Seventh meeting 25 27 April 1987
Seventh Meeting of the GEBCO Sub-Committee on Geographical Names and Nomenclature of Ocean Bottom Features

International Hydrographic Bureau
Monaco, 25-27 April 1987

SUMMARY REPORT
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1. Opening of the Meeting

Dr. Robert L. Fisher, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, opened the meeting at 0900 on Saturday 25 April 1987 and welcomed the participants, noting that all the members of the Sub-Committee were present. Vice Admiral Orlando A.A. Affonso expressed the pleasure of the IHB Directing Committee at hosting the 7th meeting of the Sub-Committee.

1.2 A full list of participants is given in Annex I.

1.3 The Sub-Committee had before it a number of letters and documents listing various geographical names of undersea features for review.

1.4 Before giving consideration to these documents, Admiral Affonso proposed the further publication of a short article 'A Proposal for Modesty' in the next issue of the International Hydrographic Review. This article, recently prepared by Dr. Fisher for publication in the journal 'Geology', recommends practices for academic and agency specialists when intending to publish new names for undersea features in scientific or professional articles, or on charts and maps. He asked Dr. Fisher to obtain permission from Dr. Eldridge Moores, Editor of 'Geology', for such republication.

2. General questions supported by documentation on hand

2.1 The Sub-Committee recognized that scientists universally now use the term 'fan' rather than 'cone' which appears in many places in the GEBCO (5th Edition), e.g. Niger Cone, Congo Cone, Orange Cone and Amazonas Cone on sheet 5.12. It was agreed that the term should be changed when the sheets are next taken in hand for reprinting. The List of Terms and Definitions in the publication 'Standardization of Undersea Feature Names' should be amended accordingly (see section 6 below).

2.2 The name 'MacDonald Guyot' has been used for a feature in position 19°10'N, 173°15'E (see report of the 6th meeting of the Sub-Committee, item 5k). This peak, which has been named after the late eminent petrographer, Gordon MacDonald, is in a region containing names of other contemporary geoscientists. However, the name 'MacDonald Seamount' has also been given (see ACUF/BGN Gazetteer) to an
isolated elevation, in approximate position 29°S, 140°W., that appears (but is unnamed) on GEBCO sheet 5.11. Ingenieur General Andre Roubertou tabled documents detailing exploration, some very recent and precise, of this feature since reported in 1967 (USS Kawamee). The Sub-Committee requested Ing. Gen. Roubertou to propose another appropriate name for this significant feature that lies in French Oceania.

2.3 The Sub-Committee reviewed and accepted several proposed new names for features appearing on sheet 5.09, many of which had been discovered and/or examined by fishing vessels:

2.3.1 "Von Hochstetter Seamount", an extensive elevation near 34°57'.7S, 81°07'.5 E. Dr. Fisher (letter dated 20 January 1987) had proposed this name for the feature north-east of St. Paul Island which had been studied by Von Hochstetter, petrographer aboard the research vessel 'Novara', in 1857.

2.3.2 "Austral Fracture Zone". This large feature, extending at least from 33°S, 54'E to 39°S, 52°20'E, was so designated to commemorate the vessel "Austral" which has been active in exploration throughout the area whilst employed in fishing activities.

2.3.3 "Geroevka Bank" (formerly Seamount), in position 35°57'.5S, 53°14'.0E is a very shoal elevation on the eastern lip of a prominent Fracture Zone. Dr. Galina Agapova proposed the name after a Soviet fishing vessel. The Sub-Committee had previously accepted the name "Austral Bank" for this feature but agreed to accept this proposal in view of the decision in paragraph 2.3.2 above.

2.3.4 "Crozet Basin" - nominal centre 40°S, 60°E.

2.4 The Sub-Committee reviewed a 1986 chart by Vanney et al of the area around the Crozet Plateau and recommended that when feasible sheets 5.09 and 5.13 be updated with the bathymetry from this chart; however it did not consider that the geographical names thereon should be inserted on the GEBCO sheets. A second Vanney et al chart of the East African coast and northern part of the Mozambique Channel was also studied; it was decided that two names from that chart should be inserted on sheet 5.09: "Joao da Nova Island" (not "Juan da Nova Is." in position 17°S, 42°45'E and "Paisley Seamount" for the elevation in position 14°S, 41°30'E.

2.5 Correspondence between Dr. Fisher, the IHB and the U.S. Bureau on Geographic Names (BGN) concerning nomenclature in the north-east Indian Ocean and northern Arabian Sea was reviewed. The recommendations of the Sub-Committee are:

2.5.1 to replace the name "Java Trench" by "Sunda Trench" on sheets 5.09 and 5.10. This feature extends as an arc from at least 4°30'S, 100°E to 11°10'S, 119°E (letter dated 15 September 1986 from Dr. R.L. Fisher to Mrs. Holly Shue).

