

**Which countries have a national authority for geographical names?  
Information received up to January 2015**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Authority?</b>	<b>Yr of Auth.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Contact, if no Nat. Auth.</b>
Afghanistan	Y	2009	The Board on Geographic Names for Afghanistan (BGN-A)	
Albania	N			Military Geographical Institute / Geographical Studies Center
Algeria	Y	1998	Commission Permanente Spécialisée de Toponymie	
Andorra	Y	2005	Commission de toponymie d'Andorre	
Angola	Y	2004	Commission (approved by President)	
Argentina	Y	1983	Instituto Geográfico Nacional de la Republica Argentina	
		1972	Servicio de Hidrografia Naval	
Armenia	Y	1999	Committee Coctab, State Committee on Real Estate and Cadastre	
Australia	Y	1985	Committee for Geographical Names of Australasia (CGNA)	
Austria	Y	1968	Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kartographische Ortsnamenkunde (AKO)	
Azerbaijan	Y	2008	State Committee on Land and Cartography	
Belarus	Y	1991	Toponymic Commission, Council of Ministers	
Belgium	Y		Institut géographique national / Nationaal Geografisch Instituut	
Bhutan	N			Department of Survey & Land Records
Bosnia and Herzogivina	N			Federalna uprava za geodetske i imovinstopravne poslove
Botswana	Y	1967	Botswana Place Names Commission	
Brazil	Y	2009	Comitê de Nomes Geográficos da Comissão Nacional de Cartografia, Brazil Institute for Geography and Statistics (IBGE)	
Brunei Darussalam	Y	1976	Geographical Names Committee Brunei Darussalam	
Bulgaria	Y	1951	Council of Standardization of Geographical Names (Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Agencies)	
Burkina Faso	Y	2013 (1986)	Commission nationale de toponymie (CONATOP)	
Cambodia	Y	?	National Commission on Geographical Names, Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction	

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Cameroon	Y	1968	National Commission on Toponymy / Commission nationale de Toponymie	
Canada	Y	1897	Geographical Names Board of Canada / Commission de toponymie du Canada	
Cape Verde	N			Service National de la Cartographie et du Cadastre
Chad	N			
Chile	N			Instituto Geográfico Militar
China	Y	1977	Administrative Areas and Geographical Names Division, Civil Affairs Ministry / China Institute of Toponymy	
Congo	N			CERGE C Cadastre Brazzaville
Cote d'Ivoire	N			Centre National de Télétection et d'Information Géographique
Croatia	N*			Croatian Geodetic Institute
Cyprus	Y	1977	Cyprus Permanent Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names	
Czech Republic	Y	2001	Commission on Geographical Names	
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Y	2002	DPRK Committee of Geographical Names within Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly	
Democratic Republic of Congo	N			Institut Géographique du Congo (IGC)
Denmark	Y	1910	Stednavneudvalget/The Place-Name Commission	
Kalaallit Nunaat/Greenland	Y	1989	Nunat Aqqinik Aalajangiisartut	
Føroyar/Faroe Islands	Y	2010	Staðarnavnanevndin	
Ecuador	N			Instituto Geográfico Militar
Egypt	N			Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS)
Estonia	Y	1994	Place Names Board of Estonia (Ministry of Regional Affairs)	
Ethiopia	N*			Ethiopian Mapping Agency (EMA)
Fiji	N*			Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources
Finland	N*			The Research Institute for the Languages of Finland (1975)
France	Y	1985	La Commission de nationale de toponymie (CNT)	
Gambia	Y	1970	In the National Environment Agency	
Germany	Y	1959	Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN)	
Greece	N			Hellenic Navy Hydrographic Service

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Guinea	N			Hellenic Military Geographic Service Institut Géographique National de Guinée
Hungary	Y	1989	Hungarian Committee on Geographical Names (Földrjzinév-bizottság)	
Iceland	Y	1935	Örnefnanefnd	
Indonesia	Y	2006 (2001) (1993)	National Team on the Standardization of Geographical Names	
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Y	2000	Iranian Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names	
Ireland	Y	1946	The Placenames Commission	
Israel	Y	1951	Government Names Commission	
Italy	N*		<i>(Formerly existed - repealed)</i>	Istituto Geografico Militare, Commission for the Italian Official Toponymy
Jamaica	Y	pre-1970	Place Names Committee	
Japan	Y	1960	Joint Committee on the Standardization of Geographical Names (Geographical Survey Institute)	
Jordan	Y	1984	National Committee on Geographical Names	
Kenya	Y	mid 1960s	Standing Committee on Geographical Names, Survey of Kenya	
Kyrgyzstan	Y	1997	Inter-Department Commission on Geographical Names (c/o State Service of Cartography and Geodesy)	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	N*			National Geographic Department
Latvia	N			Latvian Geospatial Information Agency / State Land Service
Lebanon	Y	1962	Direction des Affaires Géographiques (DAG)	
Lesotho	N			?
Libya	Y	2000 (1971?)	National Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names	
Liberia	N			Ministry of Lands, Mines, Energy
Lithuania	Y	1990	The State Commission of the Lithuanian Language	
Madagascar	Y	1973	Komitim-Pirenena Miandraikitra Ny Anaran-Tany (K.P.M.A.)	
Malawi	N			
Malaysia	Y	2002	National Committee on Geographical Names	
Mali	Y	2005	Comité national d'information géographique (CNIG)	

