

GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES (SCUFN) 25th Meeting, 23-27 October 2012, Wellington, New Zealand

The 25th meeting of SCUFN was jointly hosted by Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) and GNS Science of New Zealand. The meeting was held at the offices of LINZ in Wellington under the chairmanship of Dr Hans Werner Schenke from the Alfred-Wegener-Institut für Polar und Meeresforschung (AWI – Germany). There were 23 participants, including 9 of the 12 SCUFN members (from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Germany, Japan, Rep of Korea, New Zealand, Russia, and USA). The meeting welcomed LCdr. Felipe Barrios (Chile – IHO side) as new member in replacement of Cdr. Harvinder Avtar (India) who had resigned from the sub-committee. Assistant Director Michel Huet attended for the IHB and as Secretary of SCUFN.



The main issues discussed at the meeting are summarized below.

- The meeting examined some 170 names or name proposals. These included the following proposals:
 - 10 from the Servicio de Hidrografía Naval (SHN), Argentina, in the SW Atlantic and the Southern Ocean;
 - 1 from the University of Texas, USA, and the British Antarctic Survey (BAS), in the SW Atlantic;
 - 3 from the Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale (OGS), Italy, in the Southern Ocean;
 - 4 from the Directorate of Hydrography and Navigation (DHN) and company Petrobras S.A., Brazil, in the SW Atlantic;
 - 14 from the Japan Committee on Undersea Feature Names (JCUFN) and Kumamoto University, Japan, in the NW Pacific;
 - 15 from the State Oceanic Administration of China, in the Pacific;

- 6 from the State Scientific Centre of Russia, in the North Pacific.
- 4 from the Korea Committee on Geographical Names (KCGN), in the North Pacific;
- 1 from GNS Science of New Zealand in the SW Pacific;
- 78 from the Undersea Names Committee of the New Zealand Geographic Board (NZGB), in the SW Pacific;
- 6 from the GEBCO Gazetteer Reserve Section.

In total, the Sub-Committee recommended the acceptance of 124 new undersea feature names for inclusion in the GEBCO Gazetteer.

- 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) conducted a review of some 45 undersea feature names to correct discrepancies and errors in feature geometries, taking advantage of the new ability to view the undersea features and associated metadata graphically.
- The meeting agreed a list of new and revised definitions and images for undersea feature generic terms, as developed by a SCUFN working group led by Dr Hyun-Chul Han (Rep. of Korea). See <http://www.scufnterm.org:8080/recommend/>. The meeting also reviewed a draft User's Guide for Preparation of Undersea Feature Name Proposals that had been prepared by a SCUFN working group led by Cdr. Ana Angelica Alberoni (Brazil) as well as a new format, bilingual, for undersea feature name proposals. It was agreed that all the above achievements would be included in a draft new edition of IHO-IOC publication B-6 *Standardization of Undersea Feature Names*.

The 26th meeting of SCUFN has been planned on 23-27 September 2013 in Tokyo, Japan.