2.5.2 to delete the name "Central Indian Basin" which now appears on sheet 5.05 near position 2°N, 83°E.

2.5.3 to delete the name "Ganges Cone", in position 16°40'N, 87°30'E, from sheet 5.05 and replace it with the name "Bengal Fan" as an arc extending from 17°N, 89°E to 6°N, 85°E.
2.5.4 to delete the name "Indus Cone" in position 19°N, 65°E from sheet 5.05, and replace it by "Indus Fan" extending from 23°N, 66°E to 16°N, 64°E.

2.5.5 to delete the name "Cocos Basin", now near 0°50'N, 93°E on sheet 5.05.

2.5.6 to insert the name "Nicobar Fan" extending (as appropriate) from 4°N, 92°E to 5°S, 93°E on sheets 5.05 and 5.09.

2.5.7 to delete the name "Ceylon Plain", now appearing in position 1°15'S, 81°E on sheet 5.09.

2.5.8 to adopt the official Indonesian spelling for "Mentawai Ridge" for the feature centred at 4°S, 101°E, on sheet 5.09.

2.5.9 to insert the name "Mentawai Basin" in position 1°45'S, 100°E. Also to delete the name "Mentawai Basin" now shown on sheet 5.09 in position 6°S, 104°E and to replace it by the name "Enggano Basin".

2.5.10 to insert the name "Nias Basin" on sheet 5.05 in position 1°15'N, 98°E.

2.5.11 to insert the name "Nicobar-Simeulue Basin" on sheet 5.05 near position 5°N, 94°30'E.

2.5.12 to insert the name "Wharton Basin" as an arc extending from position 23°S, 93°E to 14°S, 110°E.

2.6 Also, on sheet 5.10:

2.6.1 to replace "North Australia Basin" in position 15°S, 116°30'E by the name "Argo Plain".

2.7 Furthermore, in the South Pacific, on sheets 5.10 and 5.11:

2.7.1 to correct the spelling of the name "Kiribate", in position 2°30'S, 174°45'E, on sheet 5.10, to read "Kiribati".

2.7.2 to extend the designation of the "Cook Fracture Zone", on sheet 5.10, to be from 26°30'S, 169°00'E to 28°30'S, 179°E.

2.7.3 to extend the designation of "Lord Howe Rise", on sheet 5.10, to be from 24°S, 178°30'E to 37°S, 174°E.

2.7.4 to shift westward the label "Lord Howe Seamount Chain", close to the seamounts on sheet 5.10, to a position extending from 31°15'S, 159°15'E to 21°30'S, 159°30'E.

2.7.5 to extend the designation of "Dampier Ridge" to a new position extending from 24°S, 157°E to 34°S, 158°30'E.

2.7.6 to insert the name "Louisville Ridge" extending (as appropriate on sheets 5.10 and 5.11) from position 28°S, 174°W to 46°S, 156°W.
3. Names submitted by Dr. Galina Agapova

A close study was made of names submitted by Dr. Galina Agapova, some in response to a request made by the Sub-Committee at its sixth meeting (doc. IOC-IHO/GEBCO-X/5, item 6) and also a few new proposals:

3.1 Atlantic Ocean

3.1.1 Names accepted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Coordinates</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knipovich Seamount</td>
<td>5°34'N - 26°55'W</td>
<td>5.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stvor Guyot (formerly Seamount)</td>
<td>9°53'.5S - 5°25'.4W</td>
<td>5.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sedlo Seamount</td>
<td>40°25'.4N - 26°55'.2W</td>
<td>5.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vysokaya Bank</td>
<td>59°43'.1S - 27°58'.3W</td>
<td>5.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernadsky Fracture Zone</td>
<td>7°15'N - 7°15'N (30°00'W to 40°00'W)</td>
<td>5.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.1.2 Names accepted in principle but further evidence required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Coordinates</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Churov Seamount</td>
<td>17°29'S - 95°3'W</td>
<td>5.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faleev Seamount</td>
<td>8°26'S - 133°E</td>
<td>5.12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These two seamounts, together with Guinea Rise (8°S - 0°), are accepted subject to submission of a bathymetric plot of the area, by Dr. Agapova.

