it might not be necessary to form a new working group just for the purpose of encouraging revision, production (where there were no guidelines) and dissemination. Mr. Payne reminded the Group of Experts that toponymic guidelines should not contain the actual policies used in standardizing names, but only how these standardized names were to be applied.

EXONYMS

219. Mr. Lewis presented working paper No. 44, suggesting definitions for conventional name, exonym and endonym. He explained the background for development and noted that the definitions labelled number 1 for exonym and number 2 for endonym were for information only and were not meant to be included in the final definitions adopted. He described by analogy the relationship between exonym and endonym and explained that the real issue was the type of boundary or threshold used between the two terms. Specifically, was it a linguistic or a political boundary? There was a long and lively discussion, using numerous examples, such as "Genève". Was "Genf" (the German-language form) an endonym or exonym? If one considered "area" to be a linguistic identity, then "Genf" was an exonym; if one considered "area" to be political, then "Genf" was an endonym. There was sharp division among the experts over which type of "area" should be used when determining endonyms. The experts discussed replacing "area" with "country" in the definition in working paper No. 44, but after much discussion it was agreed to retain "area". The view was

expressed that "conventional name" as a term was useless for purposes of international standardization.

220. Mr. Sievers then introduced working paper No. 102 (which replaced working paper No. 56), presenting definitions developed by the Dutch and German-speaking Division. In addition to "exonym" and "endonym", the term "standardized endonym" was introduced to differentiate between multiple endonyms for a feature within an area and the one(s) sanctioned by the legal names authority. After much discussion it was agreed to accept the definition for "exonym" and "standardized endonym" as presented in working paper No. 102:

Exonym. A geographical name used in a certain language for a geographical entity situated outside the area where that language has official status and differing in its form from the name used in the official languages of the area where the geographical entity is situated.

Standardized endonym. Endonym sanctioned by a names authority. A name of a geographical entity in one of the languages in the area in which that entity is located.

It was suggested by Mr. Abdo that non-controversial examples for all terms be added, and all agreed.

221. The debate then turned to the definition of "endonym". There was a short digression to discuss whether the omission of diacritical marks created an exonym, but that was ruled as not relevant to the discussion. In the definition of "endonym" the use of "indigenous" language in the definition was suggested as not appropriate. After a short discussion, where examples were given showing that a strict interpretation of the term would be problematic, most agreed to the removal of "indigenous". Ms. Ioannidou insisted on retaining the term "official". There was considerable debate over whether the term "official" should be inserted into the definition. While most experts seemed to agree that "official" and "indigenous" should be omitted, there were still a few who insisted upon retaining "official", and one or two who thought "indigenous" should be retained. After a lengthy debate, the term "national language" was suggested; it was noted that the terminology glossary defined "national language" so that it could be included in the definition of "endonym". Finally, the definition of "endonym" as listed in working paper No. 102 was agreed to as submitted, except that the word "national" was substituted for the word "indigenous" (see item 17 (Implementations of resolutions and the aims and functions of UNGEGN) for further discussion of this topic).

222. Referring to working paper No. 7, the experts from Poland commented that the list of Polish exonyms was widely used in the press, schools and so forth. Polish geographical names of the world were published under the authority of the Minister of National Education and the publication was divided into four parts. Types of names included populated places and administrative areas, as well as oronyms and hydronyms. The list included Polish names in areas of Polish influence and included names given by Polish explorers. The names of seas and waterbodies were given in both Polish and English. A second edition was forthcoming and would include corrections and a multilingual index. The experts

from Poland explained the definition and use of the term "oikonym" ("econym" in English), a term meaning a "locality that is permanently inhabited".

223. Mr. Bohac presented working paper No. 53, outlining the use of exonyms in the Czech Republic, and explained that the increase in exonyms had been necessary with the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Mr. Páll suggested that the exonyms might actually be temporary as the names might revert to their original forms in countries of the former Soviet Union.

224. Mr. Krynytsky summarized page 8 of working paper No. 57. Specifically, he discussed the use of exonyms in the newly published Ukrainian Atlas of the World.

225. Mr. Malmirian presented working paper No. 90, a list of countries and capitals of the world. He invited comments and corrections. Various experts offered to provide corrections.

STANDARDIZATION IN MULTILINGUAL AREAS

226. Mr. Payne presented working paper No. 17, distributing the new "Native American Names Policy" of the United States Board on Geographic Names. He explained the important role of aboriginal names in the cultural heritage of the United States. He also explained that that policy also applied to naming in Micronesia and Polynesia.

227. Mr. Pokoly summarized working paper No. 55, which explained the procedure for updating 1:25,000 scale maps in bilingual areas of Slovenia, specifically the Istrian peninsula and areas near the Hungarian border.

228. Mr. Krynytsky presented working paper No. 57, in which the multilingual problems of Ukraine were discussed. It was noted that the problems could only begin to be solved once the law currently in preparation was finalized. The law of 1989 indicated that names would be in Ukrainian, but rendered in minority language forms as well.

229. Mr. O'Maolfabhail presented working paper No. 70, describing the 1:50,000 scale maps for Ireland that were multilingual and published by the Ordnance Survey. He noted that the numbering system was such that it allowed for a composite series, including the incorporation of numbers for the maps of Northern Ireland, even though those maps differed considerably in appearance. He indicated that he would be interested in exchanging multilingual maps and other materials with experts.

230. Mr. Lewis said that it should be noted that the 1:50,000 scale sheets in Ireland and the United Kingdom were indeed considered small scale, whereas in other areas that scale would be considered large-scale.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND THE AIMS AND FUNCTIONS OF
THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

231. Mr. Payne presented working paper No. 18, describing the relationship of the United States Board on Geographic Names and the various state names authorities. He distributed a map showing which states had authorities and a matrix detailing the type of authority (board, committee, adviser and the like) and the agency or body of principle responsibility. He described the method of cooperation and the importance of local use and acceptance to the Federal Board.

