

Twentieth Session  
New York, 17 – 28 January 2000

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Item 5  
of the Provisional Agenda

REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONS

Recent Changes in Geographical Names of  
Korean Cities and other Developments

## **B. Names of new cities**

Since 1998, Anseong-gun and Gimpo-gun have been raised to Anseong-si and Gimpo-si respectively and the administrative area of Yeosu-si has been expanded to include Yecheon-gun and Yecheon-si. (A reference map will be distributed.)

## **2. Romanization of Korean**

A new method of romanizing Korean, on which all romanization of Korean geographical names is based, is under consideration. A draft of the new romanization method is attached(See Appendix 1 and 2).

## **3. Geographical names of the "East Sea"(Sea of Japan)**

### **A. Overview**

Historically, the sea area between the Korean peninsula and the Japanese archipelago, which is inappropriately known as the "Sea of Japan", had been referred to by various names such as "East Sea," "Sea of Korea" "Sea of Japan" and "Oriental Sea". Before the 18th century, no single name had been consistently used to designate this body of water.

The absence of Korea's diplomatic representation in international affairs during the first half of 20th century when Korea was occupied by Japan, gave Japan the freedom to promote the term "Sea of Japan" with virtually no opposition. The active promotion by Japan and its enhanced political stature in the world at that time led to the gradual replacement of such names as "Sea of Korea," "East Sea" or " Oriental Sea" by the term "Sea of Japan".

The Republic of Korea believes that the sea should have a neutral name. The name "East Sea", besides its neutral character, has an additional advantage in that the adjective "East" perfectly fits with its geographical position, located in the Far Eastern part of Asia. Similar nomenclature for a body of water can be found, for example, in the North Sea, which derives its name from its position relative to the European continent.

Given the reality that the name "Sea of Japan" is widely used at present, however, the Republic of Korea is of the view that it may be reasonable to use both names, "East Sea" and "Sea of Japan" simultaneously in accordance with a general rule of international cartography to designate the sea area until a mutually acceptable solution is found among the countries concerned.

This view is in line with the recommendations adopted by the authoritative international organizations in the area of standardization of geographical names such as the IHO Resolution A.4.2.6 and the UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographic Names(UNCSGN) Resolution III/20. The simultaneous use of both names is further justified by the examples of English Channel/La Manche and Falkland Islands/Islas Malvinas.

#### **B. Efforts by the Republic of Korea to restore the correct name**

The Republic of Korea brought this issue to the attention of the Member States of the United Nations at the Sixth UNCSGN in 1992. Since then, the Republic of Korea has continued its efforts to convince the international community of the validity of its arguments.

At the Seventh UNCSGN held in New York in January 1998, the Republic of Korea reiterated its position that the term "Sea of Japan" is unjustified, and called for urgent rectification. The UNCSGN President urged and encouraged the parties concerned to take into account previous resolutions of the Conference applicable to features beyond any sovereignty or beyond national sovereignty and to try in the light of those resolutions and according to those resolutions, to reach an agreement.

At the 15th International Hydrographic Conference held in Monaco in April 1997, the Republic of Korea requested that both names "East Sea" and "Sea of Japan" be simultaneously used in 「The Limits of Oceans and Seas」, based on IHO Resolution A.4.2.6., which endorsed the principle of simultaneous recognition of different names of a shared geographical feature when sharing countries do not agree on a common name. It is expected that the new edition of 「The Limits of Oceans and Seas」 will reflect the Republic of Korea's viewpoint.

In addition, the Republic of Korea has been requesting renowned map publishers, broadcasting companies, newspaper companies and magazine publishers throughout the world to use both names "East Sea" and "Sea of

Japan" simultaneously.

### **C. Recent progress**

The Republic of Korea's efforts have begun to yield some encouraging results, thanks to the understanding coming from the international community. Notable examples in this regard are the recent decisions made by Rand McNally and Encyclopedia Britannica to use both names "East Sea" and "Sea of Japan" in their maps and publications.

