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### **Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names**

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**National Standardization: Office treatment of names**

#### **The Naming Procedures of Indonesia's Islands**

Submitted by Indonesia\*\*

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\*\* Prepared by Working Group on Maritime Toponyms and Names of Islands of the Indonesian National Team for the Standardization of Topographical Names.

## Summary

Indonesia is an archipelagic state whose territory consist of thousands of islands, most of them are small islands ( $\leq 2000^2$ km (National Act No. 27/2007). However, until 2005 there are no naming and standardization of islands across of Indonesia. The naming of Indonesia's Islands have conducted since 2005 until 2008, that was conjunction into United Nations (UN) Recommendation B, Resolution I/4, concerning the Collecting for Geographical names. The naming of Islands in Indonesia have conducted by National Team Member based on Presidential Decree (Perpres) No. 112/2006 concerning The National Team for the Standardization of Geographical Names, which consist of several Ministries and Bureau, such as: Geospatial Information Agency instead of National Coordinating Agency for Surveys and Mapping, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Ministry of Home Affairs, as well as Ministry of Defense. The naming of Indonesia's Islands as national priority have carried out since some conflicts related ownership of island, which refer to island definition from United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) 1982, especially in article 121 concerning the Island Regime. Currently, the National Team has been named of islands with total of 13,466 islands, across of 33 Provinces of Indonesia and 4981 of islands have been deposited into UN in 2007.

## **Introduction**

One of expertise permanent institution of the United Nation (UN) is UNGEGN (*United Nation Group of Expert on Geographical Names*) recommend its member countries to advance the standarization of Geographical element name. Especially in national level or international level. The progress of Geographical element name standarization is monitored by UN in the fift session meeting initiated by UNGEGN in UNCSGN (*United Nation Conference on the Standarizatition of Geographical Names*) that began in 1967. During the meeting /first conference UNCSGN, issued a resolution Number 1.4 that contains :

1. To be announced geographical names in the list and contains information to be able to determine the place and the identification of geographical names.
2. Each country should have a national authority in matters of geographical names (National Geographical Names Authority).

In the second meeting / UNCSGN conference in 1972, UNCSGN re-issued the resolution No. II/32 which emphazise that the National Geographical Names Authority must disseminate the names of the geographic element to the various institutions, including secretariat of the United Nation. United Nation Secretariat will spread out list of the geographic element name to other institutions and international organization and to a member of UNGEGN (*United Nation Group of Expert on Geographical Names*). Indonesia as one UN member state has opportunity to report the results of the standardization of geographical element names including name of the island, in a legal document. And Institution which has authority to report that is *National Geographical Names Authority*. In Indonesia, this institution has not established yet.

Toponym island is part of government activities in structuring geographical elements of the island. Naming island concerns standardization of writing, spelling and pronunciation (phonetic). The Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, the naming of the island has a strategic and important role, 9634 islands in Indonesia still has not been named owned by 17 504 islands. (Depdagri, 2003). Then in 2004, through Parliament, Directorate General of Marine, Coastal and Small Islands Affairs, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries trusted to complete naming the islands that began 2005, and expected to be completed by the end of 2007.

Naming the island is considered important due to the following matters:

1. Optimizing the management and utilization as well development of the island itself.
2. As a form of an administrative and good governance.
3. This event has a strategic value, especially the outer islands that used as the basic point of the baseline withdrawal boundaries Indonesia.
4. It can reduce some conflicts between countries by ensuring the functions of goverment in each island.

## **Implementation Plan of Toponym Survey**

Implementation survey naming the island was completed in 2008. Starting in 2005 conducted in 33 provinces by end in 2008. The survey of Island's toponym during 2005-2008 was targeted as below:

Table 1 : Matrix of island naming survey implementation plan

2005	2006	2007	2008	2012
1. Riau Islands 2. Bangka Belitung Islands 3. West Sumatera 4. South Kalimantan 5. East Kalimantan 6. North Maluku 7. East Nusa Tenggara 8. West Nusa Tenggara 9. North Sulawesi 10. Central Sulawesi 11. Southeast Sulawesi	1. N A D 2. North Sumatera 3. Lampung 4. East Java 5. West Java 6. Central Java 7. West Kalimantan 8. Gorontalo 9. South Sulawesi 10. Maluku 11. Papua	1. Riau 2. Jambi 3. Bengkulu 4. South Sumatera 5. Banten 6. DKI Jaya 7. Jogjakarta 8. Central Kalimantan 9. Bali 10. West Sulawesi 11. West Papua	Verification activities among institutions in term of data and informations related names of islands in 33 Provinces	1. Final gazeetir document of Indonesia's islands.  2. Would be deposited into UN in 2012
11 Provinces	11 Provinces	11 Provinces	33 Provinces	

### Realization of Toponym Survey (Naming) Island

Naming the island consists of many activities related to each other. This process begins with the collection of data secondary from various sources that used as the reference field. To find a goals in the inventory and the naming of geographic elements (an island toponym survey). There are 3 main activities to be implemented. In outline, 3 part of activities :

1. Compilation of island data from the secondary data as a reference data in the field.
2. Implementation of field surveys.
3. Processing survey data.