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Mauritania	Y	1985	Direction de la Cartographie et de l'Information Géographique	
Mexico	N			Instituto Nacional de Estadística Geográfica e Informática (INEGI)
Mongolia	N*		[National Council for Geographic Names]	Administration of Land Affairs, Construction, Geodesy & Cartography
Montenegro	N			Montenegro Department of Real Estate
Morocco	N*	?	Commission Nationale de Normalisation des Noms Géographiques (ACFCC)	
Mozambique	Y	2009	Institute of Geographical Names of Mozambique (INGEMO)	
Myanmar	Y	?	National Geographical Names Authority	
Namibia	N*			Directorate of Survey & Mapping
Nepal	N*			Survey Department
Netherlands	N			Topografische Dienst Nederland
New Zealand	Y	2008 (1946)	New Zealand Geographic Board / Ngā Pou Taunaha	
Niger	N*			Institut géographique national du Niger
Nigeria	N			Federal Survey Department
Norway	Y	1879 ?	Norwegian Mapping Authority Norwegian State Consultancy on Place-Names	
Oman	Y	1983	National Survey Authority	
Pakistan	N*		(National Geographic Naming Authority)	Survey of Pakistan
Panama	Y	1970	Autoridad Nacional de Nombres Geográficos	
Paraguay	N			
Peru	N			
Poland	Y	?	Commission on Names of Localities and Physiographic Objects (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration)	
Qatar	N			Ministry of Municipal Affairs
Republic of Korea	Y	2009 (1958)	Korea Committee on Geographical Names (KCGN)	
Romania	N*			Military Topographic Directorate
Russian Federation	Y	1994	Commission of Geographical Names (Ministry of Economic Development)	
Samoa	N*			National Mapping Section Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment
Sao Tome and Principe	N*		Place-Name Advisory board	Direção de Serviços Geográficos e Cadastrais

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Saudi Arabia	Y	2013	Permanent National Committee on Geographic Names	
Senegal	Y	?	Comité national de toponymie (en cours de reforme)	
Serbia	Y	2009	Commission for the Standardization of Geographical Names	
Singapore	N			Singapore Land Authority
Slovakia	Y	?	Office of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre	
Slovenia	Y	1986	Commission for the Standardization of Geographical Names	
South Africa	Y	1998	South African Geographical Names Council	
Spain	Y	2004	Comisión Especializada de Nombres Geográficos, Instituto Geográfico Nacional	
Sri Lanka	Y	2010?	Committee for Standardization of Geographical Names [approved in principle]	
Sudan	Y	1996 (1976?)	Geographical Names Committee	
Suriname	N			Civil Registry Office
Swaziland	N*			Land Surveying & Mapping
Sweden	Y	1974	National Land Survey	
Switzerland	N*			Federal Office of Topography
Syrian Arab Republic	Y	1996	Committee for Geographical Names	
Tajikistan	N			National Space Geodetic and Cartographic Agency of Tajikistan (Tojikoinot)
Thailand	Y	1992	National Committee on Geographical Names	
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Y	2000	Commission for the standardization of geographical names	
Togo	N			Ministère de l'Administration Territoriale
Tunisia	Y	2013 (1983)	Commission nationale de toponymie	
Turkey	Y	2004	Board of Experts for Geographical Names of Turkey (BEGeoN_T)	
Uganda	Y	1995	Lands & Surveys Department	
Ukraine	Y	2004 (1994)	National Council on Geographical Names, State Agency of Land Resources	
United Arab Emirates	N*			Military Survey Department
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	N			Ordnance Survey
United Republic of Tanzania	N			Surveying and Mapping, Ministry of Lands
United States of America	Y	1890	U.S. Board on Geographic Names (USBGN)	
Uzbekistan	N*		(Republican Toponymic Commission)	National Centre of Geodesy and Cartography
Vanuatu	N*			Department of Land Surveys

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Venezuela	Y	1989	Instituto Geográfico de Venezuela Símon Bolívar	
Viet Nam	Y	2002	General Department of Land Administration Vietnam	
Zambia	N			Zambia Survey Department
Zimbabwe	Y		Geographical Names Standing Committee (GNSC)	
<i>Holy See</i>	<i>N*</i>			<i>Secretariat of State - 2nd Section</i>

N\* = hopefully soon



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