



IHB File No. S3/2643

CIRCULAR LETTER No. 35/2006
28 March 2006

GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES (SCUFN)
XVIIIth Meeting, IHB, Monaco, 3-6 October 2005

SUMMARY REPORT

- References: 1) Circular Letter 90/2004, dated 16 December 2004
2) Circular Letter 56/2005, dated 30 May 2005

Dear Hydrographer,

The Summary Report of the XVIIIth meeting of the GEBCO-SCUFN (Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names) is available on the IHO website (www.iho.shom.fr > Committees > GEBCO/SCUFN) and the GEBCO website (www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/gebco/). SCUFN-XVIII was held on 3-6 October 2005 at the IHB, Monaco, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Hans Werner Schenke, Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI), Germany. Paper copies can be provided upon request to the IHB (info@ihb.mc).

Just over a hundred names/features were considered at this meeting. Many of the new proposals were submitted by Russia. SCUFN eventually selected 38 new names for inclusion in the GEBCO Gazetteer and the Gazetteer database, which is maintained at the IHB, is being updated accordingly. The revised version of the Gazetteer will be made available on the IHO and GEBCO websites as an Excel file.

Actions arising from this meeting are summarized in Annex 4 of the Report. They are currently being attended to and any assistance from Member States in completing these actions will be much appreciated.

An updated SCUFN Membership List is provided in Annex A. The three nominations to SCUFN which had been submitted following the Circular Letter in reference 2), i.e. LCdr. Harvinder Avtar (India), Capt. Albert E. Theberge (USA) and LCdr. Rafael Ponce Urbina (Mexico) were approved as official SCUFN members by the GEBCO Guiding Committee in Aguascalientes, Mexico, in July 2005. SCUFN currently includes seven IHO members and four IOC members. There is now a very good IHO representation on SCUFN and the IHB is most grateful to Argentina, India, Japan, Mexico, Russian Federation and USA for their valuable support of SCUFN activities.

The XIXth meeting of SCUFN will be held at the Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI), Bremerhaven, Germany, on 21-23 June 2006. Information on the meeting (draft agenda and logistic information) is being posted on the IHO website. Meeting documents will be added as and when they are available.

All concerned Member States are invited to provide appropriate support for the participation of SCUFN members in SCUFN/XIX.

As a general note, Member States are also strongly encouraged to submit name proposals, e.g. to commemorate historical figures or scientists who have made an outstanding contribution to ocean science, to the SCUFN Secretary (mhuet@ihb.mc), for consideration by the Sub-Committee. Undersea feature name proposal forms are available on the IHO and GEBCO websites.

Any comments on this report will be welcome.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'H. Gorziglia', written in a cursive style.

Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA
Director

Annex A: SCUFN Membership List

Copy to: _____ IOC Secretariat, Paris, France.

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