

UN Group of Experts on
Geographical Names

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Report for the sixth Session of the United Nations

Group of Experts on Geographical Names

ASIA, SOUTH-EAST DIVISION

Report for the Sixth Session of the United Nations

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ASIA, SOUTH-EAST DIVISION

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 A meeting of the Asia, South-East Division was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 6th to 10th January, 1975, to prepare for the Sixth Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names which will take place in New York in March 1975.

1.2 The following countries were invited to the Meeting:-

- (i) Burma
- (ii) Indonesia
- (iii) Khmer
- (iv) Laos
- (v) Malaysia
- (vi) Philippines
- (vii) Republic of Vietnam
- (viii) Singapore
- (ix) Thailand

1.3 The following countries were represented at the Meeting :-

- (i) Indonesia
- (ii) Malaysia
- (iii) Philippines
- (iv) Singapore
- (v) Thailand

Report for the Sixth Session of the United Nations

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ASIA, SOUTH-EAST DIVISION

2. REPORT FROM EACH COUNTRY

2.1 The following Country Reports were tabled at the Meeting :-

Country Report - Indonesia as in	<u>Annex A</u>
Country Report - Malaysia as in	<u>Annex B</u>
Country Report - Philippines as in	<u>Annex C</u>
Country Report - Singapore as in	<u>Annex D</u>
Country Report - Thailand as in	<u>Annex E</u>

3. PROJECT PROPOSAL

3.1 It was agreed that the countries of this region should get together and publish a map of South-East Asia. The countries involved will be :-

Burma
Indonesia
Khmer
Laos
Malaysia
Philippines
Republic of Vietnam
Singapore
Thailand

3.2 It was unanimously agreed that the Directorate of National Mapping, Malaysia, undertake the preparation and printing of the map.

3.3 Each member of the region will be responsible for the correctness of the names shown for its country. A base map will be sent to each country on which should be made any corrections, additions or deletions, and returned to the Directorate of National Mapping, Malaysia.

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3.4 The projection used shall be the Oblique Mercator Projection and the scale agreed upon is 1:6,000,000.

4. GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES COMMITTEE

4.1 It was resolved that members of the region should urge their respective Governments to set up their own National Geographic Names Committee if they have not yet done so.

5. INTERNATIONAL GAZETTEERS

5.1 The United States Board on Geographical Names (USBGN) has produced Gazetteers for Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. All other members of the region are to ascertain whether such a Gazetteer exists for their respective country. It was stressed that, as the primary responsibility for Gazetteers rests with the nation whose territory it covers, every effort should be made by the country concerned, to keep it up-to-date.

5.2 It was decided to urge the inclusion of the USBGN Gazetteers of countries in the Asia, South-East Division, in the study for adaptation to the specifications of the United Nations Gazetteers of the world. For a start, the first phase could cover the Gazetteers of the five countries attending this meeting viz. Indonesia (if a USBGN Gazetteer exists), Malaysia, Philippines (if a USBGN Gazetteer exists), Singapore and Thailand.

6. TRAINING COURSES IN TOPONYMY

6.1 The Meeting considered it important that, in the selection of participants for the Pilot Training Courses in Toponymy scheduled to be held in Holland in Spring 1975, some priority should be given to countries of this region. This priority should also be extended to the follow-up training courses when they are held in due course.

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6.2 This request for priority is made in view of the complexity of the linguistic systems not only in this region as a whole, but also in each of the country itself where many different dialects of the same language exist.

7. UNDERSEA AND MARITIME FEATURES

7.1 It was decided to await further information and clarification on the suitability of the Limit of Oceans and Seas, as indicated in the I.H.O. publication, from the standpoint of less specific purposes than those intended by the I.H.O.

7.2 In the meantime, members of the region are requested to study and comment on the Principles and Proposal Form used in the USBGN Gazetteer on Undersea Features with a view to constructing principles and forms acceptable for United Nations purposes in this context. Each country should consult its respective Hydrographic authority if considered necessary, and forward their comments to the Director of National Mapping, Malaysia. Countries which do not have a copy of the USBGN Gazetteer on Undersea Features (Gazetteer No. 111) should try and acquire one.

8. EXTRATERRESTRIAL TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES

8.1 The Meeting offered no comments on this item.

9. SINGLE ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR EACH NON-ROMAN WRITING SYSTEM

9.1 The Chief Delegate from Thailand informed the Meeting that so far, the romanization system of two countries of this region, viz. Thailand and Khmer, have been adopted by the United Nations for international application.

