



UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

50TH
ANNIVERSARY



CRP 49

UN Conferences & UNGEGN - Milestones

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(UNGEEN Chair, 2002-2012)



Elements of CRP 49

- Background/chronology of
 - UNGEGN Chairs and Conference Presidents
 - Divisions
 - Working Groups and Convenors
- Milestones
 - 50 events with details since 1967 – actually since 1959, the start of geographical names work at the UN
 - To recognize and celebrate the work of those before us



Starting my links with UNGEGN

1987 ... Fifth UN Conference
on the Standardization of Geographical Names
Montréal, Canada





Milestones

- The Milestones cover various aspects of our work
 - Advancing national standardization
 - Publishing and communicating our results
 - Outreach to Africa
 - Connecting with other scientific and standardization organizations
 - Establishing and improving our operations

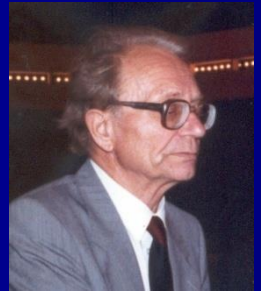
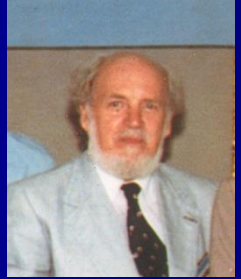
Posters – created by UN to illustrate some of the milestones

UNGEGN website unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/



1960s and 1970s

- 1979 Toponymic Guidelines started: **example Austria**
- 1972 Conference – London; “UNGEEN” formed;
first divisions (14)
later conferences in Athens, Montréal, Berlin
- 1970 First Working Groups:
undersea features, romanization, extraterrestrial
... Today 10 WGs and 2 Teams
- 1967 First UN Conference : Geneva, 55 countries
- 1960 First meeting of experts:
USA, France, UK, Iran, Guatemala, China
- 1959 ECOSOC Resolution 715A (XXVII): created a review group





1980s and 1990s

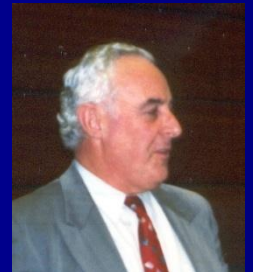
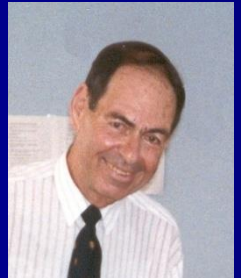
- 1993 Major rewrite of Aims, Functions, Modus Operandi: **more pro-active**
- 1992 First UNGEGN training course in sub-Saharan Africa: **Pretoria**
- 1988 First *UNGEGN Newsletter* (later *UNGEGN Information Bulletin*)
- 1987 Compendium of UN resolutions started – **English, French**
- 1986 UN World Cartography: nine technical articles
- 1984 UNGEGN Glossary of Terminology
- 1982 First UNGEGN toponymy training course: **Indonesia**





2000s

- 2009 First UNGEGN session in Africa: **Nairobi**
2016 First UNGEGN in Asia: **Bangkok**
- 2006-7 Publication of basic and technical manuals
- 2006 First “Special Presentations” at UNGEGN & UNCSGN
- 2004 Creation of the Task Team for Africa;
Online UNGEGN Database
- 2002 At Eighth Conference:
associated training, break-time presentations
- 2002 Launching the UNGEGN website;
UNEGN Glossary of Terms
- 2001 First UNGEGN brochure: ***Consistent use of place names***





2010s

- 2017 Launching of an online toponymy training manual
- 2016 Establishing a model for cooperation with UN-GGIM
- 2016 All UNCSGN/UNGEGN documents loaded onto website
- 2012 UNGEGN web-based training course launched;
Media kit
- 2011 UNECA-sponsored symposium
on UNGEGN's work in Africa: **Gabarone Action Plan (GAP)**
presented to StatCom in Cape Town & Yamoussoukro
- 2011 Initial meeting for an ICA/IGU Commission on toponymy
- 2010 Launching on-line database of UN resolutions
- 2010 Initial cooperation with embryonic UN-GGIM: New York





Responsibility for UNGEGN

Late 1990s

... UNGEGN passed from Cartography to Statistics Division

Habermann

De Vries

Cheung

Schweinfest



United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

17-28 January 2000

Conference Room 1

10:00 am – 1:00 pm

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

17	<i>Wol</i> 18	<i>Christina</i> 19	20	21
am - Habermann	De Vries	Hannig	Roberts	Johnston
	<i>Wol</i>	<i>Linda</i>		
pm - Habermann	De Vries	Vanek	Suzara	Markhonko
24	25	26	27	28
am - Suharto	Horvath	Clague	Nagy	Cuaycong
pm - Chamie	Schweinfest	Romanovsky	Jansen	HH

NOTE: NO MEETING ON THURSDAY, 27 JANUARY

DRAFTING GROUP A.M. AND P.M.

FRIDAY, 28 JANUARY

DRAFT REPORT WILL BE DISCUSSED AND ADOPTED.



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1967-2017

Promoting the collection, standardization
and dissemination of geographical names