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United Nations Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names, past and current problems

Submitted by Israel**

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Summary

The paper describes the deficiencies of the former Glossary No. 330 and the chief characteristics of the current Glossary, the most important of these being the broadening of the scope of the Glossary (375 terms as against 175 terms in the previous one); the inclusion of examples of the use of the terms; and the inclusion of examples from 20 languages and scripts in the new Glossary (non-European languages were excluded in the former Glossary). The problems of translating the definitions from the English original into the five other official languages of the United Nations are described, as well as the importance of the Glossary in providing training material for courses in the standardization of geographical names. The material will be periodically updated.