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CARTOGRAPHY

Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of
Geographical Names

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Programme budget implications on the recommendations contained in
paragraphs 6 and 16 of document E/1983/26

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of
the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

1. In paragraph 16 of the report of the Secretary-General on the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (E/1983/26), it is recommended that the Economic and Social Council should endorse the recommendation of the Conference that the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names should be held not later than the second half of 1987 and that the Council should accept the offer of the Government of Canada to be the host country. Further, it is recommended that the Council should request the Secretary-General to take practical measures, where appropriate, for the implementation of the recommendations of the Fourth Conference, especially with regard to the work of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

2. Should the Economic and Social Council approve the recommendation to convene the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names not later than the second half of 1987, the conference servicing costs are

* E/1983/30.

currently estimated at \$359,300, details of which are set forth in the annex below on the basis of the following assumptions:

(a) The Conference would be held for a period of two weeks with one meeting in the morning and one in the afternoon;

(b) Interpretation would be provided in the six languages of the Economic and Social Council;

(c) There would be 300 pages of pre-session, 500 pages of in-session and 800 pages of post-session documentation issued in the language of submission (English, French or Spanish), accompanied by a summary (in English, French and Spanish) consisting of a comprehensive condensation of each document.

3. Should the invitation of the Government of Canada be accepted by the Council, the additional cost of holding the Conference in Canada instead of at New York would be borne by the Government of the host country under the terms of General Assembly resolution 31/140 of 17 December 1976.

4. With regard to the recommendation contained in paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's report (E/1983/26), in which the Conference confirmed the requirement for the continued operation of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and recommended that the possibility of the provision of funds for the financing of the meetings of the Group of Experts should be investigated, it will be recalled that the Council, in its resolution 715 A (XXVII) of 23 April 1959, requested the Secretary-General to set up a small group of consultants chosen, with due regard to equitable geographic distribution and to the different linguistic systems of the world, from those countries having widest experience of the problems of geographical names, and to invite Governments of countries interested and experienced in the question to make available, at his request and at their own expense, consultants to serve on the group. It will also be recalled that, by paragraph 2 (b) of General Assembly resolution 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962, the General Assembly decided that, except as provided in paragraph 3 (b) of the same resolution, neither travel nor subsistence expenses should be paid in respect of members of organs or subsidiary organs who serve as representatives of Governments. Since, under the present terms of reference, the participants who serve in the meetings of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names are made available by their Governments at the expense of the Governments concerned, the United Nations cannot pay their travel or subsistence expenses in connection with their attendance at those meetings.

5. Should the Council decide to approve the recommendation that the Group of Experts should be financed by the United Nations, the existing terms of reference of the Group would need to be amended with a clear indication that the experts appointed by the Secretary-General would serve in an individual capacity and not as representatives of Governments. The programme budget implication that would arise would be submitted at a later stage when proposals are presented to the Council regarding the terms of reference and working methods of the Group of Experts.

ANNEX

Estimated conference servicing costs of the Fifth United Nations
Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (Costed
for New York at 1983 rates)

United States dollars

I. <u>Pre-session</u>	
(40,000 words in English, French and Spanish and 80,000 words in the language of submission - English, French or Spanish)	74 800
II. <u>Meeting servicing</u>	
(Languages of interpretation: A, C, E, F, R, S)	86 800
III. <u>In-session</u>	
(40,000 words in English, French and Spanish, and 160,000 words in the language of submission - English, French or Spanish)	83 500
IV. <u>Post-session</u>	
(40,000 words in English, French and Spanish and 280,000 words in the language of submission - English French or Spanish)	<u>95 600</u>
	Subtotal
	340 700
V. Requirements of the Office of General Services	<u>18 600</u>
	Total
	<u>359 300</u>
