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**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 East Central and South-East Europe Division
(ECSEED) 2007-2012

Submitted by ECSEE Division Chairman **

* E/CONF.101/1.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This is the report of the East Central and South-East Europe Division (ECSEED) of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) of the activities carried out between the 9th (2007) and 10th (2012) United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. Reported are the main ECSEED activities of common interest, ECSEED new countries, ECSEED sessions, informal meetings, texts published in UNGEGN the Information Bulletin, chairing overview, ECSEED overview document, division web site and documentation.

2. ECSEE DIVISION COUNTRIES

In the period between 2007 and 2012, two countries joined ECSEED. Montenegro joined ECSEE Division at the 19th ECSEED Session in November 2008 and Georgia joined ECSEED at the 26th UNGEGN Session in May 2011. The ECSEE Division has reached the number of 17 countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Montenegro, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine (see Fig. 1).



Figure 1. ECSEED countries.

In this way, the ECSEED belongs to the group of UNGEGN Divisions with the high number of countries (see Table 1).

Table 1: Overview of UNGEGN Divisions and number of Division countries

Nr.	UNGEGN Divisions	Number of Division countries
1	Latin America Division	22
2	Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division	22
3	French-speaking Division	17
4	East Central and South-East Europe Division	17
5	Africa West Division	16
6	Africa East Division	16
7	Arabic Division	16
8	Romano-Hellenic Division	15

9	Africa Central Division	12
10	Africa South Division	10
11	Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division	10
12	Portuguese-speaking Division	8
13	Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)	8
14	Dutch- and German-speaking Division	7
15	India Division	5
16	Norden Division	5
17	United Kingdom Division	5
18	Baltic Division	4
19	Asia East Division (other than China)	3
20	Celtic Division	2
21	East Mediterranean Division (other than Arabic)	2
22	United States of America-Canada Division	2
23	China Division	1

Some of the ECSEE Division countries are active in more than one UNGEGN Division (see Table 2).

Table 2: ECSEE Division countries active in more than one UNGEGN Division

Country	Member of UNGEGN Divisions
Bulgaria	1. East Central and South-East Europe Division
	2. Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division
Cyprus	1. East Central and South-East Europe Division
	2. Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)
	3. East Mediterranean Division (other than Arabic)
	4. Romano-Hellenic Division
Georgia	1. East Central and South-East Europe Division
	2. Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division
Greece	1. East Central and South-East Europe Division
	2. Romano-Hellenic Division
Serbia	1. East Central and South-East Europe Division
	2. Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)
Turkey	1. East Central and South-East Europe Division
	2. Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)
	3. Romano-Hellenic Division
Ukraine	1. East Central and South-East Europe Division
	2. Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division

3. ECSEE DIVISION OVERVIEW DOCUMENT

The "ECSEED overview document" has been prepared in order to collect the main information about the standardization of geographical names of the ECSEED countries. The ECSEED overview document offers key information about the Division and its member states. It introduces the ECSEE Division and division member states and has been prepared by the Division experts. The first edition of the ECSEED overview document was

introduced at the 19th ECSEED Session in 2008 in Zagreb (Document Symbol: ECSEED/Session.19/2008/1). The second, revised edition was introduced at the 20th ECSEED Session in 2011 in Zagreb (Document Symbol: ECSEED/Session.20/2011/1). The documents can be downloaded from the Division web site <http://ungegn.dgu.hr>. The Division overview document should be updated and revised continuously and the latest version can be downloaded from the Division main website <http://ungegn.dgu.hr> as "ECSEED overview".

4. ECSEED CHAIRING

The Division chairing covers the time between two UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names held every five years. Table 3 gives an overview of the ECSEED Chairing.

Table 3: Overview of the ECSEED Chairing

Chair	Period	Country
Sándor Radó	1972-1977	Hungary
Mieczysław Szymczak	1977-1982	Poland
Verner Raynov	1982-1987	Bulgaria
Imrich Horňanský	1987-1992	Czechoslovakia (Slovakia)
Béla Pokoly	1992-1998	Hungary
Milan Orožen Adamič	1998-2002	Slovenia
Pavel Boháč	2002-2007	Czech Republic
Željko Hećimović	2007-2012	Croatia

Croatia started presiding the Division at the Ninth UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names in 2007. The Croatian Geodetic Institute and State Geodetic Administration were the hosting institutions. At the 20th ECSEED Session in Zagreb 2008, it was concluded that Slovenia will be the next ECSEED Division chairing country.