Rand McNally, one of the world's largest commercial map-makers, used both names "East Sea" and "Sea of Japan" in 「Premier World Atlas」 (1997) and 「Portrait World Atlas」 (1998). Encyclopedia Britannica, in 「Political Map of Britannica CD 98」 released in March 1998, followed the same format as Rand McNally.

In addition, 「Humanitarian Response Planning Map : DPRK 1998」, prepared for the US Agency for International Development in December 1997, uses "Sea of Japan(East Sea)". Also, 「Democratic People's Republic of Korea Landform and Land Cover」 produced in 1998 by the United Nations Environment Programme starts with "East Sea". A part of 'Japan and Korea' in 「The Cartographic Satellite Atlas of World」, published by WorldSat International Inc. in 1997, used 'TONG-HAE/NIPPON-KAI(Sea of Japan)' as romanization of the endonym. The well-known US geography textbook, 「Geography: Realms, Regions, and Concepts 2000」 (Ninth Edition, published in August 1999) by H.J. de Blij and Peter O. Muller, used both names "East Sea" and "Sea of Japan" simultaneously.

Most recently, in December 1999, the National Geographic Society of the USA, publisher of the 'National Geographic', decided to use both "East Sea" and "Sea of Japan" simultaneous in all its publications.

### **D. International seminars on the naming of seas**

In the last two years, the Society for East Sea, a Seoul-based incorporated body, has held two annual international seminars to promote academic discussions about various issues and aspects related to geographical names. Particular attention was paid to the naming of the sea off the east coast of the Republic of Korea, historically referred to by various names including "East

Sea," but often inappropriately, named the "Sea of Japan." The Society invited world-renowned scholars and experts in this field from China, Hungary, Iran, Japan, Russia, South Africa, and the U.S.A.

So far, the seminars have reaped critical level of concrete historical documents supporting the use of "East Sea"(Tonghae) as the appropriate name, as shown on a number of maps from Korea, Japan, China, and Russia up to and until the late 19th century. Many countries have suggested strongly the implementation of the UNCSGN resolution III/20. Programmes of the International Seminars held in 1998 and in 1999 are attached(Appendix 3).

Next year's seminar will be held in coordination with the 29th International Geographical Congress, August 2000, in Seoul Korea. Further information is available from <http://www.geog.snu.ac.kr/> IGC2000.

## The Romanization of Korean(Draft)

### 1. Basic Principles for Transcription

- (1) Romanization is based on standard Korean pronunciation.
- (2) No symbols except Roman letters are used.
- (3) Romanization follows the principle of 'one letter(or set of letters) per phoneme.'

### 2. Summary of the Transcription system

(1) Vowels are transcribed as follows :

- simple vowels    ㅏ   ㅑ   ㅓ   ㅕ   ㅡ   ㅗ   ㅛ   ㅝ   ㅟ   ㅛ  
                          a   eo   o   u   eu   i   ae   e   oe   wi
- diphthongs      ㅑ   ㅓ   ㅛ   ㅠ   ㅝ   ㅞ   ㅜ   ㅟ   ㅠ   ㅡ   ㅢ  
                          ya   yeo   yo   yu   yae   ye   wa   wae   wo   we   ui

Note : Long vowels are not marked in transcription.

(2) Consonants are transcribed as follows:

- plosives(stops)      ㄱ      ㅋ      ㆁ  
                                  g, k      kk      k  
                                  ㄷ      ㅌ      ㅍ  
                                  d, t      tt      t  
                                  ㅂ      ㅃ      ㅍ  
                                  b, p      pp      p
- affricates            ㅈ      ㅉ      ㅊ  
                                  j      jj      ch
- fricatives            ㅅ      ㅆ      ㅎ  
                                  s      ss      h
- nasals                ㅁ      ㄴ      ㅇ  
                                  m      n      ng
- liquids                ㄹ  
                                  r, l

# Recent Changes in the Names of Korean Cities and Other Developments

## Summary

The purpose of this working paper is to inform about recent changes in the names of Korean cities and other developments related with geographical names. This paper includes recent changes in the names of Korean cities since 1998 and the draft guidelines for the romanization of Korean. Additionally, it includes major progress in the efforts by the Republic of Korea for the simultaneous use of the two names, "East Sea" and "Sea of Japan," and information on the results of international seminars on the naming of seas held since 1998.

