



国家海洋信息中心

National Marine Data and Information Service



# China Submits Undersea Feature Name Proposals, Actively Participate in International Cooperation of SCUFN

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Tianjin, China

9 Oct, 2019

# Disclaimer

- This presentation only represents the author's own viewpoint ,not China or SCUFN.

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# Part I

## Introduction about SCUFN



国家海洋信息中心

National Marine Data and Information Service

Undersea feature names refer to the naming of special seabed topography and physiognomy after scientific discrimination and confirmation. It is an indispensable geographical element for coastal countries in the process of ocean mapping and surveying. The standardization and systematization of undersea feature names can avoid the problem of multiple names for one place and multiple locations for one name in the seabed, and provide concise tool and reference frame for people to identify, describe and manage the oceans.

- The setting up of SCUFN arose from the need for a uniform policy for the handling of geographical names and the standardisation of undersea feature names. This was done in order to achieve consistent naming on bathymetric maps and nautical charts.

All names selected by SCUFN are contained in the IHO-IOC GEBCO Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names, IHO publication B-8.

- **Next Meeting**

- SCUFN-33 - Buenos Aires, Argentina (9-13 November 2020)

- **Past Meeting**

- SCUFN-32 - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (5-9 August 2019)
- SCUFN-31 - Wellington, New Zealand (23-27 October 2018)
- SCUFN-30 - Genoa, Italy (2 - 6 October 2017)
- SCUFN-29 - Boulder, Colorado, USA (19-23 September 2016)
- SCUFN-28 - Niteroi, Brazil (12-16 October 2015)
- SCUFN-27 - IHB, Monaco (16-20 June 2014)
- SCUFN-26 - Tokyo, Japan (23-27 September 2013)

# Standards and rules of SCUFN

- GEBCO sub-committee on undersea feature names(SCUFN) terms of reference and rules of procedure





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

### TERMS OF REFERENCE AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

#### References:

- A. IHO CL 24/2008 dated 06 March - *GEBCO: New Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure*
- B. IOC Executive Council XLI, June 2008
- C. IHO CL 59/2008 dated 9 July - *GEBCO Guiding Committee and its Sub Committees: Final Approval of New Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure*
- D. 35<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee, November 2018 – *Amendments to Art. 2.8*

#### 1. Terms of Reference

- 1.1 The Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names reports to the Joint IOC-IHO GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) as its designated authority for all matters concerning undersea feature names.
- 1.2 It is the function of the Sub-Committee to select those names of undersea features in the world ocean appropriate for use on GEBCO graphical and digital products, on the IHO small-scale International chart series, and on the regional IBC series.

#### 1.3 The Sub-Committee shall:

##### 1.3.1 Select undersea feature names from:

- a) names provided by national and international organizations concerned with nomenclature;
- b) names submitted to the Sub-Committee by individuals, agencies and organizations involved in marine research, hydrography, etc.;
- c) names appearing in scientific journals or on appropriate charts and maps;
- d) names submitted to the Sub-Committee by the Chairpersons or Chief Editors of IBC projects, in relation to the work on these projects.

All selected names shall adhere to the principles contained in IHO-IOC Publication B-6 “Standardization of Undersea Feature Names” and be supported by valid evidence. Such names shall be reviewed before they are added to the Gazetteer.

##### 1.3.2 Define, where appropriate, the extent of named features.

1.3.3 Provide advice to individuals and appropriate authorities on the selection of undersea feature names located outside the external limits of the territorial sea and, on request, inside the external limit of the territorial sea.

1.3.4 Encourage the establishment of national boards on undersea feature names where such boards do not exist.

1.3.5 Prepare and maintain an international and worldwide IHO-IOC GEBCO Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names.

1.3.6 Encourage the use of undersea feature names included in the IHO-IOC GEBCO Gazetteer, on any maps, charts, scientific publications and documents by promulgating these names widely.

1.3.7 Prepare and maintain internationally agreed guidelines for the standardization of undersea feature names and encourage their use.

1.3.8 Review and address the need for revised or additional terms and definitions for submarine topographic features.

1.3.9 Maintain close liaison with the UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names, the focal point of which shall be invitations to attend meetings of the Sub-Committee, and with international or national authorities concerned with the naming of undersea features.

1.3.10 Provide, where feasible, historical information regarding the origin of pre-existing published names and historical variant names. This research will include discovery ship and/or organization, information regarding the individual or vessel being commemorated or geographic feature with which the name is associated, origin of variant names if required and source material regarding naming information.

