

2 July 2002

Original: English

**Eighth United Nations Conference on the
Standardization of Geographical Names**

Berlin, 27 August-5 September 2002

Item 10 of the provisional agenda*

Exonyms

**List of selected German-language exonyms, including
phonetic transcription**

Submitted by Germany**

* E/CONF.94/1.

** Submitted by: Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN) (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names). Prepared by Jörn Sievers, Chairman, StAGN.

Summary

In accordance with resolutions II/28 of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names and III/18 and III/19 of the Third Conference, a list of selected exonyms of the German language was prepared by Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN) under the convenorship of E. Spiess and published in 1994 (see Working Paper No. 81 of the seventeenth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names). The list contained only such exonyms as are commonly and widely used within German-speaking regions. Exonyms showing slight modifications as compared to the endonymic spelling were not listed. The list is available on the Internet (<http://www.ifag.de/kartographie/stagn/exonymenliste.pdf>).

The following definition of the term “exonym” was included in the Glossary of Toponymic Terminology, Version 4, which was submitted to the Seventh Conference (E/CONF.91/L.13):

“Name used in a specific language for a geographical feature situated outside the area where that language has official status, and differing in its form from the name used in the official language or languages of the area where the geographical feature is situated.”

The exonyms in the new list conform to that definition. In cooperation with the German broadcasting station Hessischer Rundfunk, the list of exonyms was thoroughly revised and was extended by including the phonetic transcriptions of the exonyms and endonyms. The latter are listed in a form called “adapted to German”, taking into account the difficulty or inability of German mother-tongue speakers to pronounce correctly certain phonemes that are unusual in the German language. This new list has 510 entries containing the following items:

- Two-letter country ISO code
- Country name (in German)
- Geographical coordinates of the feature
- Spelling of the German exonym
- IPA transcription of the German exonym
- Spelling of the endonym (Roman characters)
- IPA transcription of the endonymic pronunciation adapted to German (pronounced as closely as possible to the endonymic pronunciation, and as closely to German as necessary for German speakers)
- Language of the endonym
- Feature category.

The Internet version of this list (http://www.ifag.de/Kartographie/Stagn/Exonyme/f_Exonyme.htm) also offers the pronunciation of the German exonym and the endonym adapted to German as a wave file.