232. Ms. Kerfoot asked whether there was a relationship between the level of names activity and presence or absence of state boards. Mr. Payne said it was likely they wished to defer directly to local governments, but could provide no other explanation. Mr. Tazi asked to what extent universities were involved. Mr. Payne responded that the principle responsibility in six states rested with a university, and that other state boards and committees had membership from the academic community. While membership of the Federal Board was limited to Federal employees, members of academia were utilized as expert advisers.

233. Mr. Lewis presented working paper No. 43, dealing with features beyond a single sovereignty. There could often be confusion between the issue of shared sovereignty and no sovereignty. That issue led to addressing the issue of previous resolutions. It was noted that some were contradictory, confusing and even incorrect: they needed the attention of the Group of Experts and the Conference. Some resolutions were very specific (such as those dealing with Lappish names) and were not really useful to the toponymic community as a whole. Although some needed to be removed, they could not be abolished but should be relegated to historical archives. Sovereignty was but one issue; all the resolutions needed to be examined.

234. The Chairman said that that problem could be a reason to revive the Working Group on Evaluation. He asked the experts to consider how to address the problem.

235. Ms. Kerfoot indicated that some preliminary work had been done in recent years, regarding which resolutions remained useful.

236. Mr. Lewis had also begun work on the overall project and reported that some solutions will be detailed in the forthcoming UNEG N Newsletter. The resolutions of the First Conference formed the base and served as a model for creating subsequent resolutions. Resolutions should, if necessary, be modified to make them current. Where resolutions conflicted, the experts had to resolve that conflict.

237. Mr. Tazi indicated that each Division could assist in that endeavour, but should be kept apprised of the work.

238. The Secretary said that resolutions that were superseded should be identified, and that in the future, before a new resolution was adopted, an effort should be made to determine whether it affected a previous resolution.

239. Mr. Flynn, who supported streamlining the process, said that it would be efficient to use the working group structure. Each working group would examine resolutions dealing with its area of interest. There should also be a small group of senior experts who had a historical knowledge of UNGEGN to oversee the rationalization of the resolutions.

240. Mr. Kadmon believed that the results of such activity should take the form of an addendum to the resolutions, because existing resolutions could not and should not be withdrawn.

241. Mr. Pokoly said that at the discussion stage, and before adoption, any new resolution should clearly indicate how it might affect existing resolutions. He cited as an example the creation of the Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division at the Sixth Conference with no reference to the future of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division.

242. It was noted that the resolutions should be cross-referenced; it was noted that that was normally done when a resolution amended a previous resolution.

243. Mr. Flynn said that the problem seemed to be with the tracing mechanism, and that the integrity of previous resolutions should be preserved. It was most important to have a clear and concise listing, especially for use in training courses and in assisting countries to establish national names authorities.

244. The Chairman and most experts agreed that both concise and comprehensive volumes of the resolutions were needed. It was agreed that the Working Group convenors would submit comments to Mr. Lewis, who had already begun work on the problem.

245. Mr. Pokoly asked to reopen the issue of defining "endonym" because the term "national language" had different meanings in different countries. There was, once again, discussion on the issue. It was noted that potentially ambiguous and inflammatory words should not be part of a definition used in UNGEGN's terminology. The following definition was agreed to by the experts:

Endonym. A name of a geographical entity in one of the languages in the area in which that entity is located.

246. Mr. Lewis presented working paper No. 45. He said that some of the work of the experts had diverged from the originally stated purpose of international standardization. He gave a history of how and why UNGEGN was formed. Originally, the Secretary-General needed advice regarding the confusing state of geographical names, whereupon a small group of experts was formed as an advisory body. That was expanded to deal with issues relating to international standardization. Producing international maps was useful, but it was not the work of UNGEGN. International standardization meant the adoption of one name for one feature to the extent possible, and when that was not possible to define the circumstances of use. There was no disagreement regarding that concept. UNGEGN must not and could not discuss issues of sovereignty because the members were neither qualified nor authorized to do so. Cultural aspects were a national matter only, even though it was realized that cultural aspects affected names. It was also noted that onomastic and "pure toponymy", while valid and

necessary disciplines, were not relevant (except by association) to the international standardization of geographical names.

247. Mr. Sievers asked what was meant by "cultural". Mr. Lewis replied that while cultural aspects could affect geographical names, UNGEGN did not exist to preserve cultural heritage. That was a national matter.

248. Mr. O'Maolfabhair noted that many countries did not have a standardization authority. The Chairman said that it was UNGEGN's task, through training and other means, to encourage and assist in developing such authorities.

249. Mr. Lewis referred again to working paper No. 59. He noted that for those maintaining a database of international names, two things were needed. Specifically, the database manager needed to be informed of any changes made by various countries and must have current and correct information on their administrative structures.

250. The Secretary presented information paper No. 1, concerning the aims and functions of UNGEGN. He explained that it was being circulated because the matter would be on the agenda of the nineteenth session of the Group.

251. The Secretary reminded the experts that the United Nations logo could not be used without permission. He noted that the excellent publication by the Chairman had not been authorized by the United Nations. Even though there was nothing in that publication which had not been approved by the Conferences, it had not been authorized by the United Nations Publications Board. The need for the publication was apparent, it was serving its purpose, but the United Nations did not have the resources to publish it. The process for United Nations approval for a second edition of the publication had begun.

SEVENTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

252. Ms. Kerfoot presented working paper No. 37, containing a synopsis of the results of an evaluation of the Sixth Conference. It was deemed most useful in making valuable contacts and as a forum for the exchange of ideas. The procedure for the distribution of papers should be improved and, if possible, documents should even be distributed before the Conference. Long national reports should be delivered orally in summary form only, and more time should be allocated to topics of common and current relevance. Political issues should not be discussed; it was noted that that point was already covered in the procedural guidelines. More time should be allocated to working groups, both in plenary session and outside.

253. The Secretary gave details about the distribution of documents. He noted that only 64 of the 102 papers at the current session had been received by the deadline. Telefaxed papers could not be accepted. The Secretary could refuse papers not received by the deadline, and such papers were not necessarily discussed by the Conference. The experts were requested to be responsible in submitting papers; pre-distribution of documents was not feasible. The issue of conference invitations was discussed, as was the problem of experts not

receiving the invitations from their missions. Such routing of invitations was a required procedure of the United Nations, but experts would now be informally notified as well.

254. Mr. Atoui suggested that invitations should be extended to numerous groups not already participating as observers - for example, the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing. The Secretary would respond to that suggestion.

255. Ms. Kerfoot suggested that a document or short briefing session be presented to the elected conference officers on conference procedures. The officers of the Conference were elected at the Conference, so there could be no pre-consultation, but perhaps previous officers of the conference could be contacted regarding possible improvements.

256. Working paper No. 94, containing the provisional agenda for the Seventh Conference, was introduced. It was suggested that sub-item 10 (e) on antarctic features be deleted because that topic was outside the scope of the Conference. Sub-items 10 (c) and 10 (d) on maritime and undersea features were deleted for the same reason.

257. Mr. Ormeling suggested the addition of an item entitled "Toponymic web sites".

258. Mr. Marsden noted that under item 6 there should be a sub-item on toponymic data transfer standards and formats, since there was now a working group to deal with that topic.

259. Mr. Rainone suggested a specific topic for cooperation with national and international organizations.

260. Mr. Woodman suggested the addition of an item on the preparations for the Eighth Conference.

261. Mr. Kadmon asked if country names would be an agenda item. The Chairman agreed, and instructed the Secretary to include that topic in the agenda. Mr. Kadmon then asked if the commemorative session (celebrating 30 years of the work of UNGEGN) should be an agenda item. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the Secretary should add that topic to the agenda.

262. Mr. Kadmon then asked about the status of the agreement between the host country of the Seventh Conference and the United Nations. He said that in 1992 and 1994 he had officially asked the Secretariat for assurance of safe and free entry into and exit from the Islamic Republic of Iran, the host country, by accredited delegations from all accredited United Nations countries. He also noted that in the list of countries of the world submitted in a working paper by the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel was not listed. He reminded the experts that Israel was a State Member of the United Nations. Since UNGEGN had no further say in that matter, he would ask the United Nations for a change of venue for the Seventh Conference. The Chairman said that the invitation had been accepted by the Sixth Conference (resolution 6) and endorsed by the

Economic and Social Council in decision 1993/226, and that the experts had nothing more to say about the venue of the Seventh Conference.

263. Mr. Kadmon made a statement regarding full acceptance of female experts. Specifically, many were concerned that they might not have freedom of movement at the venue of the Seventh Conference and that they might be replaced by male experts, which would be unacceptable gender pressure. Mr. Malmirian said that the host country would act according to the invitation of the United Nations Secretary-General. He regarded the statement made by Mr. Kadmon as exaggerated and incorrectly interpreted. Mr. Malmirian urged all experts to consult their own permanent missions to the United Nations. He observed that many international conferences had been held in Tehran in which many women had participated.

264. Mr. Abdo asked if publicity and funding should be an agenda item. The experts were reminded that that was an issue for UNGEGN, not for the Conference.

265. Mr. Sievers suggested the addition of an item on the adoption of resolutions.

266. Mr. Quinting requested that item 11 (b), Conversion into non-Roman writing systems, be deleted because of inactivity in that field. After a brief discussion, it was agreed to retain that activity, as it might be discussed from the standpoint of donor country assistance.

267. The Group of Experts approved the provisional agenda for the Seventh Conference, as amended during the discussion (see annex V below).

NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

268. The Group of Experts approved the provisional agenda for its nineteenth session (working paper No. 95), as amended during the discussion (see annex VI below).

OTHER MATTERS

269. Mr. Payne presented working paper No. 18, announcing the publication of the second edition of the "Gazetteer of Antarctica" by the United States Board on Geographic Names. He noted that it was over 800 pages long and followed the same format as the first edition (1980). It contained about 1,000 additional entries, bringing the total to about 12,800. Each entry comprised the official name as recognized by the United States Board on Geographic Names, geographical coordinates, descriptive text and historical notes, as well as variant (unofficial) names cross-referenced to the official name.

270. Mr. Ringstam, on behalf of Mr. Helleland, presented working paper No. 82. He noted that the Norwegian law of 1991 for standardizing geographical names was generally effective, however, after five years of use some deficiencies had been

noted. Specifically, more precise wording was needed and some clause was believed necessary to preserve disappearing village names.

271. The Secretary announced a recent telefax from the Universal Postal Union (UPU) which had recently learned of the existence of UNGEGN and its work through a newspaper article generated by the current session. The Secretary would contact UPU to inform it of UNGEGN's work and the Seventh Conference.

272. The Chairman asked if the UNGEGN handbook could be published in the six official languages with United Nations funds. The Secretary said that due to budgetary limitations that would not be possible.