#### 2. Rules of Procedure

##### 2.1 Membership of the Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names is covered by the following rules:

2.1.1 The Sub-Committee shall normally consist of 12 members, preferably 6 members being appointed by IHO and 6 by IOC acting in close consultation.

2.1.2 Appointed Members of the Sub-Committee represent their parent organization as experts<sup>1</sup> and no substitution shall be allowed.

2.1.3 Members of the Sub-Committee shall be appointed for a five-year period, renewable for one additional five-year term by the corresponding parent organization if so recommended by the Sub-Committee through the GGC. The Sub-Committee Chairperson shall inform the relevant parent organization of any foreseeable vacancy in a timely manner.

2.2 The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be elected by the Sub-Committee subject to endorsement by the GGC. They should normally come from different Parent Organizations.

2.3 The Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson are elected for a five-year period but not exceeding their current membership of the Sub-Committee. The Chairperson will normally be succeeded by the Vice-Chairperson. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson may be re-elected by the Sub-Committee for one additional five-year period. Should the Chairperson step down before the end of his/her term, the Vice-Chairperson shall take over as Chair till the end of the current term.

2.4 The Chairperson, or in his/her absence the Vice-Chairperson, shall conduct the business of the Sub-Committee. Meetings will usually be held every year, ideally before the GGC meeting. In the intervening period the Sub-Committee shall conduct its business by correspondence (preferably electronic mail).

<sup>1</sup> So far as IOC is concerned, the Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names is classed as a Joint Group of Experts under the IOC guidelines for subsidiary bodies.

- 2.5 Members are expected to attend every meeting of the Sub-Committee. Sub-Committee Members who are absent from meetings over two consecutive years will normally be considered to have resigned and new nominations shall be sought from the relevant parent organization.
  - 2.6 Representatives of non-governmental entities / organizations, or individuals that can provide a relevant and constructive contribution to the work of the Sub-Committee may attend meetings with observer status. In the event that a large number of observers seek to attend a meeting, the Chairperson may restrict attendance by inviting them to act through one or more collective representatives.
  - 2.7 Observers from IHO and/or IOC Member States may attend meetings. Attendance shall normally be limited to one observer per Member State.
  - 2.8 Proposals which are to be considered at SCUFN meetings must be submitted two months before meetings, preferably in a digital form.
  - 2.9 The quorum necessary to hold a meeting shall be 7 Sub-Committee members. The Sub-Committee should strive to decide by consensus. If a vote is necessary the majority required for acceptance is a simple majority of the total number of members. Only members present may cast a vote. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie. This option will be used exceptionally if no consensus can be reached and a decision has to be made.
  - 2.10 The Sub-Committee will not consider undersea feature name proposals that are politically sensitive.
  - 2.11 Recommendations of the Sub-Committee shall be submitted to the GGC for consideration and decision.
  - 2.12 The Chairperson is to submit an annual report to the Chairperson of the GGC.
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# Standardization of undersea feature names (Edition 4.1.0)

- English/ Chinese version is available in 2013.



国际水道测量组织



政府间海洋学委员会

STANDARDIZATION OF UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES

# 海底地名命名标准

B-6出版物

Publication B-6

4.1.0版

Edition 4.1.0

英文/中文版

国际水道测量组织  
政府间海洋学委员会  
国家海洋信息中心 编  
译



海洋出版社

INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC  
ORGANIZATION



国际水道测量组织

INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
OCEANOGRAPHIC  
COMMISSION



政府间海洋学委员会

STANDARDIZATION  
OF UNDERSEA  
FEATURE NAMES

海底地名命名标准

GUIDELINES  
PROPOSAL FORM  
TERMINOLOGY

指导原则  
命名提案表  
术语

Publication B-6

B-6 出版物

Edition 4.1.0, September 2013

4.1.0 版, 2013年9月

English/ Chinese Version

英文/中文版

Published by the  
INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC  
ORGANIZATION

出版者  
国际水道测量组织

MONACO  
(摩纳哥)

# Undersea feature name proposal

- English/French/Spanish version
- Since SCUFN 30 (Oct. 2017), printed and/or digital versions of proposal forms must be submitted **no later than two months** prior to a SCUFN Meeting
- International concern for naming undersea features is limited to those features entirely or mainly (more than 50%) outside the external limits of the territorial sea, not exceeding 12 nautical miles from the baselines, in agreement with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- The Sub-Committee will not consider undersea feature name proposals that are politically sensitive.



INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC  
ORGANIZATION

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC  
COMMISSION (of UNESCO)

**UNDERSEA FEATURE NAME PROPOSAL**  
(See IHO-IOC Publication B-6 and **NOTE** overleaf)

Note: The boxes will expand as you fill the form.

