

Group of Experts on Geographical Names      W.P. 81

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Item 14 of the Provisional Agenda

Working Paper

Report of Asia East Division (other than China)

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Division)

## Progress Report of Asia East Division (other than China)

Since the Berlin meeting in August -September 2002, our Division did not make any visible progress and neither did we get the opportunity to hold any formal meeting. When the meeting of the Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation was held last December 2003 in Seoul, in accordance with Resolution VIII/5, every effort was made to have a joint meeting of the East Asia (other China) Division together with the Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation. Regrettably, countries of the Division were unable to participate in this meeting. Nonetheless, a representative from Mongolia, which is not even a member of the Division, was invited and she gave a presentation on the status of geographical names standardization in her country. At the same time, we tried to invite an expert from Vietnam but, unfortunately, they were unable to send a representative to the meeting.

We were incapable even holding a formal meeting. However, Mr. Lee, the acting chair of the Division had a chance to visit both Japan and Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in January and February 2004, respectively, as an adviser and expert on geographical names. It is my sincere hope that the member countries of the Division will be able to meet together in the near future so that we may develop and promote our activities.