

**Ninth United Nations Conference on the
Standardization of Geographical Names**

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National standardization: Administrative structure of national names authorities

**The Structure of National Team for Standardization of
Topographical Names**

Submitted by Indonesia **

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The Structure of National Team for Standardization of Topographical Names

A. Introduction

Fundamental consideration:

- a. that a part of the physical features of the topography that make up the Indonesian archipelago as well as man-made features that spread out all over the country of the Unitary State of The Republic of Indonesia do not have names yet;
- b. that even though those names of features exist, but still need to be standardized;
- c. that for the conduct of orderly administration of the region in the frame of Unitary State of The Republic of Indonesia, there is need to embark on the standardization of topographical names;
- d. that in the framework of providing names and changing of names, as referred to Article 7, Section 2 of the Law No. 32 – 2004 on Regional Governments, there is a need to carry out the standardization of topographical names
- e. Indonesia is considering international law as well as and national law;
- f. UNGEGN Resolutions Number 4/1967 especially with regard to Recommendations A on National Standardization which is strengthened by UNGEGN Resolution 15/1987 on the establishment of Geographical Names Authorities need to be implemented in Indonesia.

B. The Structure

The Presidential Regulation Number 112/2006 on The National Team for Standardization of Topographical Names.

- a. The composition of the National Team :
 1. Members:
 - a. The Minister of Defense;
 - b. The Minister of Foreign Affairs;
 - c. The Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries;
 - d. The Minister of National Education.
 2. The First Secretary: Head of the National Coordination Agency for Surveys and Mapping (BAKOSURTANAL).
The Second Secretary : The Director General of Public Administration of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

- b. The National Team has the following tasks:
 - 1. to establish principles, guidelines and procedures for the standardization of topographical names;
 - 2. to conduct national standardization as to names, spelling and phonetics of the topographical names and presented these in the national gazetteers
 - 3. to propose national gazetteers which will be used as the basis for developing a Government Regulation on standardized names of topographical features in Indonesia (for public enforcement);
 - 4. to represent Indonesia in United Nations conferences related to naming and the standardization of topographical names.

- c.
 - 1. In order to implement its task, the National Team is supported by an Implementation Team and a Secretariat.
 - 2. The Implementation Team, is assisted by a Group of Experts.

- d.
 - 1. The Implementation Team, as mentioned in Article c, consists of:
 - a. Chairman : Head of BAKOSURTANAL
 - b. Vice Chairman: Director General of Public Administration of the Ministry of Home Affairs;
 - c. Members : Representative of the related institutions.
 - 2. Members of the Implementation Team, will be decided by decree of the Chairman of the National Team.
 - 3. In order to implement its tasks, the Implementation Team could set up working groups.

- e. The Secretariat, which is functionally assigned to BAKOSURTANAL is responsible for preparing technical material to be used in developing policies with regard to the standardization of topographical names, and carrying out other tasks as given by the National Team. Those Technical materials, should be prepared by the Secretariat in cooperation with the Group of Experts. The Members of the Secretariat should compose of related technical departments/institutions/agencies.

- f. The Group of Experts, consist of experts in geography, geology, mapping, languages/linguistics, history, anthropology and/or related experts from government

institutions, non-governmental organizations and/or individuals. The composition of the Group of Experts, will be determined by The National Team.

- g. The Group of Experts, will have the following tasks: to conduct studies and to prepare technical materials for the standardization of topographical names; to committee provide advises, judgments and opinions to the Implementation Team with regards to the standardization of topographical names; and to invite other relevant experts when needed.

- h. In each province, a Provincial committee on the Standardization of Topographical Names used to be established which is called the Provincial Committee on the Standardization of Topographical Names, at the level of each Regency (Kabupaten), and Municipality (Kota) are respectively established which is called the Kabupaten/Kota Committee on the Standardization of Topographical Names, respectively. The installation of the Provincial Committee and the Regency (Kabupaten)/ Municipality (Kota) Committee is undertaken by the respective governors and Regents/Majors.

- i. The task of The Provincial Committee :
 - 1. to co-ordinate activities of the standardization of topographical names conducted by the Kabupaten/Kota within the respective Province;
 - 2. to propose topographical names to the National Team;
 - 3. to propose topographical names to be included in the National Gazetteer;
 - 4. to carry out tasks as instructed by the National Team.

- j. The task of The Regency (Kabupaten)/Municipality (Kota) Committee :
 - 1. to carry out activities related to the inventory of topographic features in their regions;
 - 2. to collect data and information related to topographic features in their respective regions;
 - 3. to propose to the National Team the topographical names in their respective regions to be nationally standardized;
 - 4. to carry outs tasks given by the National Team.

- k. The National Team reports the result of its tasks to the President on a periodic basis, minimal once in six months or any time when needed.

C. ACTION PLAN

The 2008 Action Plan :

- a. Strengthening the capacity building of The National Name Authority;
- b. Dissemination of The Presidential Regulation Number 112/2006 on The National Team for Standardization of Topographical Names to local governments.
- c. Attending UNGEGN Meetings.

D. CONCLUDING REMARKS.

1. The Government of Indonesia finally established a national geographical names authority, enacted through a Presidential Regulation No. 112/2006 on December 29, 2006. The organization is called the “National Team for Standardization of Topographical Names”.
2. Since 2004, the Government has established priority of naming islands.
3. After the establishment of the “National Team for Standardization of Topographical Names”, since May 2007 The Ministry of Home Affairs together with The Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, The National Coordination Agency for Surveys and Mapping, Indonesian Naval Hydro-Oceanographic Office, and University of Indonesia have undertaken verification island names submitted by local governments. The proposed names of islands Which are submitted by local governments covering 9.336 islands and after being verify the number of islands which can be processed further for standardization are 1.811 islands.