3.1.3 Names not accepted

- Dolgaya Seamount - this seems to be an incidental elevation on the already recognized "Bruce Ridge", (regarding which see 'Other Decisions' below)

- Vayda Seamount - similarly, incidental peaks on

- Molodezhnaya Seamount - Researcher Ridge

- Bagration Seamount 15°29'S - 6°27'W 5.12
- Kutuzov Seamount 15°10'S - 8°19'W 5.12

These two names, although already appearing on some charts, were not considered acceptable since the persons cited have no clear maritime-related justification. The existing nearby feature previously named for Napoleon was approved due to his integral association with the adjacent island of St. Helena.

3.2 Pacific Ocean

3.2.1 Names accepted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Coordinates</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chirikov Knoll (formerly Seamount)</td>
<td>55°35'.8N - 154°2'/'.5W</td>
<td>5.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dmitri Mendeleev Seamount</td>
<td>4°52'N - 154°58'W</td>
<td>5.06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Morozko Seamount  
(Knoll in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer)  
45°10'N - 158°15'E  5.02

Obruchev Rise  
extent (Knoll in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer)  
50°30'N - 154°00'N  5.02  
168°00'E to 064°00'E  
nominal centre 52°30'N  
166°00'E

Shuleykin Seamount  
41'15'N - 163'15'E  5.06

Smetanin Seamount  
40°35'N - 146°50'E  5.06

Zhemchug Canyon  
57°15'N to 58°45'N  5.03  
175°45'W to 175°15'W

Zhemchug Spur  
(not ridge)  
57°10'N to 58°45'N  5.03

Zubov Seamount  
15°42'N - 160°00'E  5.06  
(this position replaces that given in the report of the 6th meeting of the Sub-Committee)

Pribilov Canyon  
{  
56°15'N to 55°30'N  5.03  
168°25'W

Vitiaz Valley  
171°00'W

3.2.2 Names not accepted

Derain Seamount  
(minor feature in Kuril region)  
48°14'N - 153°29'E  5.02

Shelikhov Canyon  
(minor feature)  
59°50'N to 60°45'N  5.02

Sarychev Plateau  
178°35'E  180°00'E  5.02  
(minor feature - not obviously a plateau)

Sarychev Canyon adjacent to Sarychev Plateau  
(minor feature)  
5.03

Fedynskiy Seamount  
21°44'N - 118°46'W  5.07  
(no feature shown on 5.07 - further submission required)

3.3 South Pacific Ocean

3.3.1 Names accepted

Titov Seamount  
0°30'S - 176°00'W  5.10

Petelin Seamount  
22°49'S - 160°51'W  5.10

Drygalsk Basin  
69°30'S - 1°30'00'W  5.14 & 5.18  
(incorrect position - on land - in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer)
3.3.2 **Name accepted in principle but further evidence required**

Boris Karasev Bank  
46°07'.6S - 83°55'W  
- subject to submission of a bathymetric plot of the feature, by Dr. Agapova.

3.3.3 **Name not accepted**

Shtokman Guyot  
25°011.2S - 82°03'.5W  
(feature already listed as 'Merriam Spur' in ACUFBGN Gazetteer)

3.4 **Indian Ocean**

3.4.1 **Names accepted**

Dubinin Trough  
67°45'S to 67°00'S  
78°00'E to 82°00'E  
5.13 & 5.18

Kanaev Seamount  
33°07'S - 84°50'E  
5.09

Lazarev Trough  
I 6510'S to 66°00'S  
(129°00'E to 134°00'E)  
5.14 & 5.18  
(in Pacific List in report of 6th Meeting of Sub-Committee)

3.4.2 **Names accepted in principle but further evidence required**

Variag Seamount  
14°05'S - 106°08'E  
5.09  
Named for classic Russian ship. This is accepted as a significant peak on or near Horizon Ridge.  
(position to be confirmed - more information to be provided by Dr. Agapova ie bathymetric plot)

Gololobov Bank  
42°20'S - 42°45'E  
5.09  
(this is on the eastern lip of the Discovery II Fracture Zone)  
"French data to be checked - more information to be provided, ie bathymetric plot.

3.4.3 **Names not accepted**

Shokalski Ridge  
23°00'S to f 25°15'S  
5.09  
103°30'E to 106°30'E  
(shown on 5.09 as 'LostDutchman Ridge', which is to be retained in view of extensive early exploration in region by Dutch mariners)

Rykachev Seamount  
33°02'S - 101°16'E  
5.09  
(minor feature on "L'Espoir Ridge" named after a ship of historical significance)

Bogojvlenskogo Seamount  
20°30'S - 81°00'E  
5.09  
(not shown on 5.09 - existence doubtful)
3.5 Arctic Ocean

3.5.1 Names accepted

Gakkel Ridge 82°30'N to 80°00'N 5°00'W 125°00'E 5.17
(replaces Nansen Cordillera and Arctic Mid-Ocean Ridge)

