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Item 12 (e) of the provisional agenda*

**Toponymic data files: compatibility and structure
of systems**

**Towards a standard geographic feature set: elevated
relief features**

Submitted by Australia**

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Summary

The purpose of this paper is to describe a recent model study carried out at the Asia-Pacific Institute for Toponymy to investigate the feasibility of devising a harmonized set of designations for all types of geographic features, to be used in the first instance in conjunction with the National Placenames Data Model developed by the Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia as part of the Australian Spatial Data Infrastructure.

The paper describes the background to the project, the method of semantic analysis employed and the results as applied to a subset of feature types — those describing elevated relief features. The semantic components used and the feature code definitions are listed. The resulting structure is displayed both as a tree diagram and in tabular form. The final part of the paper discusses some of the theoretical issues raised. The Institute is optimistic about the prospects for extending the methodology to the full set of geographic feature labels in use in Australia and for ultimately extending the methodology worldwide.
