

GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES (SCUFN)
24st Meeting, 12-16 September 2011, Beijing, China

The 24th meeting of SCUFN was hosted and organized by the National Marine Data and Information Service (NMDIS) of China. The meeting was held in Beijing under the chairmanship of Dr Hans Werner SCHENKE from the Alfred-Wegener-Institut für Polar und Meeresforschung (AWI – Germany). There were 30 participants, including 10 of the 12 SCUFN members (from Argentina, Brazil, China, Germany, Japan, Rep of Korea, New Zealand, Pakistan, Russia, and USA). The meeting welcomed Prof. LIN Shaohua (China – IOC side) as new member. The meeting also took note of the absence of Cdr. Harvinder AVTAR (India – IHO side) at two consecutive meetings and who, according to the SCUFN terms of reference, is regretfully considered to have resigned from the sub-committee. The main issues discussed at the meeting are summarized below.

- The meeting examined some 140 names or name proposals. These included:
 - 9 from INOCAR, Ecuador, in the SE Pacific;
 - 10 from AWI, Germany, mainly in the SE Pacific;
 - 1 from the Belgium and Netherlands HOs, in the S part of the North Sea;
 - 9 from the Brazilian HO (DHN) and company Petrobras, in the SW Atlantic;
 - 8 from the State Oceanic Administration of China, in the Pacific;
 - 12 from the Russian HO (DNO) and the Russian Academy of Sciences, in the Arctic and Pacific.
 - 36 from the Japan Committee on Undersea Feature Names (JCUFN) in the NW Pacific;
 - 6 from the Korean Committee on Marine Geographical Names (KCMGN), in the W Pacific;
 - 4 from the Advisory Committee on Undersea Features (ACUF) of the US Board of Geographical Names (BGN), in the N Atlantic, the N Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico;
 - 11 from the Undersea Names Committee of the New Zealand Geographic Board, in the SW Pacific;
 - 33 from the GEBCO Gazetteer Reserve Section.

In total, the Sub-Committee recommended the acceptance of 97 new undersea feature names for inclusion in the GEBCO Gazetteer.

**TWENTY FOURTH MEETING OF THE GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE
ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES (SCUFN)**



- The meeting noted with satisfaction the significant progress made in the development of a web-based map interface and on-line database for the GEBCO Gazetteer, thanks to the efforts and support of the US National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) and the co-located IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB). The project leader (Ms. Lisa TAYLOR, SCUFN Vice-Chair and DCDB Director) reported that additional funds would however be required to complete the work.
- The meeting discussed the results of a comprehensive review of the definitions of all generic terms in IHO-IOC publication B-6 *Standardization of Undersea Feature Names* that had been conducted by a SCUFN working group led by Dr Hyun-Chul HAN (Rep. of Korea). A final list of undersea feature terms and definition was agreed for submission to the GEBCO Guiding Committee.
- In order to facilitate the drafting of name proposals for SCUFN consideration, a new SCUFN working group was formed to develop guidelines on how to prepare such proposals. It will be led by Cdr. Ana Angelica ALBERONI (Brazil).

The 25th meeting of SCUFN has been planned on 22-26 October 2012 in Wellington, New Zealand.