Name Proposed:		Ocean or Sea:	
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Geometry that best defines the feature (Yes/No) :						
Point	Line	Polygon	Multiple points	Multiple lines*	Multiple polygons*	Combination of geometries*

\* Geometry should be clearly distinguished when providing the coordinates below.

	Lat. (e.g. 63°32'6"N)	Long. (e.g. 046°21'3"W)
Coordinates:		

Feature Description:	Maximum Depth:		Steepness :	
	Minimum Depth :		Shape :	
	Total Relief :		Dimension/Size :	

Associated Features:	
----------------------	--

Chart/Map References:	Shown Named on Map/Chart:	
	Shown Unnamed on Map/Chart:	
	Within Area of Map/Chart:	

Reason for Choice of Name (if a person, state how associated with the feature to be named):	
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

Discovery Facts:	Discovery Date:	
	Discoverer (Individual, Ship):	

Supporting Survey Data, including Track Controls:	Date of Survey:	
	Survey Ship:	
	Sounding Equipment:	
	Type of Navigation:	
	Estimated Horizontal Accuracy, in nautical miles (M):	
	Survey Track Spacing:	
	Supporting material can be submitted as Annex in analog or digital form.	

Proposer(s):	Name(s):	
	Date:	
	E-mail:	
	Organization and Address:	
	Concurren (name, e-mail, organization and address):	

Remarks:

**NOTE:** This form should be forwarded, when completed:

- If the undersea feature is located inside the external limit of the territorial sea:  
- to your "National Authority for Approval of Undersea Feature Names" (see Publication B-6) or, if this does not exist or is not known, either to the IHO or to the IOC (see addresses below);
- If at least 50 % of the undersea feature is located outside the external limits of the territorial sea:  
- to the IHO or to the IOC, at the following addresses :

International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) 4b, Quai Antoine 1er B.P. 445 MC 98011 MONACO CEDEX Principality of MONACO Fax: +377 93 10 81 40 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@iho.int">info@iho.int</a> Web: <a href="http://www.iho.int">www.iho.int</a>	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) UNESCO Place de Fontenoy 75700 PARIS France Fax: +33 1 45 68 58 12 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@unesco.org">info@unesco.org</a> Web: <a href="http://ioc-unesco.org/">http://ioc-unesco.org/</a>
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# GEBCO Gazetteer

