

7. ABOUT A BOARD

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**Legal aspects**

- A board should be established by law, act, etc.
- A board should have terms of reference, mandate, responsibilities, members, Chair, Secretariat
- Keep the documentation up to date
- Is board advisory or has it ultimate decision-making role?
- Are names legally binding?

Who should sit on the board?

- Representatives of leading government department involved in names
- Other government departments - users
- Regional representation
- Non-government ... from interest group, qualified individuals
- Individual experts (local history, archives, linguistics, cartography)
- How long should they sit there?
- How many members? Financial factors? Frequency of meetings?

Secretariat support

- Technical/professional support
- Focal point for national toponymic activity
- Leadership; organization; communication
- How many people?
 - It depends on whether other staff is available for creating the data base, for establishing media contacts, and for preparing committee meetings

More...

- Other principles?
- Board looked to for unbiased judgement
- Decisions are important to future generations
- Integrity and effectiveness of board at stake
- Slow and sure!
- Try to refrain from political interference

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