

**GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES (SCUFN)**

Dear Sir,

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the Summary Report of the 14th meeting of the GEBCO-SCUFN (Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names), which was held on 17-20 April 2001 at the Japan Oceanographic Data Center, Tokyo, Japan, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Robert L. Fisher, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, USA. This Report is also available on the GEBCO website ([www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/gebco/](http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/gebco/)).

This IHO-IOC Sub-Committee is responsible for selecting the undersea feature names which will appear on GEBCO products (paper and digital), on 1:1 Million IOC International Bathymetric Charts (i.e. IBCM, IBCCA, etc.) and on International (INT) Charts at small scales. SCUFN considers all naming proposals that are submitted to its Secretariat at the IHB. All approved names are contained in a GEBCO Gazetteer database, which is maintained at the IHB. SCUFN works in close cooperation with the Advisory Committee on Undersea Features (ACUF) of the U.S. Board on Geographical Names (BGN).

At the Tokyo meeting, about 600 names were examined (250 at the previous SCUFN Meeting in 1999). These included:

- 71 names proposed by the Portuguese HO and Prof. J.R. Vanney (U. of Paris, France) on IBCEA sheet 1.03 (North Atlantic, Azores Archipelago area).
- 11 names proposed by the French HO (O. Parvillers) on IBCEA sheets 1.11 and 1.12 (South Atlantic, off West Central Africa).
- 85 names proposed by Dr. R. Le Suavé (Ifremer, France) off the Atlantic French coast.
- 28 names proposed by Prof. A. Bonneville (French U. of the Pacific, Tahiti) in the French Polynesia area.
- 21 names proposed by Dr. G. Agapova (Russian Academy of Sciences) in the Sea of Okhotsk, North Pacific and in Central Atlantic.
- 300 names (approx.) proposed by the Japanese Committee on U.F.N., in waters surrounding Japan.

SCUFN eventually selected approximately 400 new names for submission to the GEBCO Guiding Committee (which were approved the following week) and for inclusion in the GEBCO Gazetteer.

A new edition of IHO-IOC Publications B-6 “Standardization of Undersea Feature Names” and a new “GEBCO Gazetteer” were also considered and approved by the Meeting. They are available from the GEBCO website.

The Meeting noted with concern the increasing number of names proposed for consideration by SCUFN, and consequently SCUFN will now meet annually until the circumstances change. The 15<sup>th</sup> SCUFN Meeting is therefore planned to take place at the IHB, Monaco, on **30 September – 2 October 2002**.

At present only one IHO Member State is represented on SCUFN and the balance is made up of representatives from the IHB and IOC. It is important that the IHO participate in the work of this Committee as decisions are made on naming of features in regions that may be important to Member States. Member States are therefore urged to participate in the work of this important committee and to advise the IHB accordingly.

Action items listed in the enclosed report are being undertaken. Any comments on this report will be welcome.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,



Rear Admiral Neil GUY  
Director

Encl.: Summary Report of GEBCO-SCUFN/14 (English only)

Copy to: IOC Secretariat, Paris, France.