Knipovich Ridge 7°20'N to 79°00'N 8°00'E 0° 5.17

Litke Trough 80°30'N to 82°10'N 6°00'E 18°00'E 5.17

Mendeleev Rise 176°00'N to f 86°00'N 180° 5.17
(not Ridge) 180° 170°00'W

Persej Bank 70°N - 35°E 5.17
(Perseus Rise in report of 6th meeting of Sub-Committee)

Sever Spur 79°40'N to 82°N 5.17
(not Rise) 118°00'W 128°W

Svyataya Anna Trough 77°20'N to 82°30'N 5.17
(formerly Sv. Anna) 70°00'E 68°00'E

Yermak Plateau 81°15'N - 5°00'E 5.17
shown in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer

3.5.2 Names to be discussed further

Sotrudnichestva Gap 84°30'N - 165°00'W 5.17
(feature not shown on 5.17 - to be discussed with Canadians)

Stefansson Basin 82°30'N - 125°00'W 5.17
(to be discussed with Canadians)

4.

Dr. Mark Maliavko presented a 'List of Geographical Names of Undersea Features shown on the International Bathymetric Chart of the Mediterranean and on the small-scale IHO International Charts', from which he had prepared a sub-list of major names for significant features that appear on the scale of the GEBCO (5th Edition).

4.1 Mediterranean and Black Seas (part of sheet 5.05)

4.1.1 Names accepted (from the sub-list)

Algerian Basin 40°N - 5'E
(already in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer)

Sardino - Balearic Plain 39°30'N - 6°30'E

Valencia Trough 40°10'N - 2'E
(in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer)
Rhône Fan  
42°30'N - 5'E  
(in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer)  

Corso-Ligurian Basin, to replace Ligurian Sea  
42°30'N - 8'E  

Tyrrhenian Basin, to replace Tyrrhenian Sea  
40°N - 13'E  
(in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer)  

Ionian Basin  
35°45'N - 18°E  
(to replace Ionian Sea to north-west)  
(in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer)  

Mediterranean Ridge  
35°N to 5°N convex to 20°E 30°E south  

(adjust word Sea in Mediterranean Sea to allow space)  

Hellenic Trench  
37°15'N to 34°45'N convex to 20°15'E 28°00'E  
south, south of Crete  

(in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer as Hellenic Trough)  

Herodotus Basin  
32°20'N - 27°00'E  
(in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer)  

South Adriatic Basin  
42°00'N - 17°30'E  
(in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer as Adriatic Basin)  

Nile Fan (to replace Nile Cone) 32°30'N - 31°E  

Danube Fan  
44°N, 31°E  

4.1.2 The Sub-Committee was informed that a proposal had been received from the Turkish authorities containing alternative names for a number of undersea features in the eastern Aegean Sea and the Black Sea. It was understood however that a similar proposal had been submitted to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, together with appropriate completed Undersea Feature Name Proposal Forms (11th session, Geneva, 15-23 October 1984 and 12th session, Geneva, 29 September-7 October 1986). In view of this, it was decided that it would be inappropriate for the Sub-Committee to address the matter at the present time.  

4.1.3 Full consideration of the entire list - though within the Sub-Committee's charge - was not possible in the time available.  

5. Other Decisions  

5.1 The following amendments should be made when sheets are next taken in hand for reprinting,  
Cook Islands  
21°00'S - 158°00'W  
name to be placed in centre of group - delete 'Southern Cook Islands'.  

Rarotonga - to be labelled  
21°15'S - 159°45'W
Winslow Reef  

name to be inserted

Heezen Ridge - to be designated as 'Agulhas Ridge' on sheet 5.12
5.12 and name repositioned, (as on overlapping sheet 5.16), '

Bruce Ridge - to be inserted  
60°00'S to 61°15'S
34°45'W  37°30'W 5.16

Voronin Trough
(amend spelling - Vozonin on sheet 5.17) 5.17

Del Cano Rise  
45°15'S to 45°30'S
39°30'E  47°00'E 5.09

Delete tilde (',) on Cano on sheet 5.09
5.09 (decision taken at 6th meeting of Sub-Committee - report, item 5 a - reversed).

Muirfield Bank  
13°10'S - 96°05'E 5.09
- to be inserted (shown as Muirfield Seamount, depth 18 metres, on BA Chart 4714)

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC BASIN

To be standardized (as on sheet 5.10) on sheets 5.11, 5.14 and 5.15.
On sheet 5.11 use larger typesize.
On sheet 5.14 insert name in approx. position 56°S, 173°E

Delete 'South Indian Abyssal Plain' and substitute
'Australian Antarctic Basin', with designation to
extend from 58°S to 58°S
115° 135°E.4 5.14

Add name 'Australian-Antarctic Basin' on sheet 5.18 where appropriate.