10. NAMES BEYOND A SINGLE SOVEREIGNTY

10.1 The meeting endorsed Resolution 25 which was adopted at the Second United Nations Conference on Standardization

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of Geographical Names held in London in 1972, namely, that:-

- (a) Where countries share a given geographical feature under a different name-form, they should endeavour to reach agreement on fixing a single name for the feature concerned.
- (b) Where countries sharing a given geographical feature have different official languages, and do not succeed in agreeing on a common name-form, it should be a general rule of international cartography that the name-form of each of the languages in question should be adopted.
- (c) Only technical reasons may sometimes make it necessary, especially in the case of small-scale map, to dispense with the certain name-forms belonging to one language or another.

11. EXONYMS

11.1 Countries of the region which have not done so, should prepare a list of exonyms currently employed, review them for possible deletions and publish the results.

12. PARTICIPATION IN THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK IN MARCH 1975

12.1 The Meeting, recognizing the fact that Indonesia will be the host country for the Eighth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East to be held in Jakarta in 1976, and Thailand being the previous Divisional Representative, passed a Resolution to the effect

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that, besides Malaysia who is the present Divisional Representative, it is important that Indonesia and Thailand be represented as well in the Sixth Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names to be held in New York in March 1975.

13. PAPER ON UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

13.1 At the request of the Meeting, and for the benefit of the members of the region, Maj. Gen. Banlang Khamasundara, the Chief Delegate of Thailand agreed to prepare a Paper on the history, aims, objectives, conclusions, recommendations, and other matters connected with the work done so far by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. The Paper will be printed by the Directorate of National Mapping, Malaysia, and 20 copies will be supplied to each member of the region, who if they wish may distribute them for the information of their country's Government Departments, Ministries and other Agencies.

14. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

14.1 In view of the forthcoming Eighth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East which is scheduled to be held in Jakarta in 1976, the meeting felt that it would be highly desirable to hold the next meeting in Indonesia sometime in mid-September, 1975.

ANNEX A

COUNTRY REPORT - INDONESIA

Meeting of the Divisional Group of Experts
on Geographical Names, Asia, South-East Division
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 6th to 10th January, 1975

COUNTRY REPORT - INDONESIA

1. NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

(a) Up to now no National Committee has yet been established in Indonesia. Definition of geographical names have always been based on locally accepted names acquired through enquiries during the field completion of topographic mapping projects. Annotations are made on photographs used in the field completion phase, either directly or on overlays, which are also compiled in lists to be acknowledged for correctness by the local Government authority (the "lurah" i.e. village administrator).

(b) A study is to be made concerning the urgency of establishing a National Committee on Geographical Names and the improvement of procedures in the definition of geographical names, with respect to existing names, new names as well as to changing names.

In this study, consideration will be given to the acquisition of information through administrative channels of the Department of the Interior, next to field acquisition.

(c) The administrative chain of the Department of the Interior is as follows :-

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT LEVEL:

Departmen Dalam Negeri

Provincial level:

Pemerintah Daerah Swatantra Tingkat I: Propinsi

County level:

Pemerintah Daerah Swatantra Tingkat II: Kabupaten

District level:

Kecamatan

Village level:

Kelurahan

2. NATIONAL GAZETTEER

(a) A program is under way to continue the work on a National Gazetteer which has been undertaken, including up-dating and transfer into the common Indonesian-Malaysian spelling system which has been mutually adopted.

As Indonesia has not yet an overall standard map coverage, various map sources have to be used. Positions are expressed with geographic coordinates.

(b) All names will be written in the new spelling system as for instance :-

<u>Old Spelling</u>	<u>New Spelling</u>
DJAKARTA	JAKARTA
JOGJAKARTA	YOGYAKARTA
TJIREBON	CIREBON

In addition, some new names have been introduced for existing names, as for example :-

<u>Old Name</u>	<u>New Name</u>
Makassar	Ujung Pandang
Kutaraja	Banda Aceh
Irian Barat	Irian Jaya

(c) Local dialects are fully recognized for naming geographical features, as for instance:-

BENGAWAN)	for river
KALI)	
SUNGAI)	
AEK)	for hill or mountain
BUKIT)	
GUNUNG)	
PASIR)	

COUNTRY REPORT - MALAYSIA

1. NAMES COMMITTEE

1.1 On the recommendation of the 4th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East held in Manila, Philippines, in 1964, and the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names held in Geneva in September 1967, Malaysia initiated steps to form Names Committees in its 13 States.