## 1. Recent changes in the names of Korean cities

### A. Glossary of generic terms

<u>Korean(Chinese)</u>	<u>Romanized Korean</u>	<u>English</u>
도(道)	Do	Province
시(市)	Si	City
군(郡)	Gun	County
도(島)	Do	Island
산(山)	San	Mountain
봉(峰)	Bong	Peak
령(嶺)	Ryeong	Pass
반도(半島)	Bando	Peninsula
군도(群島)	Gundo	Islands
곶(串)	Got	Cape, Point
강(江)	Gang	River
천(川)	Cheon	Stream
호(湖)	Ho	Lake
만(灣)	Man	Bay

Note 1 : ㄱ, ㄷ and ㅂ are transcribed respectively as g, d and b, before a vowel, otherwise they are transcribed as k, t, and p: e.g.

구미	Gumi	영동	Yeongdong	백암	Baegam
옥천	Okcheon	합덕	Hapdeok	태백	Taebaek
갑곶	Gapgot	한밭	Hanbat	호법	Hobeop

Note 2 : ㄹ is transcribed as r before a vowel, and as l before a consonant or at the end of a word : ㄹㄹ is transcribed as ll

(e.g.)

구리	Guri	설악	Seorak	칠곡	Chilgok
임실	Imsil	울릉	Ulleung	대관령	Daegwallyeong

### 3. Special Provisions for Transcription

(1) When Korean sound values change as in the following cases, the results of those changes are transcribed as follows:

1. The case of assimilation of adjacent consonants

(e.g.)

약목	Yangmok	만머느리	manmyeoneuri	설날	Seollal
읍내	eumnae	신문로	Sinmunno	신라	Silla
종로	Jongno	왕십리	Wangsimni		

2. The case of the epenthetic ㄴ and ㄹ

(e.g.)

꽃잎	kkonnip	담요	damnyo
들일	deullil	물약	mullyak

3. The case of palatalization

(e.g.)

해돋이	haedoji	같이	gachi	묻히다	muchida
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4. The case when, ㄱ, ㄷ, ㅂ, and ㅈ are adjacent to ㅎ

(e.g.)

목호	Muko	놓다	nota
집현전	Jipyeonjeon	맞히다	machida

Note 1 : Tense(or glottalized) sounds, which occur within a word, are not transcribed.

(e.g.)

압구정	Apgujeong	낙동강	Nakdonggang
죽변	Jukbyeon	낙성대	Nakseongdae
합정	Hapjeong	석굴암	Seokguram
팔당	Paldang	울산	Ulsan
물고기	Mulgogi	눈동자	nundongja
샛별	Saetbyeol	산새	sansae

Note 2 : In the transcription of personal names and names of administrative units, assimilated sound changes before or after a hyphen are not transcribed.

(e.g.)

한복남	Han Bok-nam	사북면	Sabuk-myeon
홍경래	Hong Gyeong-rae	구산리	Gusan-ri

(2) When there is a possibility of confusion in pronunciation, a hyphen '-' may be used.

(e.g.)

중앙	Jung-ang	준강	Jun-gang
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(3) The first letter is capitalized in proper names.

(e.g.)

세종	Sejong	부산	Busan	삼국사기	Samguksagi
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(4) Personal names are written by family name first, followed by a space and then the given name. In case of Sino-Korean given names, (a) is the principal form of transcription, but (b) and (c) are also allowed.

(e.g.)

	(a)	(b)	(c)
윤숙영	Yun Suk-yeong	Yun Sukyeong	Yun Suk Yeong
남성렬	Nam Seong-ryeol	Nam Seongryeol	Nam Seong Ryeol

(5) Names of administrative units such as "도, 시, 군, 구, 읍, 면, 리, 동" and "가" are transcribed respectively as "do, si, gun, gu, eup, myeon, ri, dong, and ga" preceded by a hyphen.

(e.g.)