5. ECSEED DIVISION SESSIONS

In the above-mentioned period, two ECSEED Division Sessions were held; 19th ECSEED Division Session (Zagreb, 2008) and Joint UNGEGN and EuroGeoNames (EGN) meeting (Zagreb, 2011) (see Figure 2 and Table 5).



Figure 2. The 19th and 20th ECSEED Division Sessions participants.

5.1. The Nineteenth ECSEED Division Session

The Nineteenth ECSEE Division Session was held in Zagreb from 19th to 21st November 2008. The Session was attended by 37 participants from 10 ECSEE Division countries including 4 representatives from Montenegro, becoming active in ECSEED, and 1 guest from Austria (Dutch- and German-speaking Division). The complete list of the participant, list of documents, agendas, program and other details about Session are given on the ECSEED website <http://ungegn.dgu.hr>.

The recognition, conclusions and recommendations of the 19th ECSEED Session could be found in the Report of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names on the work of its nineteenth session, available on the ECSEED website <http://ungegn.dgu.hr>.

5.2. Twentieth ECSEE Division Session

The Twentieth ECSEE Division Session was organized as part of the Joint UNGEGN and EuroGeoNames (EGN) meetings. The joint meetings included:

- 20th Session of the East Central and South - East Europe Division (ECSEED),
- Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers (WG TDFG) meeting,
- EuroGeoGraphics - EuroGeoNames workshop (EGN).

In the past, the ECSEED has hosted more joint meetings. Table 4 gives an overview of the joint meetings. Several ECSEED countries are also members of EuroGeoNames (EGN) (see Fig. 3) so there is a tendency of joint activities between the ECSEED and EGN.

Table 4: Overview of the ECSEED joint meetings

Nr.	Joint meeting	Location	Year	Date
1	ECSEED and Soviet Union Division Session	Budapest	1975	13-16 January
2	16th ECSEED Session and Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers	Ljubljana	2001	18-20 April
3	18th ECSEED Session and Working Group on Exonyms and the EuroGeoNames Project	Prague	2007	16-18 May
4	20th ECSEED Session and Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers and EuroGeoNames workshop	Zagreb	2011	9 – 11 February



Figure 3. ECSEE Division member countries and EuroGeoNames countries.

The 20th ECSEED Session was attended by 43 participants. There were 37 participants from 12 ECSEE Division countries and 5 from non ECSEED countries: Austria (1), Canada (1), Estonia (1), United Kingdom (1) and USA (1). There are 30 documents submitted to the Session. The complete list of participants, list of documents, agendas, program and other details about joint meetings are available at the ECSEED website <http://ungegn.dgu.hr>.

The recognition, conclusions and recommendations from the ECSEED Session can be found in the reports on the works of the twentieth ECSEED Sessions at the <http://ungegn.dgu.hr>.

Table **United Nations**
the Standardization of Geographical Names, UNGEGN Sessions and the ECSEE Division Sessions.

E/CONF.101/75 5: Overview of UN Conferences on

UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names	UNGEGN Session/Meeting	ECSEE Division Sessions	Location	Year
	1st UNGEGN Meeting		New York	1960
	2nd UNGEGN Meeting		New York	1966
1st UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names			Geneva	1967
	1st UNGEGN Session *		New York	1967
	2nd UNGEGN Session		New York	1970
	3rd UNGEGN Session		New York	1971
		1st ECSEE Division Session	Prague	1971
	4th UNGEGN Session - 1st part		London	1972
2nd UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names			London	1972
	4th UNGEGN Session - 2nd part		London	1972
	5th UNGEGN Session		New York	1973
		2nd ECSEE Division Session	Budapest	1975
	6th UNGEGN Session		New York	1975
		3rd ECSEE Division Session	Budapest	1977
	7th UNGEGN Session - 1st part		Athens	1977
3rd UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names			Athens	1977
	7th UNGEGN Session - 2nd part		Athens	1977
	8th UNGEGN Session		New York	1979
		4th ECSEE Division Session **	Warsaw	1979
		5th ECSEE Division Session **	Warsaw	1981
	9th UNGEGN Session		New York	1981
		6th ECSEE Division Session	Warsaw	1982
	10th UNGEGN Session - 1st part		Geneva	1982

