

**Twenty-second Session
New York, 20-29 April 2004**

Item 12 of the Provisional Agenda

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COUNTRY NAMES

**United States Department of State Lists of Independent States
of the World and of Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty***

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The United States Department of State maintains two documents on its website that list geographical entities. They are titled “Independent States in the World” and “Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty.” They are reference documents that list the names of political entities for official United States Government use. These lists are updated as needed.

Independent States in the World.

This document is available on the Internet at the following url address:

<http://www.state.gov/s/inr/rls/4250.htm>

It lists all entities recognized as independent states by the United States Government. Each entry is listed in alphabetical order by short-form (unofficial) name, followed by the long-form name (state title), the entry’s Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) code¹, and its capital(s) or administrative centers. In addition, symbols appearing after the short-form names indicate whether the state has diplomatic relations with the United States, and whether the state is a member of the United Nations. A sample excerpt is attached to this document.

Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty.

This document is available on the Internet at the following url address:

<http://www.state.gov/s/inr/rls/10543.htm>

It lists political dependencies and territories that are not explicitly included in the Independent States in the World list, and also land areas on the Earth’s surface that are considered by the United States Government to fall under a special category of sovereignty. The entries are arranged in the same manner as the Independent States in the World list. A sample excerpt is attached to this document.

¹ Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 10 “Countries, Dependencies, Areas of Special Sovereignty, and their Principal Administrative Divisions.” The current version is FIPS Publication 10-4, 6 May 1993. This version and subsequent official change notices are found on the Internet at <http://earth-info.nga.mil/gns/html/index.html> .

February 27, 2004

Independent States in the World

Total count of Independent States: 192

* Diplomatic relations with the United States

+ Member of United Nations

! New change, since previous list

STATE

Short-form name	Long-form name	FIPS Code (see note 2)	Capital
Afghanistan *+	Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan	AF	Kabul
Albania *+	Republic of Albania	AL	Tirana
Algeria *+	People's Democratic Republic of Algeria	AG	Algiers
Andorra *+	Principality of Andorra	AN	Andorra la Vella
Angola *+	Republic of Angola	AO	Luanda
Antigua and Barbuda *+	(no long-form name)	AC	Saint John's
Argentina *+	Argentine Republic	AR	Buenos Aires
Armenia *+	Republic of Armenia	AM	Yerevan
Australia *+	Commonwealth of Australia	AS	Canberra
Austria *+	Republic of Austria	AU	Vienna
Azerbaijan *+	Republic of Azerbaijan	AJ	Baku
Bahamas, The *+	Commonwealth of The Bahamas	BF	Nassau
Bahrain *+	Kingdom of Bahrain	BA	Manama
Bangladesh *+	People's Republic of Bangladesh	BG	Dhaka

March 26, 2004

Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty

! New change, since previous list
March 26, 2004

Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty

See also:

[Independent States in the World](#)

[How's That Place Spelled? \(GEOnet\)](#)

[State Department Country Background Notes](#)

! New change, since previous list

Short-form name	Long-form name	Sovereignty	FIPS Code (see note 1)	Administrative Center
American Samoa	Territory of American Samoa	United States	AQ	Pago Pago
! Akrotiri Sovereign Base Area (see note 15)	Akrotiri Sovereign Base Area	United Kingdom	AX	Episkopi (see note 16)
Anguilla	! Anguilla	United Kingdom	AV	The Valley
Antarctica	(no long-form name)	None (see note 2)	AY	None
Aruba	(no long-form name)	Netherlands	AA	Oranjestad
Ashmore and Cartier Islands	Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands	Australia	AT	Administered from Canberra
Baker Island	(no long-form name)	United States	FQ	Administered from Washington, D.C.
Bermuda	! Bermuda	United Kingdom	BD	Hamilton
Bouvet Island	(no long-form name)	Norway	BV	Admin. from Oslo
British Indian Ocean Territory (see note 3)	British Indian Ocean Territory	United Kingdom	IO	None
Cayman Islands	! Cayman Islands	United Kingdom	CJ	George Town
Christmas Island	Territory of Christmas Island	Australia	KT	The Settlement (Flying Fish Cove)
Clipperton Island	(no long-form name)	France	IP	Administered from French Polynesia
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Australia	CK	West Island
Cook Islands	(no long-form name)	New Zealand	CW	Avarua