UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Twenty-second Session New York, 20 -29 April 2004

Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda

REPORT OF THE DIVISIONS

A National Report on Geographical Names Activity in Indonesia

* Prepared by the National Coordination Agency for Surveys and Mapping (BAKOSURTANAL), 2004

Working Paper No. 85

A NATIONAL REPORT ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES ACTIVITY IN INDONESIA

By The Government of Indonesia¹

1. Introduction

This Report is an update of activities since the period from the 21st Session of the UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names, held in Berlin, Germany 26 August to 6 September 2002. Part of this Report has been also presented at the UNGEGN Divisional Meeting of Asia, South-East and Pacific South-West held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 16-17 October 2003. The current Report covers the following items:

a. National Permanent Committee on Geographical Names

The first National Permanent Committee on Geographical Names was established by the Minister of Home Affairs in March 1993 to comply with the Resolution No. 4 adopted at the First United Nations Conference on Standardization of Geographical Names (1967). The Members of the Committee are representing government agencies/institutions related to the work of Geographical Names, such as mapping organizations, home affairs, foreign affairs, defense, linguistic institution, academia, and others. Its membership has been renewed several times, the last one being in May 2001. This Committee is interdisciplinary in nature.

b. Guidelines for Geographical Naming and Manpower Development

A guidelines for "Principles and Procedures for Standardization of Geographical Naming" was published in 1998. Trainings were conducted to socialize the field and office procedures organized by the office of the Ministry of Home Affairs to strengthen the manpower need at provincial and district levels. These trainings were carried out with the support of the national mapping agency, BAKOSURTANAL.

BAKOSURTANAL has set plan to send two staff members to the Asia Pacific Institute for Toponymy (APIT) and the Geographical Names

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Board of New South Wales, Australia for following training courses in Geographical Naming at Charles Sturt University, Bathurst, Australia.

c. Gazetteer of Geographical Names

BAKOSURTANAL produces gazetteer of geographical names concurrently with the production of topographic maps on an annual basis. The production of these gazetteers has been in conjunction with the development of Geographical Names Database as part of the Indonesian Spatial Data Infrastructure. (ISDI)

The following coverages have been produced:

Scale	Area Coverage	Provinces
1:50,000	Sumatera	Nangroe Aceh Darussalam North Sumatera (partly) Lampung
1:50,000	Kalimantan	West Kalimantan (partly) South Kalimantan (partly) East Kalimantan (partly)
1:50,000	Sulawesi	North Sulawesi Central Sulawesi South-East Sulawesi Gorontalo
1: 25,000	Bali	Bali
1: 25,000	Lombok	West Nusa Tenggara (partly) East Nusa Tenggara (partly)

Notes: The above gazetteers will be the National Gazetteers after they have been adopted by the National Names Authority, and to be used as official reference for all government and public administrations.

d. National Activities on Geographical Names Data Collection

From 1994 to 1999, a series of new topographic maps in digital form were produced at scale of 1:25,000 comprising 1662 map sheets covering Jawa, Bali, East and West Nusa Tenggara, and South-East Maluku, an area of about 215,000 square kms. Field completion including geographical

names collection were conducted, and gazetteers prepared, as reported above. It is expected that the above gazetteers will be published in 2004. In 2003, a field completion surveys including geographical names collection have been conducted for the production of new topographic map series at 1:50,000 scales covering the northern part of West Kalimantan. The area covered is about 25,000 square kms.

e. Names of Islands

The total number of islands in Indonesia as officially quoted is 17,508 islands, However, not a single gazetteer ever published shows the same amount of islands' names. The Gazetteer of Islands' Name published by the Armed Forces Surveys and Mapping listed 5,705 islands with names (1987), BAKOSURTANAL published 6,489 names of islands (1992), and the recent figure collected by the Ministry of Home Affairs as reported by all provincial and sub-provincial governments has listed a total of 7,870 names (2004). A large number of islands have yet to be named.

The Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries set up a Working Group on Maritime Toponyms to cover field activities to name the still prevailing un-named islands as a national program. A Guideline for Naming Islands was published and socialized to the public through training and pilot studies. (See Maritime Toponymic Working Group)

f. The History of Human Settlement

The Indonesian Geographical Names reflect a long history of human settlement because of its strategic position between two continents and two oceans. Indonesia is a melting pot of all races since the flux all races from the north (proto-malays and deutero malays), the Polynesians from the east and also the flux of races from the west and middle east, since the first century. It is reflected in the prevailing more than 250 ethnic languages, and hence, Indonesia is rich in the generic terms of geographical features.

At the Divisional Meeting of UNGEGN in Kuala Lumpur recently, Indonesia proposed to conduct a joint research project in the history of human settlement which might be derived from place names or from generic terms of geographical names in languages and legends in the Division.

g. The National Working Group on Maritime Toponyms

A Maritime Toponymic Working Group has been set up under the administration of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries to cope with naming of the still large number of unnamed islands for the next two years. This Working Group is inter-departmental in character comprising mapping agencies (civilian as well as military mapping organizations), and other related organization, such as marine geology, home affairs, universities, and individual experts.