1.2 The functions of these Committees are :-

- (i) to standardize terms given to physical features e.g. lakes, ponds, valleys, etc.
- (ii) to standardize the spelling of names given to places and physical features.
- (iii) to determine names of places, e.g. villages, towns, etc.
- (iv) to delete names that are objectionable.

1.3 The following are members of the Committee :-

- (i) The State Secretary
- (ii) The Director of Survey
- (iii) The Director of Lands and Mines
- (iv) The Director of Public Works
- (v) The Director of Town and Country Planning
- (vi) The Director of Forestry
- (vii) The State Development Officer
- (viii) The District Officers
- (ix) The Director of Education
- (x) The Director of Museum
- (xi) A representative from the Town Board or Town Council
- (xii) A representative from the Historical Society

ANNEX B

COUNTRY REPORT - MALAYSIA

1.4 Many fruitful and informative meetings have been held. The results of each meeting are transmitted to the Directorate of National Mapping, Malaysia, for record and implementation. These Committees will continue to function in all the States not only to resolve problems concerning standardization of names but also to decide on the adoption of new names for settlements that are created from time to time as a result of the Government's numerous development projects all over the country.

2. GAZETTEER

2.1 The Malaysian Gazetteer contains names for Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. The entries in this Gazetteer include names of the various administrative divisions, populated places of all sizes, various other cultural entities and a variety of physical features. Each entry is recorded with the approved standard name and is given one of the listed designations for which it is best described (e.g. airfield, plantation, lake, island, etc.) with its corresponding latitude and longitude.

2.2 The present edition has 59,750 entries for the whole of Malaysia.

3. THE NEW SPELLING SYSTEM FOR BAHASA MALAYSIA

3.1 Bahasa Malaysia, the official language of Malaysia is constantly being enriched and improved. Many new elements have come into the language particularly through the new specialized terminologies.

3.2 In 1972 Malaysia and Indonesia officially agreed to adopt a single spelling system for Bahasa Malaysia and Bahasa Indonesia.

3.3 The three main objectives for adopting a single spelling

system are :-

- (i) to improve the present spelling system and to remedy certain defects which existed in it;
- (ii) to adapt the romanized spelling to new developments in the language; and
- (iii) to standardize the romanized spelling in Malaysia with that used in Indonesia so that the future growth of the language in this part of the world could be better co-ordinated.

3.4 Naturally such a development in the orthography of a language would mean the gradual revision of our maps to conform with the new system. As we are still in the transitional period, the full effects of such a change is yet to be felt. However, this new spelling system applies only to words other than those already given to places, that is, the new system will not affect proper nouns. For example, the word 'kechil' which means small (in size) is spelt as 'kecil' in the new spelling system. When it is used as a proper noun in Kechil River or Sungai Kechil, the former spelling for the word is retained but when the same word is used in Tatau Sub-District it is spelt thus, Daerah Kecil Tatau.

4. SOME PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN STANDARDIZING NAMES

4.1 Of the many problems encountered in our endeavour to standardize names, it may be worthwhile here to highlight three of them :-

- (i) In Malaysia, as in other countries that has had experience of being under colonial rule, many places have been given names, or had their names recorded in the English Language phonetically. The problem faced here is to restore the place name back into its original spelling based on Bahasa Malaysia. For example, the word 'durian', a fruit indigenous to this part of South-East Asia, has been given to many physical features, one of which is Sungai Durian or Durian River. In the past, it has been incorrectly

recorded as 'Sungei Durien' which is the Anglicised pronunciation of both the Malay words. As this practice was widespread, we are at present faced with the problem of restoring all such spellings which already appear on our maps to its original form. As all map-makers will appreciate, this is quite a formidable though not insurmountable task.

- (ii) Another problem closely connected with the first one is the translation or replacement of English words to Bahasa Malaysia, for example, the replacement of 'road' with 'jalan' as in Gurney Road to Jalan Gurney. Of more significance is that of place names such as Chembong Halt. The word 'Halt' is changed back to its Malay equivalent 'Perhentian' and thus the place name is now 'Perhentian Chembong'.
- (iii) A further problem faced by map makers is that of the replacement of names given during the colonial era with those that reflect our national identity. Two examples of this are, the adoption of 'Seberang Prai' in place of 'Province Wellesley' in Peninsular Malaysia and 'Kota Kinabalu' in place of 'Jesselton' in Sabah.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Certain provisions in the Law of Evidence in Malaysia make it important that there should be accuracy in all things pertaining to maps. For instance, Sec. 83(1) of the Evidence Ordinance reads as follows :-

"The Court shall presume that maps or plans purporting to be made by the authority of Government were so made and are accurate."

