

**Eighth meeting**

**10 12 May 1989**



INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
OCEANOGRAPHIC  
COMMISSION (of UNESCO)



INTERNATIONAL  
HYDROGRAPHIC  
ORGANIZATION



## Eighth Meeting of the GEBCO Sub-Committee on Geographical Names and Nomenclature of Ocean Bottom Features

International Hydrographic Bureau  
Monaco, 10-12 May 1989

**SUMMARY REPORT**



GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES  
AND NOMENCLATURE OF OCEAN BOTTOM FEATURES

—  
Eighth Meeting, IHB Headquarters  
Monaco, 10-12 May 1989  
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SUMMARY REPORT

Opening of the meeting

Dr. Robert L. Fisher, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, opened the meeting at 0900 on Wednesday 10th May 1989, and welcomed the participants. (See Annex 1)

- 1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Dr. Robin K.H. Falconer.
- 1.3 The following changes in membership were noted : Ingenieur en Chef Jean Laporte who had replaced Ingenieur general Andre Roubertou on his retirement from the Service hydrographique et oceanographique de la Marine. The Chairman and the Sub-Committee warmly thanked Ing. gen. Andre Roubertou for his years of service to the Sub-Committee and to the GEBCO project as a whole. And Rear Admiral Alfredo Civetta, IHB Director, who had replaced Vice Admiral O.A.A. Affonso.
2. Terms of reference of the Sub-Committee

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- 2.1 The Terms of reference of the Sub-Committee were revised (see Annex II). After approval by the Guiding Committee, these will be incorporated in the new edition of the 'GEBCO Regulations' which are to be published shortly.
  3. Selection of names

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- 3.1 The Sub-Committee wished to place on record that it deplores the unilateral selection of geographical names of undersea features and their inclusion in publications before they have been formally approved by any designated body.
  - 3.2 In this connection, Dr. Agapova was invited to submit a list, with supporting information, of the names which had been proposed by Dr. V. Golovinski (and published in a book on the Tectonics of the Pacific Ocean), for consideration by the Sub-Committee.
  4. Names proposed by Dr. Galina Agapova

- 4.1 Names accepted :  
STRAKHOV Fracture Zone

4°00'N	to	4°00'N	5.08
36°00'W		27°00'W	5.12

This replaces the interim, undesirable name FOUR NORTH Fracture Zone. Named after a detailed survey by "*R/V Akademik Nikolai Strakhov*".

- NADEZHDA Seamount 4°09'.5 N - 32°45'.6 W  
 New feature - does not show up on 5.08 - 852m  
 Named after Russian expedition ship "*Nadezhda*" (1803-1806) - Expedition of Kruzenstern.
- PEIVE Seamount 7°49'.1 N - 37°45'.9 W  
 New feature - 5.08 - 1,016m  
 Named after the late Academician A.V. PEIVE, former Director of the Geological Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.
- PETROV Fracture Zone 41°00'N to 141°40'N 5.08  
 31°05'W 31°09'W  
 Named after "*R/V Akademik Boris Petrov*" which ship conducted the survey. (Recognized as a small fracture zone - to be shown on charts of appropriate scale).
- KREPS Seamount 17°29'S - 13°30'W 5.12  
 New feature - 1,295m  
 Named after Soviet microbiologist.
- RURIK Seamount 9°15'N - 53°28'E 2,236m 5.05  
 Named after the Russian ship "*Rurik*" which worked in the area in 1815-1818 - Expedition of O.E. Kocebu.

4.2 Names not accepted

- PETROPAVLOVSKY Ridge 1°30'N 44°00'N 5.08  
 30°00'W to 33°00'W

It was considered that this feature is only a segment of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and does not justify a separate name. However, it was clear from the plot accompanying this submission that there is a fracture zone along the 2°40'N parallel and this was tentatively given the name "St. Peter Fracture Zone"

- BAGRATION Seamount 15°28'S - 6°27'W 5.12  
 KUTUZOV Seamount 15°12'S - 8°19'W 5.12

After a detailed frank discussion, the decision of the 7th meeting of the Sub-Committee was upheld, as these names were considered by certain members to be unnecessarily evocative.

