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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 of the Dutch- and German-speaking
Division of the United Nations Group of
Experts on Geographical Names **

Paper presented by the Dutch- and German-
speaking Division of the United Nations Group
of Experts on Geographical Names

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The Dutch- and German-speaking Division (DGSD) of the UNGEEN has held several meetings since 1977, the last one at Enschede (Netherlands) under the chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Ormeling (Netherlands). Activities were focussed on education and training in toponymy. Applied toponymy is part of university education in Vienna university (Austria), Prof. Breu, in Zürich ETH (Switzerland), Prof. Schorta, in Dresden Technical University (G.D.R.) and at Enschede (Netherlands) at the International Institute for Aerial Survey and Earth Sciences (ITC), Prof. Ormeling. There exists no such education in the F.R.G. so far. DGSD recommended that member states should establish possibilities at university level and ask the Conference to adopt a resolution on this subject.

An important role in the activities of the DGSD played the Pilot-Training Course in Toponymy which has been held in Indonesia in June 1982 thanks to the Indonesian government hosting the course and thanks to the initiative taken by Prof. Ormeling in his capacity as convenor of the Working Group on Training Courses.

Prof. Breu (Austria) elaborated a paper entitled: "Social and economic benefit of the standardization of geographical names" (see document E/CONF.74/L.18).

The G.D.R. has prepared a map showing standardized regional names and outlines of the extension of the areas thus designated. It was recommended to the F.R.G. to elaborate such a map for its territory. Such a map is under preparation but due to the federal structure of the F.R.G. it has not yet been finished and approved.

The F.R.G. has completed the "Gazetteer Federal Republic of Germany" early in 1982. A copy is on display during the Conference.

A close cooperation between the UNGEGN and International Cartographic Association (ICA) has been initiated by Prof. Ormeling. During the XI. International Cartographic Conference of the I.C.A., held in Warsaw (Poland), 29 July - 4 August 1982, a special session was dedicated to "Standardization of geographical names and its application to cartography" where papers of member of UNGEGN were presented. Toponymic guidelines of Austria, the F.R.G., the G.D.R. and Suriname have been completed, the volume for Switzerland is still in work.