5.2 As the authorised sole Government Mapping Agency in this country, the Directorate of National Mapping, Malaysia, is ever conscious of its responsibility in this regard, and no effort is spared to ensure that maps produced in this country are accurate in all respects.

ANNEX C

COUNTRY REPORT - PHILIPPINES

Meeting of the Divisional Group of Experts
on Geographical Names, Asia, South-East Division
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 6th to 10th January, 1975

COUNTRY REPORT - PHILIPPINES

1. PHILIPPINE COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

The existing Committee on Geographical Names was created on August 25, 1951 by Philippine President Elpidio Quirino under Executive Order No. 473. The Committee is composed of the following:

- The Executive Secretary, Office of the President - Chairman
- The Director of the Census & Statistics - Member
- The Director of Public Schools - Member
- The Director of Lands - Member
- The Director of Science and Technology - Member
- The Director of Posts - Member
- The Director of Coast and Geodetic Survey - Member
- The Director of Public Libraries - Member

The Committee, according to the Executive Order, shall establish a uniform usage in regard to the geographic nomenclature and orthography throughout the executive departments of the Government, particularly upon the maps and charts issued by the various departments, bureaus and offices. It shall decide all unsettled questions concerning geographical names which may arise in the departments, bureaus and offices and its decision shall be accepted by them as the standard authority in such matters.

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Prior to the issuance of Executive Order No. 473, the Philippine Committee on Geographical Names was created by Executive Order No. 189 on 28 February 1939 by President Quezon, revoking Executive Order No. 53, series of 1917 and Executive Order No. 413, series 1933, designated the composition of the Committee as follows:

- The Secretary of the Interior - Chairman
- The Commission of the Census - Member
- The Director of Education - Member
- The Director of Lands - Member
- The Director, Bureau of Science - Member
- The Director of Posts - Member
- The Director of Coast and Geodetic Survey - Member
- The Director of National Library - Member

With the establishment of the Philippine Republic and its subsequent reorganization resulting in the changes of the government machinery such as the abolition or creation of new government offices, as well as the alteration made on the names of some agencies of the government, under Executive Order No. 189, the board had for many years past and since liberation in 1949, been very passive. It has no chairman because there was no longer a Secretary of the Interior.

Questions on geographic names coming even from abroad in the past few years had not been resolved and imminent confusion was about to set in. It is for these reasons that on May 17, 1951, the Director of the Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Surveys wrote to the Executive Secretary recommending the reconstruction of the Philippine Committee on Geographical Names for the proper determination of questions concerning geographic nomenclature and orthography in the Philippines.

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Thus Executive Order No. 473 was issued, revoking Executive Order No. 189 and reconstituting the Committee on Geographical Names.

The Committee established in 1939 initially adopted the policy that the spelling contained in the Philippine Census Reports should be official. However, many of the decisions adopted by the Census using variant names were rejected by the Committee, subsequently resulting in wide variations in the names of many towns and villages. In order to achieve uniformity of geographic names at national level in the Philippines, Executive Order No. 473 was proclaimed.

Regarding the frequency of its meetings, the Committee agreed that meetings be made as often as circumstances require or when there is anything any member wishes to take up, in which case notice should be given to the Secretary of the Committee to arrange for the meeting.

Among other problems that the Philippine Committee on Geographical Names have to resolve are:

- 1) The duplication of names of political divisions and subdivisions.
- 2) The use of the word "Oriental" or "Occidental", "Southern" or "South", "Northern" or "North", etc. in different ways in naming political divisions or subdivisions.
- 3) Inconsistencies in the spelling of the name of a political subdivision in the title of the law creating it and in the main body of the law itself.
- 4) The naming of a man - made or natural feature, like harbors, airports, falls,

etc. with the name of a different political subdivision/division other than the name of the subdivision/division where it is actually located.

