

Twenty-fourth Session
New York, 20 and 31 August 2007

Item 3 of the provisional agenda
Report of the working groups

Toponymic Guidelines for map and other editors
Status report

Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors, for international use (TG)

Statistic information:

- 37 countries have published TG
- In the 8th UNCSGN 2002 eleven countries presented an updated version respectively updates to single chapters of their TG.
- In the 22nd UNGEGN meeting 2004 two countries made updates of their TG

In the 23rd UNGEGN meeting 2006 four more countries presented an updated or even new full version:

Austria (see WP No 76): full edition

Finland in WP No 46 presented an update of the 4th edition of the TG from 2004 (version 4.2), containing recent data on the distribution of population and languages and after all an updated list of the names of Finnish municipalities according to the situation at the beginning of 2006.

Japan: presented in WP No 57 a full edition of the TG.

Spain: in WP No 78 Spain presented the new edition of its TG “Toponimia: Normas para el MTN25. Conceptos Básicos y Terminología” (Publicación Técnica n^o 42), which has been published by the National Geographic Institute.

Turkey in its national report (WP No 26) announced the new and updated edition of the TG; this edition will be enriched by the script rules of the Turkish language for geographical features. As soon as they are approved by the “Board of experts for geographical names of Turkey” (BEGeoN_T) they will be published on the web site of the board.

In the 23rd UNGEGN session the “Manual for the national standardization of geographical names”¹ was distributed: Part two, chapter IX contains an article on “Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors, for international use” (by Helen Kerfoot [Canada] and Eeva Maria Närhi [Finland]) in which all the relevant items for establishing a national names programme are discussed. Annexed is a list of countries which have produced Toponymic guidelines together with the status of actuality (2006).

¹ Manual for the national standardization of geographical names. United Nations group of experts on geographical names. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division. United Nations, New York 2006.