

GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES (SCUFN)
XVIth Meeting, IHB, Monaco, 10-12 April 2003

SUMMARY REPORT

Reference: IHB Circular Letter 28/2003, dated 8 April 2003.

Dear Hydrographer,

We enclose herewith a paper copy of the Summary Report of the XVIth meeting of the GEBCO-SCUFN (Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names), which was held on 10-12 April 2003 at the IHB, 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/).

164 names, most of them newly submitted proposals, were examined during this meeting. These included:

- 62 names in the Arctic Ocean, 36 of which were proposed by the Russian HO (HDNO).
- 24 names in the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico, in relation to the IBCCA project. Proposals originated from INEGI (Mexico) and NGDC (USA).
- 11 names in the Western Indian Ocean, in relation to the IBCWIO project.

SCUFN eventually selected 100 new names for inclusion in the GEBCO Gazetteer. The Gazetteer database, which is maintained at the IHB, is being updated accordingly. Then a revised Gazetteer will be produced as an Excel file which will be made available on the GEBCO website. It is also planned to publish a new edition of IHO-IOC Publication B-8 on CD-ROM, along with a limited number of printed copies.

Pending actions from previous SCUFN meetings (Section 2 of the Report) and newly identified actions at SCUFN-XVI (Sections 3 to 7), most of them for the Secretary at the IHB, are being attended to. Any assistance from Member States in completing these actions would be much appreciated.

Circular Letter 28/2003 reported on the lack of experts contributing to the SCUFN work, stressed the importance for the IHO to be appropriately represented on this panel and urged Member States to nominate experts. Nominations were received from Argentina, Colombia and Indonesia. In addition, Japan, Russian Federation and USA (NOAA) had appointed experts to SCUFN before or on the occasion of SCUFN-XVI. The IHB is most grateful to these Hydrographic Offices for having provided experts for SCUFN.

A revised SCUFN Membership List is at Annex A. As announced in CL 28/2003, two key contributing SCUFN members (Dr. Robert L. Fisher, Chairman and Mr. Desmond P.D. Scott) resigned following SCUFN-XVI. Dr. Hans Werner Schenke (AWI, Germany), a worldwide recognized expert in

geomorphology and bathymetry, kindly accepted to serve as Chairman of SCUFN and this was endorsed by the GEBCO Guiding Committee at its April 2003 meeting. SCUFN now comprises nine members, including six from IHO.

The IHB is extremely grateful to Dr. Fisher for the huge amount of work he accomplished and his authoritative leadership of SCUFN for more than 20 years. Mr. Scott should also be thanked for his valuable contribution to SCUFN work, including his important role as Rapporteur of the meetings.

The XVIIth SCUFN meeting will be held on 8-11 June 2004 at the Head Department of Navigation and Oceanography (HDNO) of the Russian Federation, St Petersburg, following the kind invitation by HDNO to host this meeting.

Any comments on this report would be most welcome.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

(original signed)

Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA
Director

Encls.: 1) SCUFN Membership List, as Annex A
2) Summary Report of GEBCO SCUFN-XVI (English only)

Copy to: IOC Secretariat, Paris, France.

GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES (SCUFN)

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(October 2003)

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