Until 2018, there are 3,943 undersea feature names in the GEBCO Gazetteer

In 2019, 159 undersea feature name proposals have been accepted by SCUFN

## Part II

# China Actively Participate in International Cooperation of SCUFN



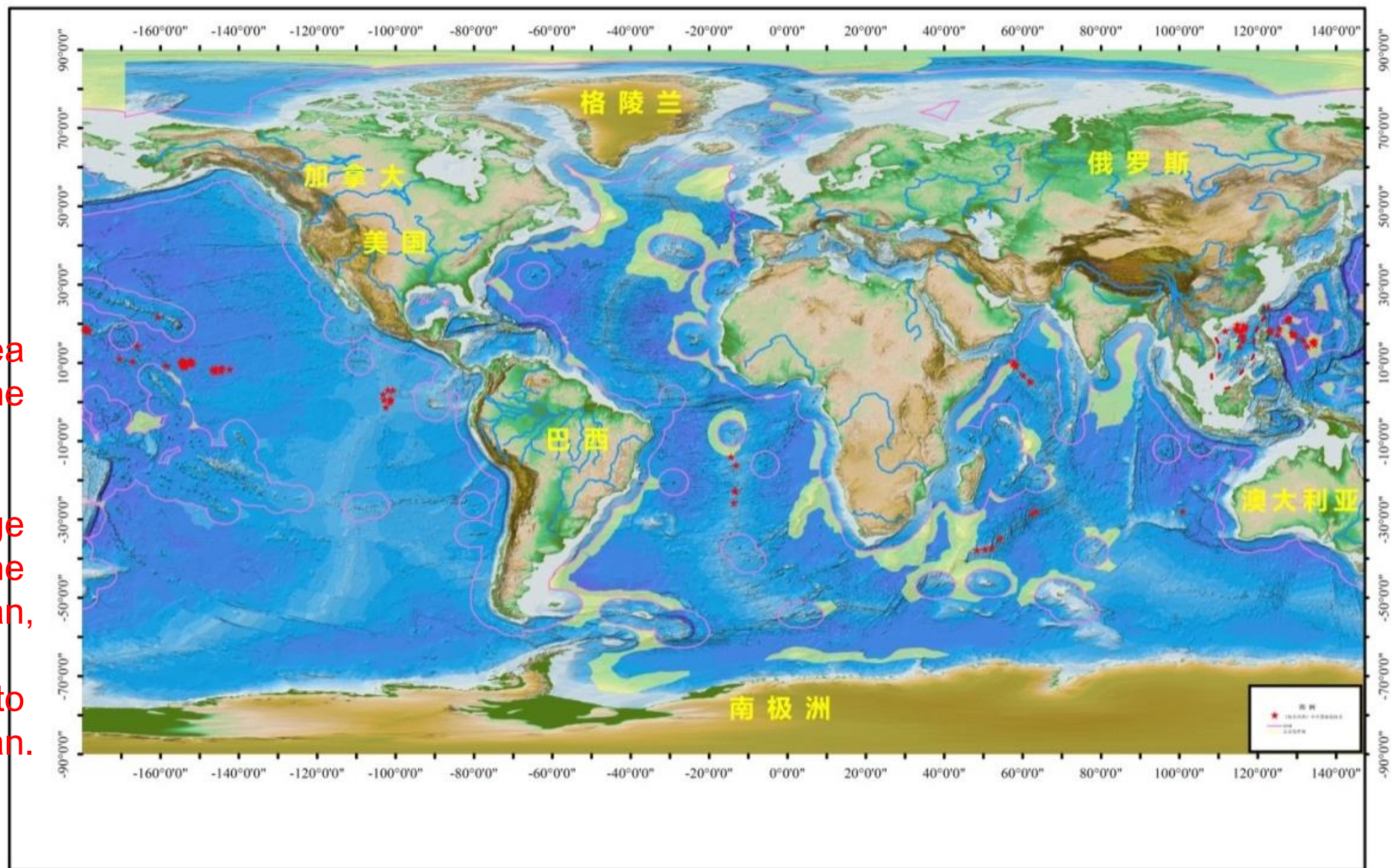
- Relatively speaking, China starts the work of undersea feature names later, just began in 2011.
- In recent years, the work of undersea feature names in China have developed very quickly, and as of 2019, 148 Chinese undersea feature name proposals have been accepted by SCUFN and 116 included in the GEBCO Gazetteer(updated until 2018).

- For quantitative terms, the undersea feature name proposals show an increasing trend from 7 in 2011 to 79 in 2018.

Proposal No. submitted by China and accepted by SCUFN from 2011-2019

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Proposal No. Submitted by China	5	15	10	19	20	50	41	79	35
Proposals No. Accepted by SCUFN	Revised to 7 and accepted by SCUFN	12	10	14	13	16	32	12	32

For the sea area, the undersea feature names range from the Pacific ocean, Atlantic ocean to Indian Ocean.



Chinese undersea feature name proposals in GEBCO Gazetteer

- For the way of submitting, it is achieved from the submission of domestic institutions to specialized agencies, respectively submitted by the China Committee Undersea Feature Names (CCUFN).
- In addition, China has established a system of naming rules embodying the Chinese traditional culture. The naming system is based on the Book of Odes (Shijing , a collection of odes and poems created from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. in ancient China) and supplemented by Chinese historical names. The Ballads, the Dynastic Hymn and the Sacrificial Songs in the Book of Odes correspond to the undersea feature names in Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean and the Indian Ocean, respectively.



# Standard in China about geographical names

- Geographical names-Signs(GB 17733-2008)
- Rules for classification of geographical names and code representation(GB/T 18521-2001)
- Regulation on Geographical names
- Transformation guide lines of geographical names from foreign languages into Chinese(GB/T 17693.1-1999)
- Nomenclature of undersea feature names(GB 29432-2012)
- And so on .....