For more details, the method can be found in the flow chart (Figure 1).

Until July 2007, the toponym survey had been conducted in 30 provinces in Indonesia. Only three provinces to be immediately implemented, the province of Bali, West Papua and Jakarta (Table 2).

### Compilation of island data from the secondary data as a reference in the field

#### Secondary Data :

1. List the coordinates of the island Dishidros Navy
2. List the coordinates of the island of Home Affairs
3. Map of marine publications Dishidros Navy
4. Map of Indonesia RBI (RBI) publications of Bakosurtanal
5. Data government 's land
6. Map/spacial data of regency or subregency
7. Other Data



### Implementation of Field Survey

1. Coordination with the Department of Marine and Fisheries in the Provinces/ District, Sub District, Village and local community leaders.
2. Survey with visiting the island one by one in accordance with the compilation of secondary data.
3. Taking pictures of the island (photo and video).
4. The guidelines are based on a resolution naming the island UNCSCG No. 4 Th. 1967, namely:
  - a. Name of the island can only be provided by local residents or people who have regular activities around the island, at least 2 people are considered to know the history of the island.
  - b. Recorded geographic position and the administrative area of the island / making the point coordinates (GPS).
  - c. Pronunciation (phonetic) from the local name of the island is verified by the local community, whether or not.
  - d. Overall survey results presented to the public and local officials to get approval.
  - e. Filing of the island.



### Data Processing

1. Data processing result by tracking coordinate point from GPS using GIS software
2. Preparation of a data summary table of the island, consisting of survey data and secondary data
3. Matching the data retrieval results coordinate point with photos / video recording and interview
4. Complete data of the survey
5. 5. preparation of reports

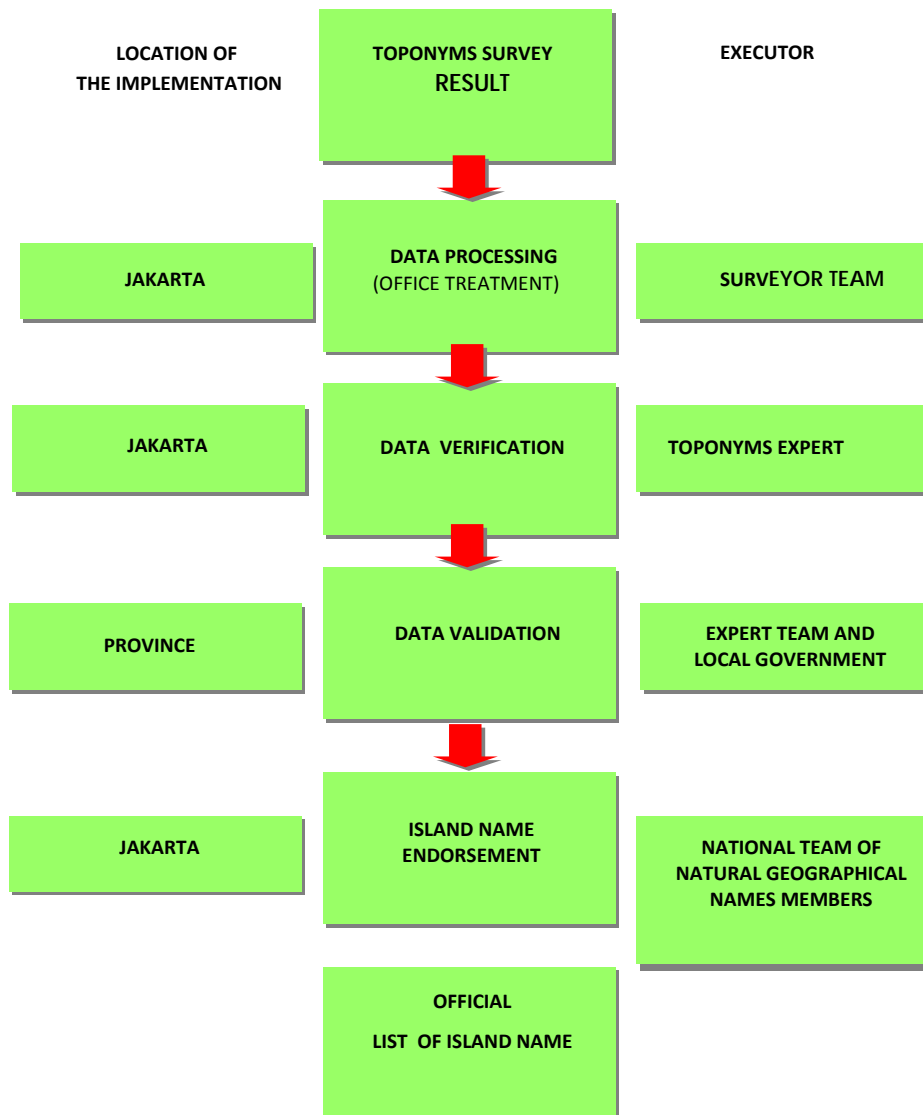
## **Verification Name and Number of Islands in Indonesia**