5. Name proposed by Dr. Jacqueline Mammerickx

- 5.1 Name accepted :  
 SAN BENEDICTO Fracture Zone 19°45'N to 18°35'N 5.07  
 110°50'W to 107°20'W

Only preliminary plots were available to the Sub-Committee. Name accepted subject to submission of further material

6. Name proposed by the Hydrographic Department of the United Kingdom

- 6.1 Name accepted :  
 ROCKET Seamount 15°50'.5 N - 36°06'.7 W 5.08  
 Discovered by "*H.M.S. Rocket*". Subsequent work by Soviet ship gives least depth of 574m.

7. Indian Ocean names proposed by Dr. Robert L. Fisher7.1 Names accepted :

SIND'BAD Seamount	16°08'.0 N - 58°35'.5 E	5.05
Discrete feature (2,216m) that already appears on 5.05. Confirmed by new data.		
CAMOENS Seamount	8°18'.5 N - 53°11'.0 E	1,928m 5.05
Camoens was the author of "Os Lusíadas", the 16th century epic poem of Portuguese exploration of the Indian Ocean.		
SARANDIB Seamount	8°17'.0 N - 54°43'.5 E	2,470m 5.05
Sarandib was a legendary island visited by Sind'bad.		
BUNCE Seamounts - a group of seamounts running from	7°00'N to 18°00'N	5.05
	55°30'E to 56°00'E	

Named after Elizabeth T. Bunce who led 1964 and 1976 expeditions to this area and was Co-Chief Scientist on DSDP Leg 24 in 1972.

CERF Ridge	2°35'S to 4°50'S	5.09
	57°55'E to 58°40'S	

Named after "*Cerf*", a frigate commanded by Captain Corneille Morphey who explored and named the Seychelles in 1756.

MORPHEY Guyot	4°27'S - 58°30'E	1,110m 5.09
See CERF Ridge above.		
GASKELL Ridge	2°20'S to 4°40'S (rudimentary)	5.09
	59°40'E 59°20'E	

Thomas F. Gaskell was Co-Chief Scientist aboard *H.M.S. Challenger* in this area, 1950-1952.

OMMANNEY Seamount	7°22'.5 S - 46°19'.0 E	2,039m 5.09
The late Francis D. Ommanney, a fisheries biologist, worked extensively in this area in the late-1940s. He reported on his work in the popular book "The Shoals of Capricorn", 1952.		
TCHERNIA Seamount	10°31'.5 S - 47°07'.5 E	1,535m 5.09
The late Paul Tchernia, physical oceanographer, worked for some years at Nosy Be, Madagascar, and was one of the early participants and planners of the International Indian Ocean Expedition (1958-1965).		

8. Names proposed by Turkey

8.1 Letter dated 2 May 1986 from Rear Admiral Sevket GUclUer, Head of Department of Navigation, Hydrography and Oceanography, Istanbul, addressed to Vice Admiral O.A.A. Affonso, IHB.

ISTANBUL BOGAZI Canyon (BOSPORUS Canyon)	INT 3756
41°30'N - 29°24'E	IBCM Sheet 5

Name accepted.

EUXINE Abyssal Plain 43°00'N - 34°00'E  
This name does not appear on the IBCM, only on INT 302 (Italian chart 350). EUXINE is the ancient name for the Black Sea. It is also the root for the word "euxinic" used in many languages for conditions producing reduced sediments which are a feature characteristic of this basin. This name should be retained in preference to CIDE Abyssal Plain.