ICS 01.040.03  
P 50



# 中华人民共和国国家标准

GB 17733—2008  
代替 GB 17733.1—1999

## 地名 标志

Geographical names—Signs

2008-04-23 发布

2008-08-01 实施

中华人民共和国国家质量监督检验检疫总局  
中国国家标准化管理委员会 发布

ICS 35.040  
A 24



# 中华人民共和国国家标准

GB/T 18521—2001

## 地名分类与类别代码编制规则

Rules for classification of geographical  
names and code representation

2001-11-16 发布

2002-04-01 实施



中华人民共和国  
国家质量监督检验检疫总局 发布

## 地名管理条例

国发〔1986〕11号

1986年1月23日

**第一条** 为了加强对地名的管理,适应社会主义现代化建设和国际交往的需要,制定本条例。

**第二条** 本条例所称地名,包括:自然地理实体名称。行政区划名称,居民地名称,各专业部门使用的具有地名意义的台、站、港、场等名称。

**第三条** 地名管理应当从我国地名的历史和现状出发,保持地名的相对稳定。必须命名和更名时,应当按照本条例规定的原则和审批权限报批。未经批准,任何单位和个人不得擅自决定。

**第四条** 地名的命名应遵循下列规定:

(一)有利于人民团结和社会主义现代化建设,尊重当地群众的愿望,与有关各方协商一致。

(二)一般不以人名作地名。禁止用国家领导人的名字作地名。

(三)全国范围内的县、市以上名称,一个县、市内的乡、镇名称,一个城镇内的街道名称,一个乡内的村庄名称,不应重名,并避免同音。

(四)各专业部门使用的具有地名意义的台、站、港、场等名称,一般应与当地地名统一。

(五)避免使用生僻字。

**第五条** 地名的更名应遵循下列规定:

(一)凡有损我国领土主权和民族尊严的,带有民族歧视性质和妨碍民族团结的,带有侮辱劳动人民性质和极尽庸俗的,以及其它违背国家方针、政策的地名,必须更名。

(二)不符合本条例第四条第三、四、五款规定的地名,在征得有关方面和当地群众同意后,予以更名。

(三)一地多名、一名多写的,应当确定一个统一的名称和用字。

(四)不明显属于上述范围的、可改可不改的和当地群众不同意改的地名,不要更改。

**第六条** 地名命名、更名的审批权限和程序如下:

(一)行政区划名称的命名、更名,按照国务院《关于行政区划管理的规定》办理。

(二)国内外著名的或涉及两个省(自治区、直辖市)以上的山脉、河流、湖泊等自然地理实体名称,由省、自治区、直辖市人民政府提出意见,报国务院审批。

(三)边境地区涉及国界线走向和海上涉及岛屿归属界线以及载入边界条约和议定书中的自然地理实体名称和居民地名称由省、自治区、直辖市人民政府提出意见,报国务院审批。

(四)在科学考察中,对国际公有领域新的地理实体命名,由主管部门提出意见,报国务院审批。

(五)各专业部门使用的具有地名意义的台、站、港、场等名称,在征得当地人民政府同意后,由专业主管部门审批。

(六)城镇街道名称,由直辖市、市、县人民政府审批。

## 中华人民共和国国家标准

### 外语地名汉字译写导则 英语

GB/T 17693.1—1999

Transformation guidelines of geographical  
names from foreign languages into Chinese  
—English

#### 1 范围

本标准规定了英语地名汉字译写的规则。

本标准适用于以汉字译写英语地名。

#### 2 定义

本标准采用下列定义。

##### 2.1 地名 geographical names

人们对各个地理实体赋予的专有名称。

##### 2.2 地名专名 specific terms

地名中用来区分各个地理实体的词。

##### 2.3 地名通名 generic terms

地名中用来区分地理实体类别的词。

##### 2.4 专名化的通名 generic terms used as specific terms

转化为专名组成部分的通名。

##### 2.5 地名的汉字译写 transformation of geographical names from foreign languages into Chinese

用汉字书写其他语言的地名。

#### 3 总则

3.1 地名专名一般音译;地名通名一般意译。

3.2 惯用汉字译名和以常用人名命名的地名(见附录A),仍旧沿用;其派生的地名,原则上同名同译。

3.3 地名译写应采用该国官方出版的地图、地名录、地名词典、地名志等文献中的标准地名。

3.4 地名译写使用的汉字以表1英汉音译表选用的汉字为准。

#### 4 编则

##### 4.1 地名专名

4.1.1 专名(含专名化的通名)一般音译。如:

Glenfield	译“格伦菲尔德”
Snow Hill	译“斯诺希尔”
Great Island	译“格雷特岛”
North	译“诺斯”

