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GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES (SCUFN)
23rd Meeting, Lima, Peru, 11-14 September 2010

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The 23rd meeting of the IHO-IOC GEBCO Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) was hosted by the Dirección de Hidrografía y Navegación (DHN) of Peru and held at the Centro Naval de Peru (Navy Club) in Lima from 11 to 14 September 2010. The meeting was chaired by Dr Hans Werner Schenke from the Alfred-Wegener-Institut für Polar und Meeresforschung (AWI – Germany, IOC representative). There were 28 participants, including 9 of the 12 SCUFN members, i.e. from Argentina, Brazil, Germany, Japan, Rep of Korea, New Zealand, Pakistan, Russia, and USA. The meeting took note of the absence of Lic. José Luis FRIAS Salazar (Mexico – IOC side) at two consecutive meetings and who, according to the SCUFN terms of reference, is regrettably considered to have resigned from the sub-committee. The current list of SCUFN members and observers is provided in Annex A.

2 The final minutes of SCUFN23 are available on the IHO website (www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/com_wg/SCUFN/SCUFN23/SCUFN23_Report.pdf), together with all documents referred to at the meeting. The main points discussed at the meeting are summarized below.

3 The meeting took note that the following language versions of IHO-IOC B-6 “Standardization of Undersea Feature Names” (2008 edition) have been completed and published, and are available from the IHO and GEBCO websites: English/French, English/Spanish, English/Russian, English/Korean and English/Japanese. The Chinese observers at the meeting offered to prepare an English/Chinese version, to be presented at the next meeting.

4 A number of naming proposals were considered, in particular:

- 13 proposals from AWI, Germany, in the north-eastern Pacific, the Arctic and the Scotia Sea;
- 2 proposals from DHN, Peru, in the south-eastern Pacific;
- 2 proposals from the Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI), UK, in the Southern Ocean;
- 9 proposals from the Korean Committee on Marine Geographical Names (KCMGN), mainly in the central-western Pacific;
- 11 proposals from the Brazilian Navy Hydrographic Center (BNHC), in the south-western Atlantic;
- 11 proposals from the Japan Committee on Undersea Feature Names (JCUFN), in the north-western Pacific;
- 4 proposals from the Department of Navigation and Oceanography (DNO) and the Federal Research Institute of Fishery and Oceanography (VNIRO), Russia, in the Arctic.

5 In total, 129 names were referred to by the Sub-Committee who eventually recommended the acceptance of 51 new undersea feature names for inclusion in the GEBCO Gazetteer. These names were approved by the GEBCO Guiding Committee which met immediately following the meeting of SCUFN.

6 A detailed review of the Gazetteer "Reserve Section", containing all pending names, was conducted on the basis of new information received at the IHB, as SCUFN Secretariat. As a result, the sub-committee recommended the transfer of a number of those names to the official GEBCO Gazetteer and the deletion from the Reserve Section of several other names. These changes were endorsed by the GEBCO Guiding Committee.

7 Discussion was held on the appropriateness of including generic terms of genetic origin as part of the terminology section of B-6. The sub-committee eventually recommended the adoption of the following two new generic terms, with their respective definitions: Mud Volcano and Rift. These terms were accepted by the GEBCO Guiding Committee.

8 All new names and other agreed changes are being included in a new release of IHO-IOC Publication B-8 - the GEBCO Gazetteer of Undersea Features Names, which can be accessed from the publications download section of the IHO website. Member States are invited to review and make use of the GEBCO Gazetteer when producing new charts.

9 The offer by the National Marine Data and Information Service (NMDIS) of China to host the 24th meeting of SCUFN was gratefully accepted and SCUFN-24 will take place on 12-16 September 2011 in Tianjin or Beijing. Those Member States that have nominated experts to represent the IHO at SCUFN, i.e. Argentina, Brazil, India, Japan, Pakistan and USA, are encouraged to ensure that these experts are able to attend SCUFN-24.

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

Encl: Annex A: SCUFN Membership

GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES (SCUFN)
Membership (March 2011)

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