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4th UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names			Geneva	1982
	10th UNGEGN Session - 2nd part		Geneva	1982
		7th ECSEE Division Session ***	Sofia	1983
	11th UNGEGN Session		Geneva	1984
	12th UNGEGN Session		Geneva	1986
		8th ECSEE Division Session ***	Sofia	1987
	13th UNGEGN Session - 1st part		Montréal	1987
5th UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names			Montreal	1987
	13th UNGEGN Session - 2nd part		Montréal	1987
		9th ECSEE Division Session ****	Bratislava	1989
	14th UNGEGN Session		Geneva	1989
		10th ECSEE Division Session ****	Prague	1991
	15th UNGEGN Session		Geneva	1991
	16th UNGEGN Session - 1st part		New York	1992
6th UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names			New York	1992
		11th ECSEE Division Session ****	Bratislava	1992
	16th UNGEGN Session - 2nd part		New York	1992
		12th ECSEE Division Session *****	Budapest	1993
	17th UNGEGN Session		New York	1994
		13th ECSEE Division Session *****	Budapest	1996
	18th UNGEGN Session		Geneva	1996
		14th ECSEE Division Session	Budapest	1997
	19th UNGEGN Session - 1st part		New York	1998
7th UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names			New York	1998
	19th UNGEGN Session - 2nd part		New York	1998
		15th ECSEE Division Session	Ljubljana	1999
	20th UNGEGN Session		New York	2000
		16th ECSEE Division Session	Ljubljana	2001
	21st UNGEGN Session - 1st part		Berlin	2002

8th UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names			Berlin	2002
	21st UNGEGN Session - 2nd part		Berlin	2002
		17th ECSEE Division Session	Prague	2003
	22nd UNGEGN Session		New York	2004
	23rd UNGEGN Session		Vienna	2006
		18th ECSEE Division Session	Prague	2007
	24th UNGEGN Session - 1st part		New York	2007
9th UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names			New York	2007
	24th UNGEGN Session - 2nd part		New York	2007
		19th ECSEE Division Session	Zagreb	2008
	25th UNGEGN Session		Nairobi	2009
		20th ECSEED Session	Zagreb	2011
	26th UNGEGN Session		Vienna	2011
	27th UNGEGN Session - 1st part		New York	2012
10th UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names			New York	2012
	27th UNGEGN Session - 2nd part		New York	2012

* 2nd UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 1972, London, United Kingdom, Working Paper E/CONF.61/L.85.

** 9th Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, 17 - 27 February 1981, New York, USA, Report of the Session, ESA/RT/C/GN/7.

*** 5th UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 1987, Montreal, Canada, Working Paper E/CONF.79/L.72.

**** 6th UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 1992, New York, USA, Working Paper E/CONF.85/L.82.

***** 18th Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, 12 - 23 August 1996, Geneva, Switzerland, Report of the Session, GEGN/18.

6. ECSEE DIVISION INFORMAL MEETINGS

The ECSEED has had meetings at other UNGEGN or geographical names meetings: 25th UNGEGN Session (Nairobi, May 2009), 26th UNGEGN Session (Vienna, May 2011) and the meetings of the ECSEED during the 10th Meeting of the UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms (Tainach, Austria, 28-30 April 2010).

6.1 ECSEED Division meeting at the 25th UNGEGN Session

During the 25th UNGEGN Session held from 5th to 12th May 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya, the ECSEED Division had an informal meeting. At the meeting there were 12 participants from ECSEED countries present: Czech Republic (1), Croatia (1), Cyprus (2), Greece (3), Slovenia (1), Turkey (3) and Ukraine (1).



Figure 4. 25th UNGEGN Session, Nairobi, May 2009.