KÜRE Escarpment	41°26'N to 2°10'N	IBCM Sheet 5
	31°20'E                      35°20'E	
Accepted, to replace	"WEST PONTIC Escarpment".	
CANIK Escarpment	41°14'N to 41°20'N	IBCM Sheet 5
	37°40'E                      41°00'E	
Accepted, to replace	"EAST PONTIC Escarpment".	
ARKHANGELSKY Ridge	42°10'N                      41°35'N	IBCM Sheet 5
	36°30'E to                      37°00'E	
Named to be retained. Arkhangelsky was a famous Russian Akademician who worked on the sediments of the Black Sea in the 1930s and 1940s. The name has been used in Russian scientific literature from the early 1960s. ORDU Ridge : not accepted.		
KARADENIZ DAGLARI	40°20'N to 14°20'N	IBCM Sheet 5
	31°00'E                      42°00'E	
Land feature so will not appear in IOC/IHO Gazetteer.		
NORTH AEGEAN Trough	39°50'N                      0°25'N	IBCM Sheet 4
	23°32'E to                      26°15'E	
This name should be retained. The trough runs into the SAROSKOrfezi (Bay) (which name is accepted).		
NORTH SKIROS Basin	39°00'N                      9°22'N	IBCM Sheet 4
	24°41'E to                      25°16'E	
To be renamed SKIROS Trough.		
EDREMIT Basin/Trough not accepted.		
LESVOS Basin	38°38'N - 24°40'E	IBCM Sheet 4
To be retained, as shown on IBCM Sheet 4.		
CANDARLI Basin to be given to the feature in position 38°50'N - 26°47'E, which lies within the larger "CANDARLI Shelf", east of 26°35'E, from 38°40'N to 39°N.		
SAMOTHRAKI/TRAKYA Plateau	40°50'N - 25°15'E	IBCM Sheet 4
This is a shelf not a plateau. It is not deserving of a name.		
Delete.		
NORTH IKARIA Basin - Position of name to be adjusted on IBCM Sheet 9 to indicate the feature centred on 37°50'N - 26°20'E.		
KUSADASI Basin not accepted.		
CRETAN-RHODES Ridge - This name is to be retained for the feature which runs from 34°35'N to (35°47'N		
	24°28'E                      28°03'E	IBCM Sheet 9
RHODES Basin - To be retained for the feature centred on position 35°55'N - 28°45'E. Appears first in scientific literature 1966 (Deep Sea Research, Vol.13, pp.173-192).		
FETHIYE Basin		IBCM Sheet 10
not accepted.		
ADANA Trough	35°42'N                      35°48'N	IBCM Sheet 10
	32°50'E to                      33°55'E	
Name accepted. Delete "(or CILICIA)" which appears on IBCM Sheet 10.		



GOZELYURT Hole. Insufficient evidence provided. "GOZELYURT Knoll" could be given to the significant feature (421m) on IBCM Sheet 10 in position 35°33'N - 32°45'E.

KARPAS Hill - Insufficient evidence provided. Name "KARPAS Ridge" could well be given to the ridge with least depth 69m (18m Rep.1975) from  
 35°47'N                    35°53'N  
 34°43'E    to    34°54'E

8.2 Submission of the Permanent Mission of Turkey (Ref. 1545-411) to the United Nations, New York, July 20th 1984.

ANADOLU Trough (or ANATOLIAN Trough) - not accepted. This is the same feature as the "NORTH AEGEAN Trough" (see reference in 8.1 above).

FETHIYE Basin - not accepted (see reference to "RHODES Basin" in 8.1 above).

YEFLIRMAK Fan                    41°29'N - 37°09'E                    IBCM Sheet 5  
 Name accepted.

SAKARYA Canyon                    41°24'N - 30°40'E                    IBCM Sheet 5  
 Name accepted - already shown on IBCM Sheet 5.

EDREMIT.Trough - not accepted (see reference to "SKIROS Trough" in 8.1 above).

AEGEAN Axial Trough                    38°00'N - 25°30'E                    IBCM Sheet 9  
 Name not accepted. Insufficient geomorphological evidence.

