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REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR
REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCE ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Report on Geographical Names

Standardization activity in Hungary between 1977 and 1982

Paper presented by Hungary

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Report
on geographical name standardization activity in Hungary
between 1977 and 1982

A/ National standardization activity

1. Preparatory work on the nineteen county gazetteers /a series titled: Gazetteer of Hungary II./ had begun as early as 1976. The 1 : 150,000 scale county map series, published for the first time in 1977, had been taken as basis. This means that the Gazetteers contain approximately as much name as can be placed on these maps with a maximum density.

As a result, about 62,000 standardized geographical names have been published in the following sequence:

- 1978: Baranya, Győr-Sopron, Somogy, Vas, Veszprém, and Zala counties
- 1979: Csongrád, Fejér, Komárom, Pest counties, the latter including the capital, Budapest
- 1980: Bács-Kiskun, Békés, Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén, Heves, Nógrád, Szolnok, and Tolna counties
- 1981: Hajdú-Bihar and Szabolcs-Szatmár counties.

Prior to the publication of the county volumes, a departmental order dealing with gazetteers had been enacted. In this order the content of the gazetteers, as well as the competence in giving names to different groups of features had been formulated. This served as the legal basis for the county gazetteers.

The editorial work on the county gazetteers had been carried out by the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography, while the preparatory stages, together with the reproduction and publication was done by Cartographia, Hungarian Map Company for Surveying and Mapping.

The county gazetteers contain names for all types of features except streets and large areal features /such as regions, plains, ranges etc./. According to the designations applied in the gazetteers, the following types of features are given:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| area | lake |
| area, built up | mountain or peak |
| canal | natural reserve |
| capital | outskirt settlement |
| cave | point of interest |
| city | reservoir |
| city of county right | rock |
| commune | swallow-hole |
| commune, associate | swamp |
| commune, large | transport feature |
| forest | valley |
| hill | |

The names were previously checked up with the help of the local councils, then examined in detail by a special working group, followed by a general discussion in the Committee on Geographical Names where ultimate proposals were given.

It is anticipated that this series of gazetteers, the first of its kind in this country, will promote the uniform usage of geographical names, first of all on maps. The relatively wide-spread circulation can lead to a number of remarks that may also help in getting closer to the local usage.

2. Another gazetteer containing the most frequently used names of regions, relief and the hydrography was first published in 1971 /titled: Gazetteer of Hungary I./. The necessity for updating this gazetteer became obvious after the publication of the county gazetteers described in the previous paragraphs, as the two materials had to be brought in harmony.

The second edition of this gazetteer has also been published by Cartographia in 1982. Contrary to the 1971 edition, it appeared now in the same size as the county gazetteers, and it has been supplemented by a 1 : 500,000 scale map.

This gazetteer contains 732 standardized geographical names, an index with the name variants, as well as a number of explanations and informations both in Hungarian and English. The names in the gazetteer were discussed by the Committee on Geographical Names. For the names and the delimitation of natural regions a special study group had given proposals.

3. A list of country names will also be published in 1982 by Cartographia, the editorial work of which was done at the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography. The list includes short and full names of independent countries and other areas. The Hungarian language names are accompanied by English, French, German, Russian, and Spanish ones. Names in the language of the respective country is also added if not covered by the languages mentioned. The list also gives the Hungarian language adjectives, adjectives of nationality, and the name of the official or used language. The list is supplemented by a world map.

B/ Activity in international standardization

1. Editorial work on the 1 : 2,500,000 scale World Map may be considered as a contribution to international standardization. In the course of the preparations for the second edition of the sheets of the World Map, the updating and completion of the instruction "Rendering of geographical names on the World Map" is being carried out.

2. In the framework of the U.N. Group of Experts on Geographical Names, a representative of our country is responsible for the Working group on a Single Romanization System for each Non-Roman Writing System.

3. We attended both the 4th and 5th meeting of our division, and tried to contribute to the standardization of geographical names at these occasions, as well as between the meetings.

Budapest
16 April, 1982