273. Two recommendations were presented to the Group of Experts: Mr. Tazi proposed a world day for the standardization of geographical names (recommendation 1). Mr. Atoui proposed that the scope of the United Nations regional cartographic conferences should be extended to include the standardization of geographical names (recommendation 2). These recommendations, which are contained in annex IV below, constitute proposals for the formulation of draft resolutions to be submitted to the Seventh Conference.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

274. The Group of Experts adopted its report as amended during the discussion.

VOTE OF THANKS

275. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks and gratitude to the Vice-Chairman, Ms. Kerfoot, the Rapporteur, Mr. Payne, and the Secretary of the Group, Mr. Stabe. Further thanks were extended to the secretarial staff, the interpreters, translators and other United Nations staff who had contributed to making the session possible.

Annex I

SUMMARY BY THE CHAIRMAN

1. The standardization of geographical names is essential in all forms of communication, in conservation, education, tourism, trade and commerce, transportation, regional and environmental planning, science and technology, search and rescue operations, in questions of reaffirming traditional culture as effective expression of national identity, and in normal orientation and communication between people.
2. The eighteenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) was held from 12 to 23 August 1996 at the United Nations Office at Geneva. It was attended by 90 participants from 45 countries representing 17 of the 21 geographical/linguistic divisions of the Group, and by three observers from intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. One hundred and two working papers and two information papers were considered by the Group.
3. This summary presents a perception of the achievements of the session, a survey of the deliberations held, the challenges faced by the Group, and a correlation of the trend of the work of the Group with the goals of the United Nations.
4. The Group, being conscious of the restructuring of various United Nations bodies, aimed at dealing with substantive and crucial issues. The structure and functions of the Group were again analysed and reviewed to ensure optimal functioning. Future actions were planned to support the goals of the Group and make them more proactive and cost-effective.
5. Preparation and planning of the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, to be held in September 1997, was also the task of the Group.
6. Changes in geographical names emanating from political changes have brought about a new series of issues requiring the attention of the Group. The continuing lack of participation of experts from developing countries remains a matter of grave concern to the Group, and various ways of addressing the problem were addressed. These include the establishment of a trust fund, soliciting sponsors and donors, and arranging sessions of the Group at venues closer to developing countries.
7. The importance of making the activities of the Group more widely known, both to the United Nations and to the public at large, was recognized, and steps taken to address the issue included the finalization of a brochure and wider distribution of the UNGEGN Newsletter.
8. It was acknowledged that the standardization of geographical names concurs with identified goals and fields of interest of the United Nations, including cultural heritage, education and training, environment protection, habitat and agriculture, indigenous people, natural disasters (prediction, preparation and

mitigation), peacekeeping and security, progress and development, and the like. The conclusion was reached that there seems to be no field of human activity in which standardized geographical names do not play a crucial role.

Annex II

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Africa Central Division

(Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Zaire)

Absent

Africa East Division

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

Absent

Africa South Division

(Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa,* Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe; Chairman of the Division: Mr. P. E. Raper)

Mr. Peter E. RAPER
(South Africa)

Director
Names Research Institute
CAUSE Academy
Pretoria

Ms. L. A. MÖLLER
(South Africa)

Names Research Institute
Human Sciences Research Council

Africa West Division

(Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo)

Absent

Arabic Division

(Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Yemen; Chairman of the Division: Mr. A. Tazi)

Mr. Brahim ATOUI
(Algeria)

Chef du laboratoire de toponymie,
Institut national de cartographie

Mr. Mounir ZAHRAN
(Egypt)

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Egypt
Geneva

Ms. Magda SHAHIN (Egypt)	Minister Plenipotentiary Permanent Mission of Egypt, Geneva
Mr. Hassan Abdel-Moneim MOSTAFA (Egypt)	Second Secretary Permanent Mission of Egypt, Geneva
Mr. Ibrahim AL-ZOQURTI (Jordan)	Chairman, Geographical Names Committee, Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre
Mr. Ahmed Fawzi BEN FAID (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)	Director-General Survey Department
Mr. Mohamed Wafa (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)	Chef du département cartographique Survey Department
Mr. Abdelhadi TAZI (Morocco)	Membre de l'Académie du Royaume du Maroc et Président de la Commission nationale de toponymie
Mr. Mohamed ALAHIAN (Morocco)	Chef du service de la documentation cartographique, Cartothèque et photothèque nationale, Direction de cadastre et la Cartographie
Mr. Hamid OUZZINE (Morocco)	Chef du service de topographie générale, Direction de cadastre et la cartographie
Mr. Nasser bin Sultan AL-HARTHY (Oman)	National Survey Authority
Mr. Soleman S. ALRUBAISHY (Saudi Arabia)	Deputy Minister of Petroleum for Aerial Survey
Mr. Abdullah AL-SHAHRANI (Saudi Arabia)	Head of Digital Mapping Production and Geographical Information Wing, Military Survey Department (MSD)
Mr. Eid M. AL-MOTAIRI (Saudi Arabia)	Digital Mapping Production and Geographical Information Wing, MSD
Mr. Ass'ad S. ABDO (Saudi Arabia)	Professor Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts, King Saud University
Mr. Mohame Hassan IDRIS (Syrian Arab Republic)	General Director of General Establishment of Surveying, Damascus
Mr. Marowan SOUKAR (Syrian Arab Republic)	Manager of Public Relations in General Establishment of Surveying, Damascus

Mr. Imad el Din MOUSLI
(Syrian Arab Republic)

Professor at the Damascus University,
Geographical Section and a group
leader of the Syrian Geographical
Glossary

Mr. Mohammad MANSOUR
(United Arab Emirates)

Head of Gazetteer Research Project
United Arab Emirates University

Asia East Division (other than China)

(Japan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea; Chairman of
the Division: not yet determined)

Mr. Hiromichi MARUYAMA
(Japan)