TRABZON Hills                    41°05'N - 39°35'E                    IBCM Sheet 5  
 This is a minor feature in Turkish territorial waters. Evidence for its existence is unclear. Maybe either "bank" or "ridge" would be a better term, as "hill" is an isolated feature - see "Terms and Definitions". Will not be included in IBCM or Gazetteer.

BALKAN Plateau                    37°30'N - 25°00'E                    IBCM Sheet 9  
 Name not accepted. Name "CYCLADES (KIKLADHES) Plateau" to be retained (37°15'N - 25°10'E).

MENTESE Shelf                    37°30'N - 27°00'E                    IBCM Sheet 9  
 This name is not indicative of the area. Not accepted.

ANTALYA Canyon                    36°40'N - 30°45'E                    IBCM Sheet 10  
 Name accepted. This name already appears on GEBCO Sheet 5.05 and in IOC/IHO Gazetteer.

BALKAN Shelf                    40°30'N - 25°00'E                    IBCM Sheet 4  
 Feature not deserving of a name. Not accepted.

KU8ADASI Basin                    37°50'N - 26°20'E                    IBCM Sheet 9  
 Name not accepted (see reference to "NORTH IKARIA Basin" in 8.1 above).

MERIC Fan                    40°40'N - 25°50'E                    IBCM Sheet 4  
 Name accepted : "MERIC/EVROS Fan" (vide IHO Pub. SP 23, Draft 4th Edition 1986).

CANAKKALE Shelf 40°00'N - 25°35'E IBCM Sheet 4  
 Name not accepted. Feature should be named "TRUVA Shelf" (i.e. Troy). This name is preferred as less controversial and more applicable. The Greek observer noted that Greece had previously submitted the name "LIMNOS Plateau" for this feature.

GOKOVA Trough 36°54'N - 27°40'E IBCM Sheet 9  
 Name accepted.

gANDARLI Shelf East of 26°35'E IBCM Sheet 4  
 from 38°40'N to 39°00'N  
 Name accepted (see reference to "gANDARLI Basin" in 8.1 above).

MORA (or PELOPONNISOS) Trough 35°53'N - 25°12'E IBCM Sheet 9  
 Name not accepted. Name "CRETAN Trough" to be retained for this feature.

AEGEAN Trench 34°15'N - 25°30'E IBCM Sheet 9  
 Name not accepted. Name "PLINY Trench" to be retained for this feature.

9. U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Advisory Committee on Undersea Feathres (USBGN/ACUF) Lists

9.1 217th Meeting, 19 June 1985 :  
~~WILKINSON Seamount~~ 26°10'N - 167°00'E 5.06  
 Further evidence required.

MACKENZIE Trough 69°52'N - 138°10'W 5.03  
 Name accepted (formerly 'MACKENZIE Canyon' in the USBGN Gazetteer).

9.2 218th Meeting, 1 August 1985 :  
~~SAGA Guyot~~ 43°25'N - 170°00'E 5.06  
 This appears to be the same feature as 'SOGA Guyot' (IHO/IOC Gazetteer : 43°20'N - 170°00'E /Name proposed by Dr. J. Mammerickx, GEBCO SCGN/6)

9.3 219th Meeting, 23 October 1985 : no comments.

9.4 220th Meeting, 3 December 1985 :  
~~NORWEGIAN Trough~~ 5.01

Name accepted (formerly 'NORWEGIAN Trench)

from 61°00'N to 57°45'N to 58°30'N  
 4°00'E to 6°40'E to 10°00'E

9.5 221st Meeting, 30 April 1986 :  
~~BEATON Seamount~~ 26°05'N - 162°50'E (2,926m) 5.06

Name accepted.

FERRAZ Ridge 13°40'S to 14°30'S 5.12  
 33°30'E to 32°15'E

Name accepted.