충청북도	Chungcheongbuk-do	주내면	Junae-myeon
제주도	Jeju-do	당산동	Dangsan-dong
의정부시	Uijeongbu-si	신창읍	Sinchang-eup
도봉구	Dobong-gu	인왕리	Inwang-ri

Note : Terms for administrative units such as 특별시, 광역시, 시, 군 and 읍 may be omitted.

(e.g.)

부산	Busan	순창읍	Sunchang
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- (6) Names of geographic features, cultural properties, and man-made structures may be written without hyphens.

(e.g.)

남산	Namsan	속리산	Songnisan
금강	Geumgang	독도	Dokdo
해운대	Haeundae	경복궁	Gyeongbokgung
무량수전	Muryangsujeon	돈의문	Donuimun
연화교	Yeonhwagyo	극락전	Geungnakjeon
안압지	Anapji	남한산성	Namhansanseong
화랑대	Hwarangdae	불국사	Bulguksa
희방사	Hibangsa	현충사	Hyeonchungsa
독립문	Dongnimmun	오죽헌	Ojukeon
축석루	Chokseongnu	종묘	Jongmyo
다보탑	Dabotap	광희문	Gwanghimun

- (7) Some proper names such as personal names or company names may continue to be written as they have been written in the past.

# The Fifth International Seminar on the Naming of Seas Special Emphasis Concerning the East Sea

Date: 26 October (Tuesday) / 27 (Wednesday) 1999

Place: Seoul, Korea

Topic: The Naming of East Sea

## First Day (26 October, 1999)

( Place: Korea Press Center 20th F. )

### 1. Session I (09:30-12:30)

• Moderator: Jin-Hyun Paik (Professor, Graduate Institute for International and Area Studies, Korea)

#### • Presentation

1. Peter E. Raper (Chair, The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names)

'Names of Oceans and Seas: the United Nations Perspective.'

2. Maoli Han (Professor, Peking University, China)

'A View on the Name of Korean Eastern Sea based on Chinese Historical Literatures.'

3. Tadao Furumaya (Professor, Niigata University, Japan)

'Sea of Japan - Her Three Past and the Problem of Naming.'

4. Sang-Tae Lee (Division Director, Institute of National History Compilations Committee, Korea)

'A Study on the Name of Tonghae(East Sea): Pushed aside by Japan Sea.'

• Coffee/Tea Break(11:10-11:30)

#### • Discussion

1. Dok-Ju Kim (Professor, Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security, Korea)

2. Alexei Postnikov (Professor, Institute of the History of Science and Technology, Russia)

3. Sang-Bok Han (Director General, West Sea Fisheries Research Institute, Korea)

4. Yong-Ha Shin (Professor and Dean, College of Social Sciences, Seoul National University, Korea)

☐ Lunch Break(12:30-14:30)

### 2. Session II (14:30-17:20)

• Moderator : Yeom Hong Choi (Professor of Seoul City University, Korea)

#### • Presentation

1. Alexei Postnikov (Professor, Institute of the History of Science and Technology, Russia)

'The Charting of the Eastern(Japan) Sea and Korean Coast by the Russian Sailors in the Nineteenth Century.'

2. Dong-hu Sun (Researcher, National Name Institute, China)

'The Background and Significance of Renaming the Sea of Japan by Chinese Academia in 1940s.'

3. Byung-Sun Lee (Emeritus Professor, Pusan National University, Korea)

'Historical Background of Renaming the Sea of Choson to Sea of Japan and Some Problems related to the Names "Sea of Japan" and "Yamato-tai" in High Seas.'

4. Keiji Kushiya (Professor, Niigata University, Japan)

'Map History of 'Sea of Japan' and Perspective on Alternatives.'

• Coffee/Tea Break(16:00-16:20)

#### • Discussion

1. Maoli Han (Professor, Peking University, China)

2. Soo-Hee Toh (Emeritus Professor, Choong-Nam National University/ President of The Place Name Society of Korea)

3. Tadao Furuyama (Professor, Niigata University, Japan)

4. Myung-Ho Moon(Chief Editorial Writer, The Mun-Hwa Ilbo/ Adviser, the Society for East Sea, Korea)

5. Luice Moller (Human Sciences Research Council & National Research Institute, South Africa)

## Second Day (27 October, 1999)

( Place: Hotel Lotte 38th F. )

1. Session III (09:30-12:30) • Moderator: Ki-Suk Lee

(Professor, Seoul National University, Korea)

#### • Presentation

1. Alexei Murphy (Riphey Chair in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Professor of Geography, University of Oregon, USA)

'The Use of National Names for International Bodies of Water: Critical Perspectives.'