国家质量技术监督局1999-03-04批准

1999-09-01实施

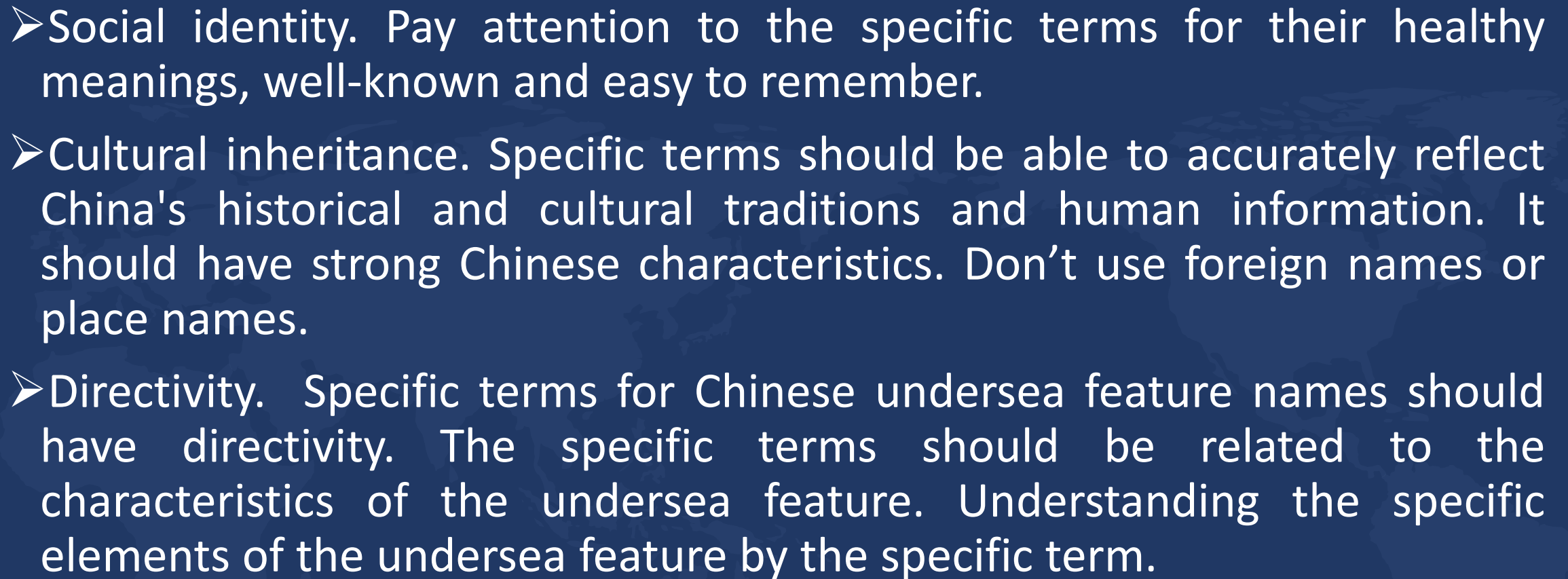
# Specific terms for undersea feature names in China

According to the Regulation on Geographical names, the Natural topography of Land, administrative divisions on naming tradition and so on in China, the choice for specific terms of undersea feature names should meet the following principles.

- Legality. The specific terms should be in accordance with the Chinese laws. There should be no terms that undermine the reunification of the motherland, sovereignty and territorial integrity, division of the motherland, ethnic discrimination, etc. There should not have the words such as incitement and encouragement of crime.