Head, Topographic Division
Geographic Survey Institute, Ministry
of Construction

Mr. Kazuhiko NAKAMURA
(Japan)

Second Secretary
Permanent Mission of Japan to the
International Organizations in Geneva

Mr. Young So KIM
(Republic of Korea)

Counsellor
Permanent Mission of the Republic of
Korea to the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. Ki-Suk LEE
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Professor
Department of Geography Education
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Northern Mariana Islands, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia,
Myanmar, New Zealand, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore,
Thailand, Viet Nam; Chairman of the Division: Mr. J. R. Parker)

Mr. John Richard PARKER
(Australia)

Surveyor-General for Victoria and
Chairman of the Committee for
Geographical Names of Australia (CGNA)

Mr. Anan PHUNSANONG
(Thailand)

Director of the Royal Thai Survey
Department and Chairman of the
National Committee on Geographical
Names of Thailand

Mr. Saad SNGASAENG
(Thailand)

Deputy Director, Royal Thai Survey
Department

Mr. Raht UNCHAIYA
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Director of Geography
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Mrs. Wanarat THOTHONG
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Chief of Photogrammetric Sub-Division,
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Mr. Wiboon RATTANAPORNWONG
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Interior

Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)

(Afghanistan, Azerbaijan,^c Cyprus,^d Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan,
Turkmenistan, Turkey,^d Yugoslavia;^e Chairman of the Division:
Mr. N. H. Malmirian)

Mr. Hamid MALMIRIAN
(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Director, National Geographical
Organization

Mr. Ebrahim ANVARI-TEHRANI
(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Director, Department of Frontier
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Mr. Nasser MOHAMADI
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Mr. Asad ARDALAN
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Mr. Muhammad Ilyas CHOUDHARY
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(For Cyprus, see Romano-Hellenic Division)

Baltic Division

(Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania; Chairman of the Division: Mr. P. Päll)

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Celtic Division

(France,^f Ireland; Chairman of the Division: Mr. A. O'Maolfabhail)

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Chief Placenames Officer
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Placenames Commission

China Division

(China: Divisional Chair: Mr. WANG Jitong)

Mr. WANG Jitong (China)	Director, China Institute of Toponymy
Ms. ZHAO Xiaoyang (China)	Researcher, China Institute of Toponymy
Mr. DU Xiangming (China)	Expert, Honorary Director Research Institute of Toponymy, National Bureau of Surveying and Mapping
Mr. JIN Ergang (China)	General Director of Administration and Geographical Names Management, Division of the Ministry of Civil Affairs
Mr. RUAN Ping (China)	Expert, Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Mr. TONG Xianguo (China)	First Secretary Permanent Mission of China, Geneva

Dutch and German-speaking Division

(Austria, Belgium,^a Germany, Netherlands, South Africa,^a Suriname,^b Switzerland;^a
Chairman of the Division: Mr. J. Sievers)

Mr. Jörn SIEVERS (Germany)	Chairman of Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, Institut für Angewandte Geodäsie (IFAG)
Mr. Ferjan ORMELING (Netherlands) (see also under Observers)	Member, Commission on Foreign Geographical Names Nederlandse Taalunie (Dutch-Belgium Language Union)
Mr. Jean-Claude STOTZER (Switzerland)	Adjoint scientifique Office fédéral de la topographie
Mr. Ernst SPIESS (Switzerland)	Professor of Cartography ETH Zürich

(For Belgium, see Romano-Hellenic Division)

(For South Africa, see Africa South Division)

East Central and South-East Europe Division

(Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus,^d Czech Republic, Greece,ⁱ Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey,^d Ukraine,^j Yugoslavia;^e Chairman of the Division: Mr. B. Pokoly)

Mrs. Jadranka BULJAT (Croatia)	Editor, Lexicographical Institute in Zagreb
Mr. Pavel BOHAC (Czech Republic)	Secretary-in-Chief Commission on Geographical Names, Czech Office for Surveying, Mapping and Cadastre
Mr. Béla POKOLY (Hungary)	Senior Official Department of Lands and Mapping Ministry of Agriculture
Mr. Jerzy KONDRACKI (Poland)	President of the Commission on the Standardization of Geographical Names outside Poland
Ms. Izabela KRAUZE-TOMCZYK (Poland)	Secretary of the Commission on the Standardization of Geographical Names outside Poland, National Geodetic and Cartographic Service
Mrs. Maria KOVACOVA (Slovakia)	Geodetic and Cartographic Institute, Bratislava Secretary of Geographical Names Commission
Mr. Imrich HORNANSKY (Slovakia)	President of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority
Mr. Blagoja MARKOSKI (The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)	Expert, Professor of Cartography, Institute of Geography, Natural Science and Mathematics, Skopje
Mr. Zoran JOLEVSKI (The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)	First Secretary Permanent Mission of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Geneva

(For Cyprus and Greece, see Romano-Hellenic Division)

(For Ukraine, see Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division)

Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division

(Armenia, Azerbaijan,^c Belarus, Bulgaria, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Ukraine,^d Uzbekistan; Chairman of the Division: Mr. V. Boginskiy)

Mr. Vladimir BOGINSKIY (Russian Federation)	Chief of the Cartographic Department, Central Research Institute of Geodesy, Air Survey and Cartography
Mr. Anatoly BONDAR (Ukraine)	Head of the National Council on Geographical Names
Mr. Leonid KRYNYTSKY (Ukraine)	National Council on Geographical Names
Mr. Yaroslav KOVAL (Ukraine)	First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine, Geneva

East Mediterranean Division (other than Arabic)

(Israel; Chairman of the Division: Mr. N. Kadmon)

Mr. Naftali KADMON (Israel)	Professor of Cartography Geography Department, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
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India Division