### **A. Procedure of Standardization Island's Name**

On December 29, 2006. President Regulation No 112 of 2006 on the National Team for the Standardization of Geographical Names was established. The National Team are chaired by the Minister of Home Affairs and member of them is Minister of Defense, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, and Ministry of National Education. National Team has the following tasks :

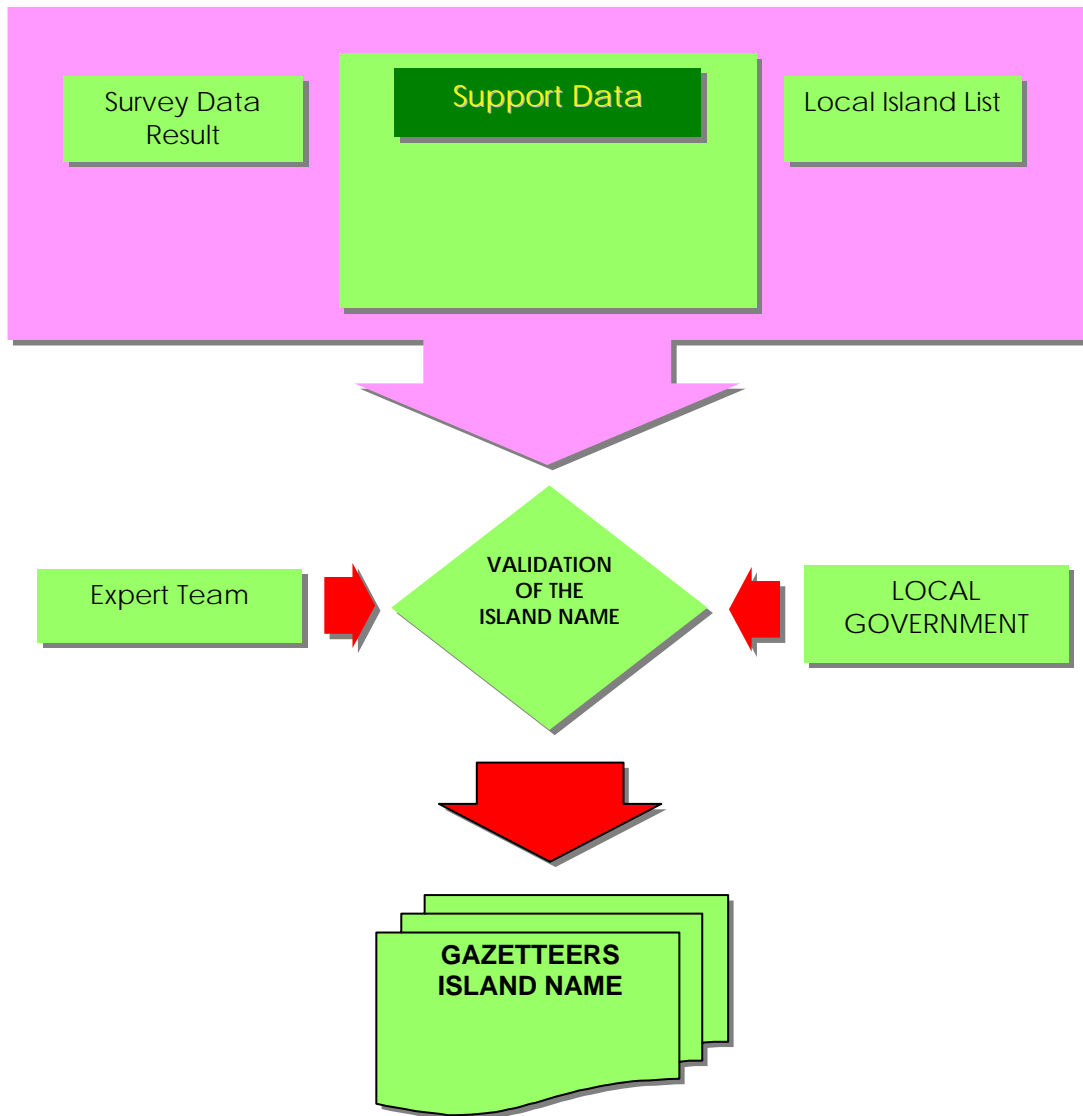
- a. Set out the principles, guideline and procedure for standardization of the names of topographic features;
- b. Nationally standardize names, spelling and pronunciation of topographic features in Indonesia in the form of national legal document
- c. Proposed national list to serve as a preparation of the draft Regulation on the standardization of topographical names in Indonesia;
- d. Provide guidance to local government for inventory, naming, and the standardization of topographical name change;
- e. Represent Indonesia in the United Nations and international meetings related to naming and standardization of topographical names