- 9.6 222nd Meeting, 30 October 1986 :
- |                 |                      |        |      |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------|------|
| YAMATO Rise     | 36°45'N to 40°30'N   |        | 5.06 |
| Name accepted   | 133°00'E to 137°30'E |        |      |
| YAMATO Seamount | 38°52'N - 136°00'E   | (785m) | 5.06 |
| Name accepted.  |                      |        |      |
- 9.7 223rd Meeting, 18 November 1986 : no comments.
- 9.8 224th Meeting, 30 April 1987 : no comments.
- 9.9 225th Meeting, 23 June 1987 : no comments.
- 9.10 226th Meeting : document not available.
- 9.11 227th Meeting : document not available.
- 9.12 228th Meeting, 21 June 1988 :
- |  |                    |  |      |
|--|--------------------|--|------|
| BENICARLO Canyon   | 40°21'N - 1°22'E   |  | 5.05 |
| Name accepted for large-scale charts.                            |                    |  |      |
| BENICASIM Canyon   | 40°08'N - 1°25'E   |  | 5.05 |
| Name accepted for large-scale charts.                            |                    |  |      |
| PENISCOLA Canyon   | 40°20'N - 1°23'E   |  | 5.05 |
| Name accepted for large-scale charts.                            |                    |  |      |
| BORCHGREVINK Trench  | 70°15'S - 170°15'E |  | 5.18 |
| Considered to be a Trench, not a Canyon (as designated on 5.18). |                    |  |      |
- 9.13 229th Meeting, 13 October 1988 : no comments.
- 9.14 230th Meeting : document not available.
- 9.15 231st Meeting, 21 March 1989 :
- |                        |                   |           |      |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------|------|
| HARRIE Guyot           | 5°35'N - 172°17'E |           | 5.06 |
| No evidence available. |                   |           |      |
| MANOWARI Trough        |                   |           | 5.10 |
| Name accepted.         | 0°10'S - 132°20'E |           |      |
| TROBRIAND Trough       | 7°37'S            |           | 5.10 |
|                        |                   | to 8°15'S |      |
|                        | 150°23'E          | 152°20'E  |      |
| Name accepted.         |                   |           | 5.10 |
| WILLAUMEZ-MANUS Rise   | 3°00'S to         |           |      |
|                        | 146°40'E          | 149°45'E  |      |
| Name accepted.         |                   |           |      |
- MIDDLE Canyon : insufficient evidence and in any case name considered unacceptable.
- GEISHA Guyots : The Sub-Committee supported fully the ACUF decision to replace the name 'GEISHA Guyots' since this name has long been considered offensive. However the newly proposed name 'JAPANESE Guyots' (by ACUF following a suggestion from P. Vogt and a mention in an article in SCIENCE in 1974) is a very non-specific, bland and offhand name for a much-studied group actually some distance from the Japanese archipelago. It is the Sub-Committee's view that, regardless of any earlier agreements, Japanese agency and scientific representatives should now be invited to reconsider this question and to suggest to nomenclature panels, as appropriate, an appealing and appropriate name

for this important group lying in the sector :

31°30'N to 32°30'N  
147°30'E 151°30'E

Furthermore many individual elevations within the group already have, and certainly deserve, names familiar to Japanese and non-Japanese investigators. These also require confirmation and publication by such panels.

AMERICA-ANTARCTIC Ridge 60°15'S to 6°00'S 5.16  
20°00'W 4°30'W

Despite the use of this name in several publications over the past decade, the Sub-Committee considers that it is inappropriate and that the feature should be renamed 'NORTH WEDDELL Ridge'.

MGU Seamount 12°20'N - 61°15'E 5.05

Name to be replaced by 'SADKO Seamount' as proposed by Dr. G. Agapova.

SADKO was a legendary traveller in the 15th/16th centuries.