(Bangladesh, India)

Absent

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,^e Suriname,^f Uruguay, Venezuela; Chairman of the Division: not yet determined)

Ms. Sonia TERRON (Brazil)	Head of the Territorial Cadastre Division of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics
Mr. Ramón RIVERA (Honduras)	Instructor, Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) and Geography Professor, Universidad Pedagógica Nacional y Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras
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(Peru)

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National Geographic Institute
Boundaries and Limits, Assessor of the
Foreign Ministry

Norden Division

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Senior Scientific Officer
(Name Consultant)
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Officer of the National Land
Survey of Sweden

Romano-Hellenic Division

(Belgium,^g Canada,¹ Cyprus,^d France,^f Greece,ⁱ Holy See, Italy, Luxembourg,
Moldova, Monaco, Portugal, Romania, Spain,^k Switzerland,^g Turkey;^d Chairman of
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Ms. Kathleen VAN DOREN
(Belgium)

Director of the Training Centre
National Geographic Institute

Mr. Henri DORION
(Canada)

Président sortant
Commission de toponymie du Québec

(For Canada, see also United States of America/Canada Division)

Mr. Andreas St. PAPASTAVROU
(Cyprus)

Chairman of the Cyprus Permanent
Committee for the Standardization of
Geographical Names

Mr. Prodromos VASSILIOU
(Cyprus)

Member of the Cyprus Permanent
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Geographical Names

Ms. Sylvie LEJEUNE
(France)

Secrétaire de la commission de
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national

Mr. Emmanuel GOUNARIS
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Expert, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ms. Alexandra IOANNIDOU
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Linguist, Consultant to the Ministry
of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Ioannis PAPAIOANNOU
(Greece)

Hellenic Navy Hydrographic Service,
Ministry of National Defence

Rev. Massimo DE GREGORI
(Holy See)

Mr. Sabato RAINONE
(Italy)

Chief, Cartographic Section
Italian Defence General Staff,
Ministry of Defence, Italy

Mr. Alessandro TONIOLO
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Toponymic Expert
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Anatol EREMIA
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Toponymy Research, Institute of
Linguistics, Academy of Sciences

Mr. Marian ROTARU
(Romania)

Head, Military Topographic Department

Mr. Serban DRAGOMIRESCU
(Romania)

Scientific Secretary
Romanian Academy

Mr. Gheorghe VLAD
(Romania)

Second Secretary
Permanent Mission of Romania, Geneva

United Kingdom Division

(Guyana, South Africa,* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
New Zealand;^b Chairman of the Division: Mr. H. A. G. Lewis)

Mr. H. A. G. LEWIS
(United Kingdom)

Chairman
Permanent Committee on Geographical
Names

Mr. Paul WOODMAN
(United Kingdom)

Secretary
Permanent Committee on Geographical
Names

Ms. Juliette MOORE
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Research Assistant
Permanent Committee on Geographical
Names

Mr. Roger MARSDEN
(United Kingdom)

Military Survey

(For South Africa, see Africa South Division)

United States of America/Canada Division

(Canada,¹ United States; Chairman of the Division: Ms. H. Kerfoot and Mr. R. L. Payne)

Ms. Helen KERFOOT
(Canada)

Executive Secretary
Canadian Permanent Committee on
Geographical Names

(For Canada, see also Romano-Hellenic Division)

Mr. Roger L. PAYNE
(United States)
(see also "observers" below)

Executive Secretary of the United
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United States Geological Survey

Mr. Randall FLYNN
(United States)

Executive Secretary for Foreign Names,
United States Board on Geographic
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Mr. Charles M. HEYDA
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Mr. Gerd QUINTING
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Scientific Linguist,
Foreign Names Committee of the United
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Mr. Yohannis ABATE
(United States)

Geographer, Foreign Names Committee of
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Mr. Joel L. MORRISON
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Chief, Geography Division, United
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Arbeitsgemeinschaft für
Kartographische Ortsnamenkunde (AKO)
(Board on Geographical Names)

Mr. Ferjan ORMELING
(see also Dutch and German-
speaking Division)

Chair, ICA Standing Commission on
Education

Mr. Roger L. PAYNE
(see also United States of
America/Canada Division)

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for Geography and History

Mr. Miklos PINTHER

Chief, Cartographic Section Library
and Publications Division, Department
of Public Information, United Nations
Secretariat

Secretariat of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

Mr. K. Hans STABE

Secretary of the United Nations Group
of Experts on Geographical Names,
United Nations

Notes

^a Member of the Dutch and German-speaking Division, the Africa South Division and the United Kingdom Division.

^b Member of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division and the United Kingdom Division.

^c Member of the Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic) and the Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division.

^d Member of the Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic), the East Central and South-East Europe Division and the Romano-Hellenic Division.

^e Member of the Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic) and the East Central and South-East Europe Division

^f Member of the Celtic Division and the Romano-Hellenic Division.

^g Member of the Dutch and German-speaking Division and the Romano-Hellenic Division.

^h Member of the Dutch and German-speaking Division and the Latin America Division.

ⁱ Member of the East Central and South-East Europe Division and the Romano-Hellenic Division.

^j Member of the East Central and South-East Europe Division and the Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division.

^k Member of the Latin America Division and the Romano-Hellenic Division.

^l Member of the Romano-Hellenic Division and the United States of America/Canada Division.