2. Evagenii Pospelov (Russia Institute of Geography, Russia)

'Toponymy of a Coastal Band of Northern Part East(Japanese) Sea.'

3. Luice Moller (Human Sciences Research Council & National Research Institute, South Africa)

'Progress on Naming Issues in Southern Africa: Who Looks out to Sea?.'

4. Channshik Choi (Former Professor, Chung-Gu College, Korea)

'A Proposal for International Standardization of the "East Sea" (so called in Korea).'

• Coffee/Tea Break(11:10-11:30)

#### • Discussion

1. Peter E. Raper (Chair, The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names)

2. Keiji Kushiya (Professor, Niigata University, Japan)

3. Heebang Noh (Educational Researcher, Curriculum Policy Division, Ministry of Education, Korea)

4. Dong-hu Sun (Researcher, National Name Institute, China)

# The Fourth International Seminar on the Naming of Seas Special Emphasis Concerning the East Sea

Date: Oct. 27 (Tuesday) / 28 (Wednesday), 1998

Place: Seoul, Korea

Host: The Society for East Sea

## First Day (27 October, 1998)

### 1. Session I (09:30-12:30)

- Moderator: Younghie Kim  
(Executive director, Joon Ang Il Bo, Korea)

- Presentation

1. Bela Pokoly (Professor, Dept. of Lands and Mapping, Hungary)  
"On the History of Naming the North Sea."
2. Eric Casino (Professor, University of Hawaii, USA),  
Myongsup Shin (Professor, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Korea)  
"Single or a Dual-Name System for the East Sea?: Considerations beyond the Issues of Nomenclature."
3. Song-di Wu (Professor, Institute of Historical Geography, Fudan University, China)  
"An Preliminary Study for the Names of the Sea of Korea and the Sea of Japan in Old World Maps Keeping in Japan and Britain."
4. Younghan Park (Professor, Seoul National University, Korea)  
"Sea of Far East in a Global Era : The Cooperation and Harmonized Space."

- Coffee/Tea Break(11:10-11:30)

- Discussion

1. H. Malmirian (Director, National Geographical Organization, Iran)
2. Youngha Shin (Dean, College of Social Science, Seoul National University, Korea)
3. Aleksey Nikolaevich Makhinov (Deputy Director, Institute Water and Ecological Problems FEB RAS, Russia)
4. Nohyoung Park (Professor, Korea University, Korea)

### ☐ Lunch Break(12:30-14:30)

### 2. Session II (14:30-17:20)

- Moderator: Ki-Suk Lee  
(Professor, Seoul National University, Korea)

- Presentation

1. H. Malmirian (Director, National Geographical Organization, Iran)  
"The Nomenclature of Persian Gulf,"
2. Wang Jitong (Director, China Institute for Toponymy, China)  
"China Institute of Toponymy and the Naming System."
3. Aleksey Nikolaevich Makhinov (Deputy Director, Institute Water and Ecological Problems FEB RAS, Russia)  
"Modern Japanese Sea on the Maps of the Russian East and the Problem with its Naming."
4. Shin Kim (Professor, Kyung Hee University, Korea)  
"A Study on the Historical Geography of East Sea."

- Coffee/Tea Break(16:00-16:20)

- Discussion

1. Bela Pokoly (Professor, Dept. of Lands and Mapping, Hungary)
2. Eric Casino (Professor, University of Hawaii, USA)
3. Wonik Kim (Director, National Geography Institute, Ministry of Construction and Transportation, Korea)
4. Ilki Kim (Professor, Korea National University of Education, Korea)
5. Hamid Baghery (Research Fellow, National Geographical Organization, Iran)

## Second Day (28 October, 1998)

### ☐ workshop