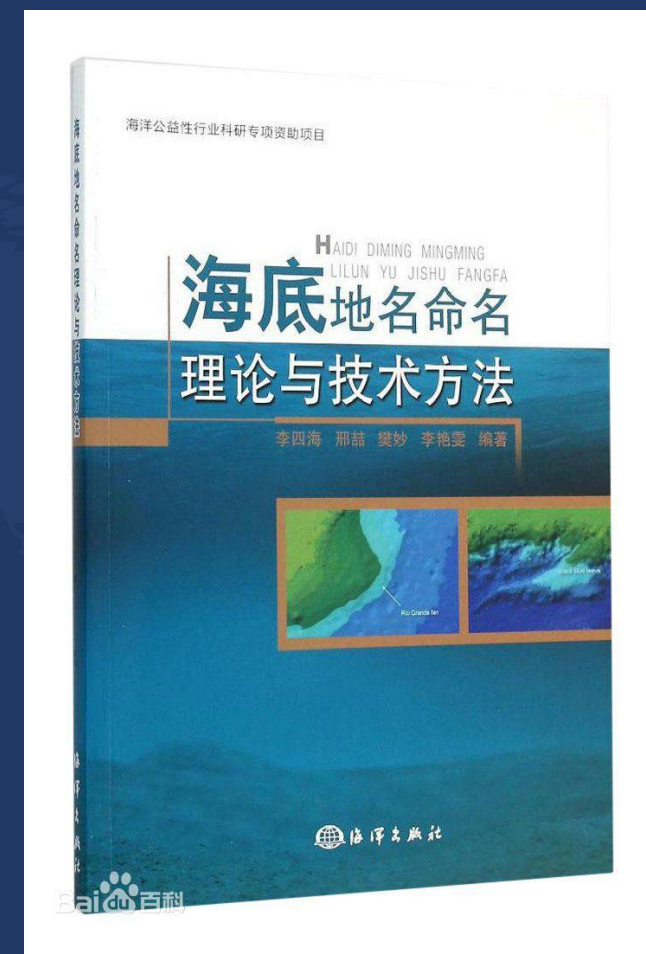
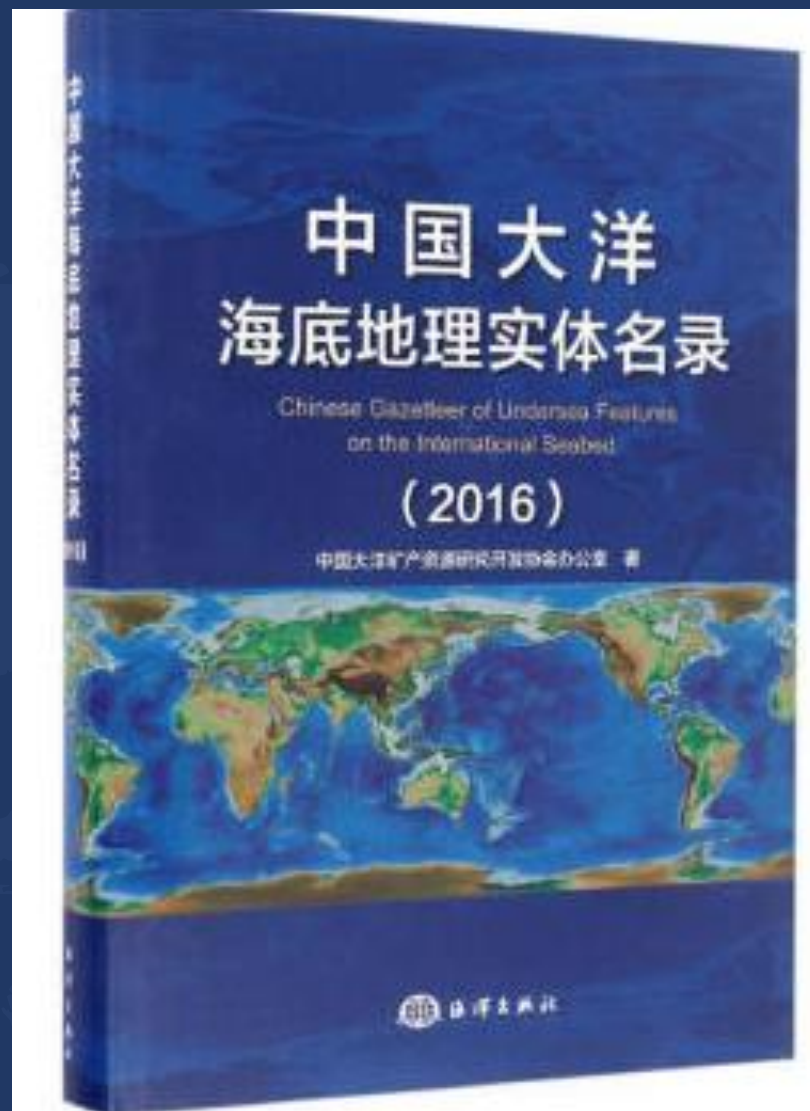


- Standardization. The specific terms should meet the requirements of the Regulation on Geographical names. Use the standardized words. Avoid the use of uncommon words and homophone.
- Uniqueness. The specific terms should be unique, avoid one specific term is used in multiple undersea feature names. If this appears in historical records and in daily use, generally the first undersea feature that used the name is retained. Meanwhile, the same undersea feature should not have more than one name. If not so, the earliest used name is accurate to avoid confusion.

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- A faint, light blue world map is visible in the background of the slide, centered behind the text.
- Social identity. Pay attention to the specific terms for their healthy meanings, well-known and easy to remember.
  - Cultural inheritance. Specific terms should be able to accurately reflect China's historical and cultural traditions and human information. It should have strong Chinese characteristics. Don't use foreign names or place names.
  - Directivity. Specific terms for Chinese undersea feature names should have directivity. The specific terms should be related to the characteristics of the undersea feature. Understanding the specific elements of the undersea feature by the specific term.

# The books about undersea feature names

- Chinese Gazetteer of Undersea Features on the international Seabed (2016)
- Chinese Gazetteer of Undersea Features on the international Seabed (2017)
- The Theory and Technical Method of Undersea Feature Names
- And so on .....