Annex III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE GROUP OF EXPERTS

Working papers

<u>No.</u>	<u>Title/Country/Division/Working Group</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
WP.1	Report of the Africa South Division	5
WP.2	Finish of the standardization of geographical names from the basic map of the Slovak Republic, 1:10,000	9
WP.3	Report of the Working Group on Toponymic Terminology for the period 1994-1996 (see also WP.61)	7
WP.4	Report of the Eastern Mediterranean Division (other than Arabic)	5
WP.5	Theoretical and practical consideration for changes in the Romanization of Hebrew (Israel)	11
WP.6	The Polish toponymic guidelines	14
WP.7	The Polish geographical names of the world	15
WP.8	Report of the Dutch- and German-speaking Division	5
WP.9	Report of the UNGEGN liaison with the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)	6
WP.10	German glossary of toponymic terminology	10
WP.11	Geographical new names of Korean cities on the international map of the world, 1:000,000	14
WP.12	Report of the China Division	5
WP.13	Report of the United States of America-Canada Division	5
WP.14	Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH): report of the Eighth Geographical Names Course	6
WP.15	Geographical names of the United States available on the Internet	9
WP.16	Digital gazetteer of the United States of America	9
WP.17	Native American names policy (United States)	16

<u>No.</u>	<u>Title/Country/Division/Working Group</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
WP.18	State names authorities of the United States of America	17
WP.19	Geographic Names of the Antarctic (Gazetteer second edition published) (United States)	20
WP.20	Geographical Names Data Compilation Program of the United States of America (Domestic)	20
WP.21	Report by the Convenor of the Working Group on Romanization Systems	7
WP.22	The Pan American Institute of Geography and History course in applied toponymy	8
WP.23	Access to geographic names data sets on the Internet - Developments in the United States since 1994: the Geonet names server	9
WP.24	Dictionnaire Illustré: noms et lieux du Québec (Canada)	5
WP.25	Toponymie et patrimoine problématique et perspective (Canada)	5
WP.26	Repertoire des gentiles du Québec: Supplément (1995), par Jean-Yves Dugas (Canada)	5
WP.27	La toponymie autochtone au Québec: bilan et prospective (Canada)	5
WP.28	Une refonte des critères de choix des noms géographiques (Canada)	14
WP.29	Politiques de la Commission de toponymie du Québec (Canada)	14
WP.30	La gestion de la toponymie et ressources des inforoutes (Canada)	20
WP.31	Availability of Canada's geographical names through the Internet	9
WP.32	Concise gazetteer of Canada	9
WP.33	Towards categories of feature types for the concise gazetteer of Canada	9
WP.34	Brochure: the United Nations and geographical names (text developed at UNGEGN, 1994) (Canada)	13

<u>No.</u>	<u>Title/Country/Division/Working Group</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
WP.35	Nunavut: a new territorial division for Canada/ Nunavut: une nouvelle division territoriale au Canada	14
WP.36	Canadian features with official names standardized in both English and French and their Portrayal on Canadian federal government maps	14
WP.37	Items from the evaluation of the Sixth Conference (Canada)	18
WP.38	Current situation and future activities of preparing geographical names information in Japan (reports on activities)	9
WP.39	Report of the United Kingdom Division	5
WP.40	Report of the Chairman of the Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers	7
WP.41	Postal Directories as a Source for Place Names (United Kingdom)	9
WP.42	Working Group on Publicity and Funding	13
WP.43	The names of features beyond a single sovereignty (United Kingdom)	17
WP.44	The definition of exonym and endonym (United Kingdom)	17
WP.45	Proposed guidance for UNGEGN (United Kingdom)	17
WP.46	Report of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE)	5, 9 and 14
WP.47	Report of the Netherlands, 1994-1995	5
WP.48	Report of the Convenor of the Working Group on Training Courses in Toponymy, 1994-1995	8
WP.49	Report of the East Central and South-East Europe Division	5
WP.50	Report of the Baltic Division	5
WP.51	Report of the Czech Republic	5
WP.52	Toponymic guidelines of the Czech Republic	14

<u>No.</u>	<u>Title/Country/Division/Working Group</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
WP.53	Exonyms (Czech Republic)	15
WP.54	Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division	5
WP.55	The upgrading of 1:25,000 scale maps (Slovenia)	16
WP.56	Exonyms (Austria)	15
WP.57	Report of Ukraine	7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16
WP.58	Report of the Norden Division	5
WP.59	News from the Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers	9 and 17
WP.60	International Hydrographic Organization - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IHO-IOC): General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO); activity of the Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN)	6
WP.61	Dictionary of Toponymic Terminology (Version 3.0): annex to the report of the Working Group on Toponymic Terminology for the period 1994-1996 (see WP.3)	7
WP.62	Los nombres geográficos de México, verificación y captura en campo como parte del proceso para su normalización	5
WP.63	El proceso de normalización de los nombres geográficos de México	5
WP.64	Diccionario de datos toponímicos (Mexico)	14
WP.65	Report of the Republic of Cyprus	5
WP.66	Report of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division	5
WP.67	Gazetteer of Australia	9
WP.68	Information from Ireland	13
WP.69	Report of the Celtic Division	5
WP.70	A bilingual 1:50,000 map series (Ireland)	16

<u>No.</u>	<u>Title/Country/Division/Working Group</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
WP.71	Country report on geographical names activities in Thailand	5
WP.72	Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors (Slovak Republic)	14
WP.73	Recent changes in geographical names in Hungary and Bulgaria (East Central and South-East Division)	5
WP.74	Réunion du groupe de travail sur la liste des noms de pays du monde	12
WP.75	Rapport d'activité du groupe de travail sur la liste des noms de pays du monde	12
WP.76	Rapport d'activité de la Division Romano-Hellénique	5
WP.77	Compte rendu du séminaire de toponymie des pays d'Afrique francophone (France)	8
WP.78	Romanization of Ukrainian geographical names	11
WP.79	Toponymy course site: a web site informing about past and future toponymic courses (Working Group on Training Courses in Toponymy)	8
WP.80	Report from Pakistan on activities in the standardization of geographical names	5
WP.81	Report of the Working Group on Publicity and Funding	7 and 13
WP.82	Problems attached to applying the place names law in Norway	20
WP.83	Report of the Arab Division	85
WP.84	Report from Moldova on activities in the standardization of geographical names	5
WP.85	Geographical names romanization in Pakistan	11
WP.86	Activities in Jordan on geographical names	5
WP.87	Some documents of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names now available on the Internet (Canada)	13
WP.89	Report submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran	5

