

**Twenty-fifth session
Nairobi, 5–12 May 2009**

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

Activities relating to the Working Group on Training Courses in Toponymy

**Report on the 14th International Seminar
on the Naming of Seas, 2008 ***

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Report on the 14th International Seminar on the Naming of Seas, 2008

ABSTRACT

The 14th International Seminar on the Naming of Seas was held in Tunisia in August 2008, as a pre-Congress special session of the 31st International Geographical Congress. Forty participants discussed naming questions in twenty-five presentations and a panel discussion. The seminar was organized by the Society for East Sea and Northeast Asian History Foundation.

The 14th International Seminar on the Naming of Seas was held at El Mouradi Africa Hotel, in Tunis, Tunisia on August 7 to 9, 2008. This seminar was organized as a pre-Congress special session of the 31st International Geographical Congress, held in Tunis, August 12 to 15. It was the first meeting in the African continent since its launching in 1995. The prior seminars were held in major world centers, including Vienna (2007), Seoul (2006), Washington D.C. (2005), Paris (2004), Shanghai (2003), and Vladivostok (2002). The seminar was organized by the Society for East Sea and Northeast Asian History Foundation.

Approximately forty participants from the fields of geography, history, cartography, marine science, area studies, international law and journalism, from fourteen countries (the United States, Russia, China, South Africa, Austria, Tunisia, Hungary, France, the United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Israel, Jordan, Japan, and Korea) discussed naming questions in twenty-five presentations and a panel discussion.

The 15th International Seminar on the Naming of Seas is scheduled to be held in Sydney, Australia, on September 3 to 5, 2009.

Papers presented:

SESSION I: Geographical Names and Sea Names

- Isolde Hausner (Austria), The sense of names: geographical names as dynamic element of a world in motion
- Naftali Kadmon (Israel), The definition of location of maritime objects and their names
- John Rennie Short (USA), The geopolitics of naming seas
- Alexander Murphy (USA), Potential influences of climate change on maritime legal and naming arrangements
- Peter Raper (South Africa), United Nations Resolution V/9 on geographical names

SESSION II: Standardization of Sea Names

- Jin-Mieung Li (France), New trend toward primary local usage policy for the naming of seas: in the case of East Sea/ Sea of Japan
- Sungjae Choo (Republic of Korea), Types of the international standardization of sea names
- Yearn Hong Choi (USA), Naming of the sea: the last (poetic) mission to the mapmakers

- Lucie Möller (South Africa), Implementing United Nations Resolutions on maritime feature names

SESSION III: Some Cases of Naming Seas

- David Forrest (UK), Names for areas of international extent on British maps
- Ibrahim Musa Zoqurti (Jordan), Geography and historical names of Caspian sea
- Rainer Dormels (Austria), Sea names in concurrence: examples from Europe
- Sadok Boubaker (Tunisia), La Méditerranée: la naissance d'un nom (The Mediterranean, the birth of a name)
- Marin Marinov (Bulgaria), The name of the East Sea and Korean geographical names: their application in Bulgarian education and cartography

SESSION IV: A Historical Focus on Naming Seas

- Nikolai Komedchikov (Russia), Historical Russian sea names at the eastern coast of Korea
- Long Cheng (China), East Sea in the literatures of late Qing Dynasty
- Sang-Tae Lee (Republic of Korea), A study of "East Sea" in Epigraph
- Maoli Han (China), The naming of the sea area to the east of Korea Peninsula according to the ancient Chinese literatures

SESSION V : Issues Surrounding the Name East Sea/ Sea of Japan

- Norman Z. Cherkis (USA), Acceptance and usage of the toponym, East Sea in scientific and popular literature
- Jun Sagong (Japan), A study on the naming of Tonghae (East Sea of Korea)
- Jung-Chul Soh (Republic of Korea), Change in the name of the 'Japan Sea' in the Bulletin of National Territory Institute of Japan
- Hyo Hyun Sung (Republic of Korea), The geomorphic characteristics and naming of undersea feature in the East Sea, Korea

SESSION VI: Towards a Solution

- Shin Kim (Republic of Korea), A study on the international environment fact of East Sea naming
- Bo-Kyung Yang and Misun Choi (Republic of Korea), Naming of East Sea in cyberspace
- Pokoly Bela (Hungary), The Mediterranean: One sea, many names

Copies of papers are available in digital format upon request to Professor Sungjae Choo at sjchoo@khu.ac.kr.