At the ECSEED meeting, the chairman reported on updating the Division website and documents, preparations for the joint Division meeting in February 2011 in Zagreb and other matters. The main discussion topics were the development of standardization of geographical names at the national level, how to stimulate passive countries to be more active and other topics.

6.2 ECSEED Division meeting in Tainach, Austria

The meetings of the ECSEED and the Meeting of the UNGEGN Dutch- and German-speaking Division (DGSD) were organized during the 10th meeting of the UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms (Tainach, Austria, 28-30 April 2010). The ECSEED meeting was attended by 18 participants: UNGEGN Chair Helen Kerfoot, 13 participants from ECSEED countries (Croatia (1), Czech Republic (1), Greece (1), Hungary (3), Poland (3), Slovakia (1), Slovenia (1), The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (1) and Ukraine (1)) and 4 guests (Estonia (1), Finland (1), Romania (1) and New Zealand (1))(see Fig. 5).



Figure 5. Participants of the ECSEED meeting, Tainach, Austria, April 2010.

During the meeting, UNGEGN Chair Helen Kerfoot informed about the organization of the 26th UNGEGN Session (Vienna, May 2011). UNGEGN Chair Helen Kerfoot also informed about a new UN Statistical Division

(UNSD) body: United Nations Committee on Global Geographic Information Management. The relation between the UNGEGN and new UN body was discussed.

The other main meeting discussion topics were: updating the Division website, preparation for the joint Division meeting in February 2011 in Zagreb, UNGEGN World geographical names database, development of standardization of geographical names at the national level, Division chairing mandate, how to stimulate passive countries to be more active and other topics.

6.3 ECSEE Division meeting during the 26th UNGEGN Session

The meeting of ECSEED was organized during the 26th UNGEGN Session (2 - 6 May 2011, UN Center Vienna). The ECSEED meeting was held at the 4th May in UN Center Vienna. The meeting was attended by 14 representatives: Croatia (1), Cyprus (2), Georgia (3), Greece (1), Poland (3), Slovenia (1), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (1) and Turkey (2).

Georgia joined the ECSEED division. The main topics discussed during the ECSEE Division meeting were: the Division Chairman reported about activities, Georgian delegate introduced the country in the field of standardization of geographical names, text about the 20th ECSEED session in Zagreb sent to be published in UNGEGN Bulletin, distribution of a CD with documents of all three joint meetings: 20th ECSEED session, Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers and EuroGeoNames workshop in February 2011 in Zagreb, ECSEE Division reporting at the UNGEGN session, news and changes on the ECSEED web pages and other.

7. ECSEE DIVISION WEB SITE

The ECSEE Division websites <http://ungegn.dgu.hr> was launched in September, 2008. It is the main ECSEE Division information point. It is continuously updated and changed. After the website has been established, the changes are made according to the discussions at the Division Sessions and informal meetings and according to the national experts' contributions. The Division website is a central point for getting the data about: ECSEED, the main national data, standardizations bodies, experts, organization of ECSEED Sessions and other Division activities.

8. UNGEGN INFORMATION BULLETIN

The texts about ECSEED activities are published in the UNGEGN Information Bulletin:

- East Central and South-East Europe Division. Information Bulletin, United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, p.p. 14 – 16. No. 34, March 2007, New York,
- Report of the East Central and South-East Europe Division on the work of its nineteenth session, Zagreb, 19-21 November 2008, was published in the UNGEGN Information Bulletin, Nr. 36 March 2009, pp 8-10,
- Text Joint meeting of East Central and South-East Europe Division, Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers, and EuroGeoGraphics, was published in the UNGEGN Information Bulletin, Nr. 40 April 2011 pp 16-19.

9. ECSEE DIVISION DOCUMENTATION

To find documents/reports/contributions submitted to previous ECSEE Division Sessions is not an easy task. In order to systematize the ECSEE Division documentation at the 19th ECSEED meeting (2008, Zagreb) the unified identification of the ECSEE Division documents and a standardized first page of the ECSEE Division documents were introduced. Using this system, each division document, submitted to the Division Session can be uniquely identified.

ECSEE Division documents presented at the ECSEED Session were published on the ECSEED web site <http://ungegn.dgu.hr>.