



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
9 July 2012

Original: English

Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

New York, 31 July-9 August 2012

Item 5 of the provisional agenda**

Reports on the work of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, its divisions, working groups and task teams since the Ninth Conference

Report of the Norden Division (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden)

Submitted by Denmark***

Summary†

Meetings of the Norden Division in 2011-2012

One meeting of the Norden Division has been held since the previous report of the Division. That meeting was held on 2 May 2011, in conjunction with the twenty-sixth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, held in Vienna from 2 to 6 May 2011. A number of topics were discussed, including the homepage of the Norden Division and developments in the EuroGeoNames and INSPIRE projects. The meeting was attended by nine participants from the Norden Division area. More information about the 2011 meeting can be found from: <http://nordendivision.nfi.ku.dk/about/programme/wien110503/>. A meeting of the Division is also planned for 10 June 2012, at the Name Research Section, in Copenhagen.

Homepage of the Norden Division

The Division has had its own homepage since 2008, namely: <http://nordendivision.nfi.ku.dk/>. There has been no major revision of the homepage since the previous report, apart from one or two textual updates and additions since 2011. It is the impression of the Norden Division chairmanship that the homepage fulfils its aim to present concise information about the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and the Division.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 27 July 2012.

** E/CONF.101/1.

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† The full report is available in the language of submission only from <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/ungegnConf10.html>.



Cooperation with other divisions and working groups

The Norden Division cooperates with other divisions and working groups of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, and several members of the Division participate in working groups, such as the Working Group on Toponymic Terminology (Staffan Nyström, chair of the Working Group), and the Working Group on Implementation and Evaluation/Publication and Funding (Botolv Helleland). Additionally, the Working Group on Toponymic Terminology featured among the presentations at the twenty-fourth Conference of the International Council of Onomastic Sciences. At the Conference, a meeting between that Working Group and the “Terminology Group” of the Council took place, and a revision of the *Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names* was discussed.

Improved online facilities for geographical names

An update of the Swedish homepage on geographical names KartSök och Ortnamn (Map Search and Place Names) by the national Swedish Mapping Authority, Lantmäteriet, was launched in 2011 (<http://kso.lantmateriet.se/kartsok/kos/index.html>). The update features, among other things, a purpose-made keyboard for Saami characters, a language code for geographical names and a new seamless topographic web map.