# China Undersea Feature Nomenclature Network

- Chinese

<http://www.ccufn.org.cn/>

## English

<http://www.ccufn.org.cn/web/placename/index.view>





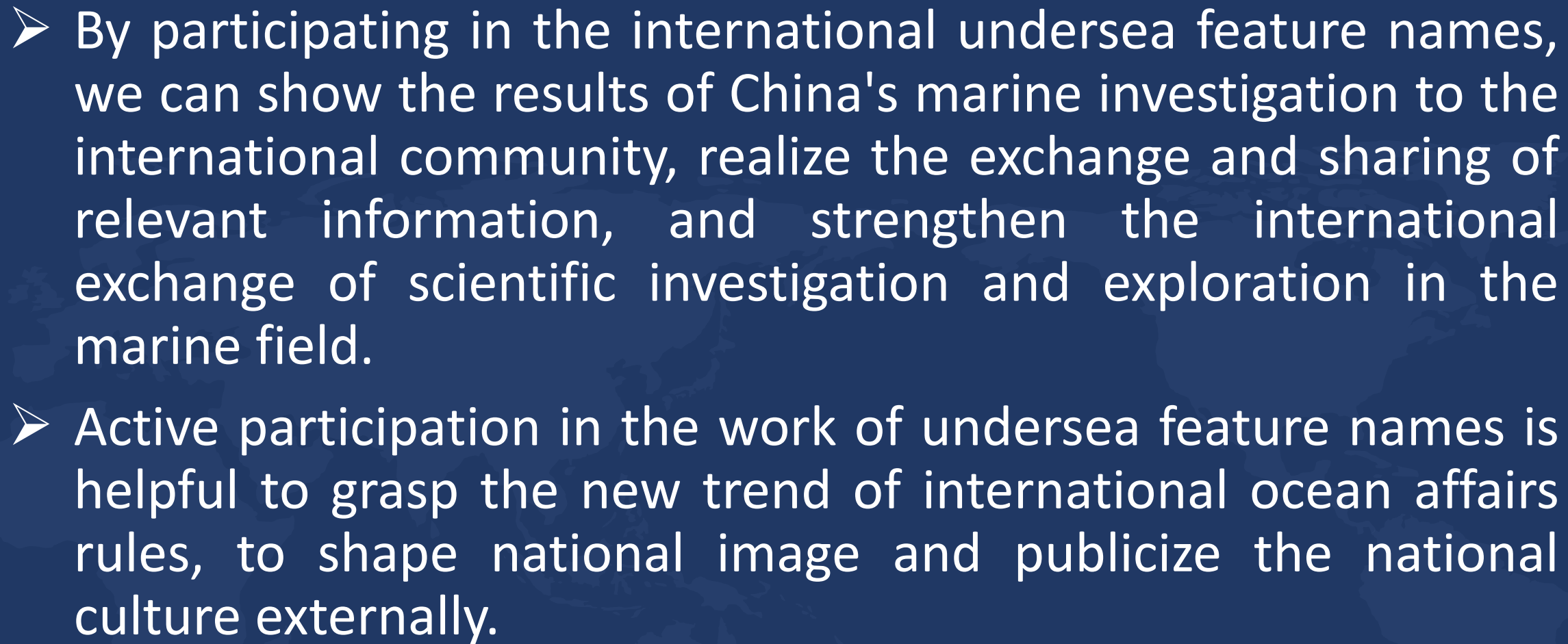
## Part III

# Importance of China Participate in International Cooperation of SCUFN

The work of undersea feature names for China has become an important part of the national marine management system, which has practical significance.

- The publication and use of undersea feature names have realized the cognition and description of the seabed topography in relevant area. It is beneficial to the compilation of all kinds of marine maps and the development of marine scientific research.
- The acquisition of geographic information related to undersea feature names requires a large number of marine science and research work as support. As an opportunity, it is helpful to improve the level of marine science and research in China.



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- A faint, light blue world map is visible in the background of the slide, centered behind the text.
- By participating in the international undersea feature names, we can show the results of China's marine investigation to the international community, realize the exchange and sharing of relevant information, and strengthen the international exchange of scientific investigation and exploration in the marine field.
  - Active participation in the work of undersea feature names is helpful to grasp the new trend of international ocean affairs rules, to shape national image and publicize the national culture externally.



# Part IV

## Conclusion

- A large number of Chinese undersea feature name proposals are adopted, not only reflecting the strength promotion of China's marine research and the importance attached by the State to the ocean, but also showing China's positive contribution to the international undersea feature names.
- In the future, China will further grasp and apply the guidelines, principles and rules of the SCUFN, strengthen the investigation of the topography in seabed, make full use of the survey data available, actively participate in SCUFN international cooperation, and strive for the adoption of more undersea feature name proposals, make greater contributions to international maritime affairs.

# Thanks for your attention !



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NATIONAL MARINE DATA AND INFORMATION SERVICE