Field collection will be undertaken by local institutions through interviewing at least two different local people, the phonetic of which are recorded on tapes and the islands position determined by GPS. The funding for fieldwork is provided through de-concentration funds which is a budget allocated by the Central Government transferred to the autonomous regional governments to carry out the designated devolution of tasks.

The Maritime Toponymic Working Group has a long term goals to cover future activities to include naming of seas, straits, bays, capes and also marine underwater features, such as sandbanks, ridges and rises, seamounts, and other features of the sea bottom topography.

h. Integration of Geographical Names Data into the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI)

BAKOSURTANAL is the National Agency who among other mandates is to develop the NSDI. Efforts has been made to implement resolution adopted at the 8th UN Conference on Standardization of Geographical Names, No. VIII/6 to integrate geographical names database into NSDI.

Attached to this Report is a sample of a new Geographical Names Spatial Database (Appendix 1 & 2).

i. Regional Map of Asia, South-East and Pacific, South-West Division

Indonesia has reviewed the Regional Map of Asia, South-East and Pacific, South-West as far as the Indonesian part of the map. The review has been communicated to the Project Coordinator, Mrs. Wendy Shaw of New Zealand.

j. Global Map

Indonesia participate in the Global Mapping initiative by the Global Spatial Data Infra-structure (GSDI). The works to prepare several layers at 1:1,000,000 scale is still ongoing.

2. Current Governmental Activities related to Geographical Names

a. National Coordination Agency for Surveys and Mapping (BAKOSURTANAL)

- Database of the Regional Governments Administrative Boundaries has been completed in 2003, covering regional administrative boundaries of provinces, sub-provinces (kabupaten), districts (kecamatan) and villages (desa). The data sources are derived from topographic maps at various scales (1:250,000; 1:50,000 and 1:25,000). This database will be the basic spatial unit for presenting geographical names information in the gazetteers.
- Databases, each for every Kabupaten (District) in the Provinces of Banten and West Jawa respectively, have been developed in 2004. Data sources are derived from the 1:25,000 scale topographic maps consisting of 500 sheet numbers.
- Gazetteer of Geographical Names on Indonesia at scale 1: 1,000,000 will be published in 2004.
- A field completion survey has been prepared for the 2004 mapping campaign at 1: 50,000 scale to cover an area of approximately 70,000 sq-kms or about 100 map sheets in East and Central Kalimantan.
- Since 1991, BAKOSURTANAL has presented a number of papers on toponymy in various local magazines, such as *Geomatics, Geo-Informatics, Globes and Humaniora Perspectives*. A number of research activities have also been undertaken, among others:
 - 1. The Study for Drafting Guidelines on Geographical Names Standardization in Indonesia (1993)
 - 2. Geographical Names Research in Aceh, South Sulawesi and East Timor (1994)
 - 3. The Geographical Names Research on Nias Island (1995)
 - 4. The Geographical Names Research on Bangka Island (1996)
 - 5. Research on Methods of Processing of Geographical Names to Improve Toponymic Information Effectiveness (2002)

6. Research in Digital Gazetteer and the National Geographical Names Network System (A Model for Digital Gazetteer Web Based, 2001)

b. Directorate of Indonesian Army Topographic Survey (Dittop-AD)

- The Directorate published gazetteers of geographical names according to the Division of Regional Commands, among others, Military Area Commands, Military Resort Commands, Military District Commands
- The geographical names have been collected with the new production or renewal of topographic map at 1:50,000 and 1:250,000 scales, through creating a geographical names separate layers
- Report of military geography includes both physical and social geography. Geographical names plays an important role for identifying object described in the report.

c. Central Statistics Agency (BPS)

The Agency uses geographical names as published by BAKOSURTANAL and the Ministry of Home Affairs as reference for their respective regional statistical mapping.

d. Sub-Directorate of Toponyms of the Ministry of Home Affairs

- The main bulk of geographical naming activities in the Ministry is naming new administrative regions such as new provinces, new kabupatens as a consequence of implementing regional autonomy pursuant to Public Law No. 22/ 1999. Since 2003, it has compiled as many as 32 provinces, 416 sub-provinces (kabupatens) and towns, 5,054 districts (kecamatan) and 68, 998 desa (villages).
- Since the field collection of geographical names will be devolved to the administrative regions, a number of 416 regional officials were trained in geographical naming, especially their main priority is to name those still unnamed islands in their respective region.

• Since the Minister of Home Affairs is the National Names Authority, the Sub-Directorate of Toponymy in the said Ministry is the Secretariat of the National Names Authority.

Recommendation

Indonesia, being an archipelagic State at the junction between two oceans and two continents, is an interesting part of the world to study geographical names, in particular the study of generic terms that may be linked to the history of human settlement in the past and from anthropological point of view. Therefore, it is appropriate to propose to the UNGEGN to conduct a joint research on the role of toponyms in the history of human settlement in the Asia-Pacific Region.

However, toponymy as an academic study is still new and not so many universities offer such research and courses in their programs. Indonesia in the last twenty years have organized international training courses twice in the country supported by a number toponymic experts/lecturers from Europe, Canada, USA and Australia. Indonesia would like to invite again those experts to conduct such international training course in the country in the future when the UNGEGN support this proposal.

Jakarta, April 2004.

Appendix 1





Appendix 2