<u>No.</u>	<u>Title/Country/Division/Working Group</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
WP.90	Exonyms submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran	15
WP.91	Rapport d'activité sur la toponymie en Algérie	5
WP.92	Caracteristiques du fichier toponymique de l'institut national de cartographie, Algérie	9
WP.93	A note on automated toponymic databases (Saudi Arabia)	9
WP.94	Provisional agenda for the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (Secretariat)	18
WP.95	Provisional agenda for the nineteenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names	19
WP.96	Report of the Working Group on Training Courses in Toponomy (Africa South Division)	7
WP.97	Report on the ongoing work of editing and publishing the dictionary of geographical names in China	9
WP.98	Country names/Noms de pays/Nombres de païses (Working Group on Country Names)	12
WP.99	Report on the Nineteenth Congress of Onomastic Sciences, Aberdeen, Scotland, 4-11 August 1996	6
WP.100	Les Nations Unies at les noms géographiques (translation of the information brochure (WP.34) into French) (Canada)	13
WP.101	Report on the National Committee on Geographical Names and on the Survey Department in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (Arab Division)	5
WP.102	The definition of the terms "exonym", "endonym" and "standardized endonym" (Dutch- and German-Speaking Division)	15

Information papers

INF.1	Statute and rules of procedure of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names	17
INF.2	Note d'information relative à l'organisation, par le Maroc en 1997, d'une rencontre internationale sur Ibn Battouta à Tanger, Maroc	-

Annex IV

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1*

World day for the standardization of geographical names

In order to publicize the work of the United Nations in the standardization of geographical names,

In order to enhance the awareness of Governments about the economic and social importance of the standardization of geographical names,

In order to heighten public awareness in each country about the importance of geographical names,

It has been proposed to recommend:

That a request be addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the purpose of proclaiming a world day for the standardization of geographical names.

Recommendation 2**

Geographical names and the regional cartographic conferences

Noting that there are no regional meetings devoted to the standardization of geographical names,

Noting also that the developing countries generally find it difficult to participate in United Nations meetings devoted to the standardization of geographical names,

Noting further that, owing to budgetary reasons, there are no plans to organize regional meetings for the standardization of geographical names,

Recalling that geographical names constitute a basic element and an integral part of maps,

Aware that regional cartographic conferences are held in which the producer agencies in this field, represented by their leading officials, participate,

* Submitted by Abdelhadi TAZI (Morocco).

** Submitted by Algeria.

Recommends that the United Nations regional conferences devoted to cartography should be expanded to include the standardization of geographical names and that henceforth ...

Version 1:

... they should be called "regional conferences on cartography and the standardization of geographical names for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Americas".

Version 2:

... a separate item on the standardization of geographical names should be included in the agenda of those conferences.

Annex V

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the President of the Conference.
3. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the rules of procedure;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (c) Election of officers other than the President;
 - (d) Organization of work;
 - (e) Credentials of representatives to the Conference.
4. 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 Sixth Conference.
5. 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 for map and other editors.
6. Toponymic data files:
 - (a) Data collection procedures;
 - (b) Data elements required;
 - (c) Toponymic data transfer standards and formats;
 - (d) Automated data-processing (ADP) systems;
 - (e) Compatibility and structure of systems;
 - (f) National gazetteers;

- (g) Other publications.
- 7. Terminology in the standardization of geographical names.
- 8. Measures taken and proposed to implement United Nations resolutions on the standardization of geographical names.
- 9. Commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
- 10. Exonyms:
 - (a) Categories and degree of use of exonyms;
 - (b) Principles in reducing the use of exonyms;
 - (c) Provisional lists of exonyms.
- 11. Features beyond a single sovereignty:
 - (a) Policies, procedures and cooperative arrangements;
 - (b) Features common to two or more nations.
- 12. Writing systems and guides to pronunciation:
 - (a) Romanization;
 - (b) Conversion into non-Roman writing systems;
 - (c) Writing of names in unwritten languages.
- 13. Toponymic web sites.
- 14. Toponymic education and practice:
 - (a) Existing education and practice;
 - (b) Training courses in toponymy;
 - (c) Exchange of advice and information;
 - (d) Exchange of personnel;
 - (e) Technical assistance.
- 15. Cooperation with national and international agencies and other bodies:
 - (a) Cooperation with national agencies;
 - (b) Cooperation with international organizations;

(c) Cooperation with public information media.

16. Country names.

17. Meetings and conferences:

(a) United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names;

(b) Divisional and interdivisional meetings and programmes;

(c) National names meetings, conferences and symposia;

(d) International names meetings, conferences and symposia.

18. Economic and social benefits of the national and international standardization of geographical names.

19. Arrangements for the Eighth Conference.

20. Adoption of resolutions and the report of the Conference.

21. Closing of the Conference.

Annex VI

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED
NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES*

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Reports of the Working Groups.
4. Organizational matters concerning the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
5. Review of the statute of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
6. Election of officers.
7. Planning for implementation of the recommendations of the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
8. Working groups for future requirements.
9. Provisional agenda for the twentieth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
10. Other business.

* Approved at the eighteenth session of the Group of Experts (Geneva, 12-23 August 1996).