Expand length of name 'Australian-Antarctic Basin' west 5.13
to 85°E

Delete 'Valdivia Abyssal Plain' and substitute
'Valdivia Apron' 62°30'S, 70°E 5.13

Delete 'Tasman Sea' and insert name 'Tasman Basin' in
position
40°S to 45°S
155°E 160°E 5.10

Delete name 'One South Fracture Zone' and substitute
name 'Romanche Fracture Zone' for this feature.
(delete name 'Romanche Fracture Zone' where now placed) 5.12

Argentine Abyssal Plain - move complete name to south
of 46°40'S on sheet 5.12

Insert under 'Falkland Escarpment' the name '(Malvinas
Escarpment)' 5.12 & 5.16
Insert under 'Falkland Ridge' the name '(Malvinas 5.16 Ridge)'
Insert under 'Falkland Plateau' the name '(Malvinas 5.16 Plateau)'

5.2 Doldrums Trough in ACUF/BGN Gazetteer.
Suggest this name be rejected unless updated information shows a
definite and discrete topographic trend.

5.3 As a general principle, it was agreed that the type size of sub-
sidiary features should be smaller than those of associated main
features, e.g. the names of "abyssal plains" within "basins".

5.4 The Sub-Committee appreciated the action of Mr. Richard R. Randall,
as liaison of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical
Names (UNGEGN) to the IHB, in providing updated input on several
matters and principally those raised in correspondence with the
Chairman of the Sub-Committee. No significant differences or dis-
crepancies appeared with regard to names proposed by the two groups.
Suggestions made by Mr. Randall regarding terminology and practices
in the publication 'Standardization of Undersea Feature Names' (see
also section 6 below) and the 'List of Geographical Names of Undersea
Features shown on the GEBCO (5th Edition) and on the small-scale IHO
International Chart Series' were accepted. These will be followed in
the 'International Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names' soon to be
initiated.

The representative of the IHB stated that the Bureau would probably
participate in the 13th UNGEGN session on 17 August 1987. He was
asked also to represent the IOC at the session.

6. 'Standardization of Undersea Feature Names'

6.1 The following suggested amendments were made as guidelines for the
improvement of the existing text of the section 'Terms and Defini-
tions', for inclusion in the 'International Gazetteer of Undersea
Feature Names', and subsequently in the comprehensive multi-lingual
'Standardization' volume when published.

6.1.1 Insert new separate entry for Apron:

APRON

A gently dipping featureless surface, underlain primarily by sedi-
ment, at the base of any steeper slope.
Add appropriate e.g. and reference.
Delete APRON and * against ARCHIPELAGIC APRON and underline; this
then becomes a primary entry with existing definition, etc.
6.1.2 **GUYOT, RIFT** and FAN (see para. 2.1 above) should be primary entries

Ref. for **GUYOT**
Hess H.H. about 1947  (ref. in:)
Hamilton E.L. Sunken Islands of the Mid-Pacific Mountains
GSA Memoir about 1956

Ref. for **RIFT**
Heezen, Tharp and Ewing 1959
(as Continental Rise)

6.1.3 **SUBMARINE VALLEY** should be a primary entry followed by * VALLEY and * SEA VALLEY,

6.1.4 Major items (i.e. those underlined) should be entered in alphabetical order and cross-referenced, as follows:
- BENCH see TERRACE
- TABLEMOUNT see GUYOT
- CHANNEL see SEACHANNEL
- PLAIN see ABYSSAL PLAIN
- CONTINENTAL SLOPE see SLOPE
- SCARP see ESCARPMENT
- VALLEY see SUBMARINE VALLEY
- SEA VALLEY see SUBMARINE VALLEY
- MEDIAN VALLEY see RIFT
- CONE see FAN

7. Dr. Falconer described a gazetteer compiled by Rose-Marie Thompson of the New Zealand Oceanographic Institute. It includes names of all features in the south-west Pacific area covered by the CCOP/SOPAC regional bathymetric map. The gazetteer lists names, source maps, and where known the origin of the name. The gazetteer at present is on index cards and about half is on computer file. The Sub-Committee noted with pleasure the existence of the work and urged that publication should be encouraged. Similar initiatives for other areas of the world would be valuable and of considerable direct assistance to GECO's mission.

8. The Summary Report of the meeting was approved unanimously.

9. There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at (12.00) on Monday 27 April 1987 and in so doing thanked the Directing Committee of the IHB for their hospitality.
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