After publishing the President regulation No 112 year of 2006, implementation procedure of naming the islands by :



**B. Name and Number of Verification Island**

Verification field data result must be done by the expert team. Then the verification data will be presented in local government level. The verification procedure giving in the picture below:



Picture 3. Procedures of Island Name and Number

### C. Definition / Island Limitation

Island based on UN *Convention on the Law of the Sea* (UNCLOS 1982) Definition Article 121 declare: *Regime of Islands* : “An island is a naturally formed area of land, surrounded by water, which is above water at high tide”

Based on those definition, can be concluded that Island have in the form of mainland or rocks as long as in the surface of high tide. Because land in the island word definition are composed by soil and rock. But if the rocks scattered around the island and doesn't has strategic and economical value, it doesn't have to be included as the island definition.



## Naming the Island Verification Result

### A. Example of the New Island Found in North Sulawesi Province

No	Island Name	Coordinate					
		Latitude (LU)			Longitude (BT)		
1	Sambokadodo	03	25	49	125	33	18
2	Mahangsumangi	03	24	10	125	34	50
3	Empulage	03	20	59	125	35	37
4	Entanamahamu	03	33	19	125	30	12
5	Batuwingkong	03	31	54	125	39	30
6	Mangindano	04	44	28	125	29	10
7	Lungguhe	04	44	46	125	29	25
8	Sakede	04	44	43	125	29	20
9	Laweang	04	44	45	125	29	20
10	Dulunge	04	44	43	125	29	23

### B. Difference in the Number of Islands

In the table 3 can be seen that there are differences in the amount of before and after island verification data. The differences are caused by such things as the following:

- There are repeated data on used secunder data. With this repeated data, then there are addition of the island at certain locations.
- There are the island data which are mangrove. Besides rocks, the references data can be mangrove. The expert team agreed that mangrove is not categorized as island.
- There are Island data located in the other region. In certain provinces, there are island data on a province located in near of neighboring provinces, so the number of islands in the province is not clear.
- There are data of the islands that is not found in field. Besides rocks and mangrove, there are lot of the islands data that is not found in field, This could be due to an error in the writing of the coordinate data.
- Difference Island definition between toponyms team and local government, that can causing differences in the number of calculations of the island in a region.

### C. General Problems of Islands Data Collection

- Limitations of data and information, primarily related to the availability of spatial data (satellite imageries), map work, as well as data and informations sourced from local community.
- Equipment Problems (GPS, Compass, navigation equipment, small boat etc).
- Weather problems, (unpredictable weather while survey in some of islands, such as high wave, heavy storms, heavy rainy etc).

- d. Islands Definition Problems, difficulty in distinguishing the island with mangrove, coral, atolls, dune delta as well as rock/giant stone.

## **Conclusion**

1. The naming of Indonesia's Islands have conducted since 2005 until 2008, that was conjunction into United Nations (UN) Recommendation B, Resolution I/4, concerning the Collecting for Geographical names.
2. The naming of Indonesia's Islands has been conducted by National Team for the Standardization of Geographical Names in 2005 until 2008.
3. Proses of naming and cataloging of islands consist of some steps, i.e:
  - a. preparation activities, by setting up working team, working paper, map, schedule activities, survey equipment as well as material.
  - b. Field survey activities, goes to islands and involving with local communities to achieve further information about islands.
  - c. Data Processing by national team
  - d. Data verification and validation, to improve quality and accuracy of data, which can be used as preparation of islands gazetteer.
  - e. Preparation of Islands Gazetteer
4. Currently, The National Team has been successfully conducted toponymi survei on 13466 islands accross Indonesia. And in 2007, National Team has also been registered and deposited 4981 islands into United Nations.