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**11th United Nations Conference on the
Standardization of Geographical Names**

New York, 8 -17 August 2017

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

**Reports by Governments on the situation in their countries
and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical
names since the 10th Conference (for distribution only).**

Report of Slovakia

Submitted by Slovakia**

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** Prepared by the members of the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority of the Slovak Republic

International meetings

Members of the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority of the Slovak Republic (Commission) participated in:

- 5-7 June 2014, (Hermagor, Austria): 16th meeting of the Working group on Exonyms,
- 5 November 2014, (Warszawa, Poland): Czech-Polish-Slovak meeting on standardization of geographical names and on terminology used in the standardization of geographical names,
- 26 November 2015, (Ljubljana, Slovenia): 21th meeting of the East central and South-East Europe Division,
- 15 December 2015, (Bratislava, Slovakia): Czech-Polish-Slovak meeting on activities in the field of standardization of geographical names and other activities in standardization of geographical names,
- 6 December 2016, (Praha, Czechia): Czech-Polish-Slovak meeting on activities in the field of standardization of geographical names and other activities in standardization of geographical names.

Publications

- Rules for Use of the Names of Geographical Objects in Foreign Language Text of Publications Published in the Slovak Republic, Bratislava, 2012,
- UNGEGN Brochure was translated to the Slovak language,
- The Directive for the Standardization of Geographical Names, Bratislava, 2015

Publications have been published on the website of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as „the GCCA SR“) <http://www.skgeodesy.sk/sk/ugkk/geodezia-kartografia/standardizacia-geografickeho-nazvoslovia/dokumenty-k-cinnosti/> .

- Translations of all Resolutions, adopted at the Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names, into Slovak language have been published on the GCCA SR website.
- Lists of selected geographical names <http://www.skgeodesy.sk/sk/ugkk/geodezia-kartografia/standardizacia-geografickeho-nazvoslovia/> have been published on the GCCA SR website.

Implementation of resolutions and the aims and functions of UNGEGN (ongoing activity)

The GCCA SR provides information for the general public about international activities and international collaboration in the field of geographical names standardization via the periodical publication called *Názvoslovné informácie* (Geographical Names Information). It is published twice a year. Also informative technical papers, results of the UN conference proceedings, results of linguistic/geographical regional groups, findings of the Division of UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names, decisions on geographical names standardization and gazetteers, as well as the changes of standardized names have been published in the publications.

National standardization

Field collection of names

The GCCA SR continues with standardization of geographical names in collaboration with the cadastral departments of district offices.

- New names have currently been collected, standardized and added into the database on the basis of requirements and information of central and local institutions. Gradually, variant names have been added. The database has been updated continuously.
- Our activities in the field of standardization of geographical names concern the increase and unification of the Database of geographical names. The work has been carried out gradually according to individual districts within the whole territory of the Slovak Republic. It concerns 72 districts altogether. Names from cadastral maps and forest maps have been compared, verified, standardized and then consolidated into one database. The aim of harmonization is to unify names for every feature, to standardize one name for one feature and to approve these

names for national and international use. At present time the harmonization is finished in three districts. Six other districts have been at different stages of development.

Office treatment of names (without changes)

In order to provide a specialized function of standardization, the Commission was in 1970 established as an advisory board of the GCCA SR. Working bodies of the Commission are as follows:

- 1.) 1st section deals with the standardization of geographic names from the territory within the Slovak Republic,
- 2.) 2nd section deals with the standardization of geographic names from the territory outside of the Slovak Republic.

The standardization of geographical names was provided by the GCCA SR also by law; the GCCA SR also published technical regulation on the criteria of classification, methods, rules and procedures of geographical names standardization and publications about standardized geographic names.

Administrative structure of national names authorities, legislation, policies and procedures. (without changes)

Within the Slovak Republic the authorities for geographical names are as follows: the National Council of the Slovak Republic, the Government of the Slovak Republic, the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, the GCCA SR. Competence of the authorities for geographical names is implied in the Acts of the National Council of the Slovak Republic.

Toponymic guidelines for map editors and other editors (without changes).

The fourth edition of the Slovak toponymic guidelines was published in 2010 and takes into account legislative changes introduced after 2008. It contains parallel Slovak and English versions. It is available on website

<http://www.skgeodesy.sk/files/slovensky/ugkk/geodezia-kartografia/standardizacia-geografickeho-nazvoslovia/dokumenty-k-cinnosti/TNdotlaAe.pdf>

Exonyms.

The list of exonyms is published on the GCCA SR website. The last update was made in 2011. No new exonyms were created. The GCCA SR recommends using the official names (endonyms) recommended by competent authority for public use.

Toponymic data files and gazetteers

New names from cadastral maps and forestry maps have currently been collected, standardized and added into the database. New names have also been standardized on the basis of requirements and information from central and local institutions. Gradually variant names have been added. The database has been updated continuously.

Automated data processing systems

Database of geographical names from the territory of the Slovak Republic was incorporated to Basic database for the geographic information system (ZBGIS) in 2013. Data from the database can be distributed as MS Excel, Geodatabase or Shape formats.

Toponymic websites

Information concerning geographical names as well as selected sets of standardized names has been continuously published and updated on the home page of the GCCA SR at the address <http://www.skgeodesy.sk/sk/ugkk/geodezia-kartografia/standardizacia-geografickeho-nazvoslovia/>.

On the website there have also been published selected lists of geographical names of the following features:

Names of mountains, valleys, passes and saddles,

Names of cadastral areas,
Names of protected areas,
Slovak exonyms of geographical features lying outside of the territory of the Slovak Republic,
Country names.
Names of waters – waterfalls, reservoirs, ponds, springs, tarns, canals, lakes and others.

Data services, applications and products

Geographical names from the whole territory of the Slovak republic are available on the internet page of the Geodetic and Cartographic Institute Bratislava at the address: <http://www.geoportal.sk> through web services by means of the web map service (WMS), web feature service (WFS) together with the ZBGIS data.

Country names

Country names are published by the GCCA SR as a list of names of countries with other additional information. This list has been continuously updated on the GCCA SR webpage <http://www.skgeodesy.sk/sk/ugkk/geodezia-kartografia/standardizacia-geografickeho-nazvoslovia/>. The official UNGEGN website <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/geonames/> is used by the GCCA SR to update changes in the list of country names.

Features common to two or more nations

Firstly the GCCA SR and the Czech authority exchanged their databases of names of common objects. Then the GCCA SR has started to prepare Czech's endonyms of common features that will be added to Slovak's endonyms as „boundary names“. It will be published in new geoportal of the GCCA SR as search service. Our inspiration to solve this issue was the solution used by the Czech's Authority.