(Note : the name MGU Seamount was approved at GEBCO SCGN/6)

#### 10. Miscellaneous decisions

MACDONALD Bank 29°01'S - 140°17'W 5.11

This volcanically active feature to be renamed 'Bank' (formerly Seamount) due to its shoal depth (39m) according to excellent detailed surveys. (Ref. : GEBCO SCGN/7, paragraph 2.2)

5.09

LOST DUTCHMEN Ridge 23°00'S 25°20'S  
103°00'E to 106°45'E

Revised position.

NOVARA Knoll 43°00'S - 74°30'E 5.09

There is some question as to whether this feature, reported by 'R/V Gallieni' in the mid-1960s, really exists. Further evidence, perhaps from satellite altimetry, needed.

#### 11. English/Russian version of the IHO-IOC Gazetteer

Dr. Agapova asked whether it would be possible to publish an English/Russian version of the 'Gazetteer', if she submitted the complete material in photo-ready copy. Admiral Civetta accepted this task provided the costs were to be borne by IOC.

#### 12. List of geographical names of undersea features shown on the International Bathymetric Chart of the Mediterranean and on the small-scale IHO international charts

The Sub-Committee recalled earlier decisions regarding publication of lists of names which appear on (or might be added to) IOC's Regional International Bathymetric Chart series. It invited the IHB, in consultation with the IBCM Secretary, to publish the 'List of geographical names of undersea features shown on the International Bathymetric Chart of the Mediterranean and on the small-scale IHO international charts' as a supplement to the GEBCO Gazetteer (IHO publication BP-0008).

#### 13. Standardization of Undersea Feature Names

The Sub-Committee read and noted with approval the article entitled 'Naming names' by Robert S. White which appeared recently in the Geophysical Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society. This article

encourages marine scientists from agencies and academic institutions to propose and submit names through the designated nomenclature bodies. It is hoped that similar articles will, in due course, appear in journals of the USSR and other countries.

14. Closure of the Meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 16.00 on Friday 12 May and in so doing thanked the President and Directing Committee of the International Hydrographic Bureau for their hospitality.

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## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### 1. Members of the GEBCO Sub-Committee

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### 2. Observers

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PRINCIPALITY OF MONACO



ANNEX II

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES  
AND NOMENCLATURE OF OCEAN BOTTOM FEATURES

The Sub-Committee on Geographical Names and Nomenclature of Ocean Bottom Features shall:

1. Continue to monitor and modify as appropriate the names of undersea features that now appear or are proposed for inclusion on GEBCO sheets and/or marine charts, documents and scientific publications in the world oceans.
2. Initiate and identify names that are appropriate to designate significant topographic features of the seafloor in pertinent areas.
3. Update guidelines for the selection of proper and generic names for seafloor topographic features at various scales which may or may not reflect the action of tectonic or sedimentary processes.
4. Review and assess the need for revised or additional definitions for submarine topographic features within regions in general to seaward of the continental shelf.
5. Give these definitions wide distribution among agencies, institutions and individuals in order to promote adoption on an international basis.
6. Consult, with aid from staff and bibliographic resources of the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) or other experts, assorted materials to assemble and maintain a compendium or gazetteer of names that have been given traditionally and historically to the identifiable undersea topographic features to seaward of the continental shelf, or those that are from time to time proposed by agencies or individuals engaged in marine exploration and research. In performing such a task, the Sub-Committee should take into account the policy decisions of the United Nations Conference on Geographical Names, as well as the resolutions of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) on this subject, and consider the proceedings and decisions of formally-constituted national or regional panels.
7. Urge such agencies or individuals to submit historically or scientifically appropriate names, with the prescribed documentation (\*), to the IHB or to the IOC Secretariat for review and decision by the Sub-Committee prior to use and dissemination in scientific literature or on published charts.

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(\*) Proposal form as in publication "Standardization of Undersea Feature Names" (IHO Publication BP-0006), and Part II of the "Gazetteer of Geographical Names of Undersea Features shown (or which might be added) on the GEBCO and on the IHO Small-scale International Chart Series" (IHO publication BP-0008).