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Toponymic data files: automated data-processing systems**Canadian geographical names service in 2007****Submitted by Canada******Summary*****

At the twenty-second session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, in 2004, Canada presented a paper on the Canadian Geographical Names Service, a free Web service. The present paper provides an update on the service, and the upgrades and modifications that have been made since 2004.

There is a number of methods available for performing a name query, and other enhancements, such as the ability to use wild cards in a search string, have improved the functionality of the service. In addition, an online application, known as GNApp, has been developed to allow staff of various naming authorities to enter names directly into the database using a Web-based form. The application has an upload capability so that data updates can also be performed by direct upload from local databases in the provinces or territories. A mapping capability is also available thanks to an application called Toporama, which allows users to view names on maps that can be displayed at a number of scales, and with various layers selected or deselected.

Future enhancements to the service will include the development of a "relevance at scale" value, which will identify a range of map scales at which toponyms should appear, and a link to digital spatial extents for toponyms.

* E/CONF.98/1.

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*** The full text of the report is being issued in English and French as documents
E/CONF.98/109/Add.1/EN and E/CONF.98/109/Add.1/FR.