- 5) The idea of whether or not to adopt the Tagalog or Philippine orthography and nomenclature for certain names of places.
- 6) The adoption of the nomenclature and orthography based upon those of the 1939 Census officially adopted before the war as the correct and true names of political divisions and subdivisions of the country until the contrary is proven.
- 7) Inclusion of place names in the official maps, charts and other publications of the Philippine Government.
- 8) Re-designating certain water areas as within Philippine territories in conformity with the territorial sea-limits of the Philippines and with our note verbale to the United Nations on the matter.
- 9) Discrepancies in geographic place names shown by the Census Maps, road maps of the Bureau of Public Works, Census Atlas, and Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey Charts and Maps.
- 10) Discrepancies in the chartered place names reported by private parties in the Philippines and abroad.
- 11) Discrepancies in the geographic names appearing in the Republic Acts, Executive Orders, Resolutions of the Municipal Board and local usage.

2. NEED FOR STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

The report of the Group of Experts on Geographical Names set up by the United Nations in connection with the 4th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East, held in Manila, from November 21 to December 5, 1964 underlines the necessity for standardizing geographical names.

According to the report, the Group fully agrees that standardization from the geographical point of view appears not only desirable, but even necessary. The need for rapid development of countries has led Governments to undertake large projects for which the planning requires accurate maps, and statistical and demographic data. The group is aware of the fact that lack of standardized names has caused difficulty in the work of map makers, statisticians, census takers, and others leading to undue and harmful delay and mistakes. The effects of confusion in geographical names are felt not only by geographers and those concerned with national and international affairs since geographical names constitute one of the required elements of identification in administrative and legal documents but also by individuals since people all over the world now have occasion to refer to, identify, or even go to a place that their ancestors either never heard of or considered so far away and inaccessible as to be of no concern.

Many have experienced the discrepancy and confusion existing in place names in various editions of maps of an area even on one map or in one document. Such discrepancy often resulted in unnecessary research, wasting both money and time.

To fulfill their immediate need, many agencies and private publishers have compiled name lists for their own use. Such temporary measures may have been unavoidable especially in countries in which no national names authorities operate; however, the uncoordinated efforts of many bodies would also complicate further the national efforts in standardization.

3. PUBLICATIONS

One tangible result and probably the most significant effort at standardizing the Philippine Geographical Names is the publication by the Bureau of the Census and Statistics, thru its Geography Division, of its two volumes of geographical names, namely:

- a. Volume I - Philippine Geographical Names of Political Divisions and Subdivisions.

This publication contains an alphabetical listing of the geographical names, or place names of all political divisions and subdivisions of the country, namely; provinces, cities, municipalities, municipal districts, city districts and barrios. Also indicated are the municipal, provincial and island locations of these areas.

The listing is comprised of three parts: Part I, covering A to C; Part II, D to O; and Part III, P to Z. Its sources are the Philippine Censuses of 1939, 1948 and 1960, pertinent laws, executive orders and provincial board resolutions creating, merging or abolishing political subdivisions in the country.

- b. Volume II - Philippine Geographical Names of Topographical and Hydrographical Features.

This Volume contains an alphabetical listing of

the geographical names of topographical and hydrographical features of the country, such as rivers, mountains, seas, lakes, shoals, etc. Also included are the municipal, provincial and island locations of these features.

The sources of this listing are the Philippine Gazetteer of the Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey and the Army Map Service (AMS) of the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army.

The geographical names and features presented in both volumes have reference to place names existing on June 30, 1964, and are in Conformance with international standards as enunciated by the United Nations in its draft program to improve international uniformity in writing geographical names.

In the preparation of these volumes, extensive researches and verifications were made from all possible sources such as the 1939, 1948 and 1960 Census publications of names of political subdivisions, Executive Orders, Republic Acts, Provincial Board, Municipal Council and even Barrio Resolutions, and the same may be considered to be the most up-to-date, exhaustive and authoritative on the subject.

It may be mentioned that in the meeting of the Philippine Committee on Geographical Names held at Malacanang on November 11, 1964 these compilations was approved in principle and in case of conflict, the Committee shall render a decision on the matter.

Among the agencies that also helped, one way or the other, in the preparation and publication of these compilations are the Board of Technical Surveys and Maps, Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Surveys and those previously mentioned sources of research materials.

4. THE NEED FOR AN UPDATED PUBLICATION

Eight years have elapsed since the publication of these standard geographical names by the Bureau of the Census and Statistics. The preparation and publication of an updated volume may be desirable at the moment, considering that many changes have taken place as regards the names of some political divisions and subdivisions of the country.

This came about by the enactment/issuance of Republic Acts, Executive Orders, and resolutions changing geographical names; merging, creating, abolishing or splitting political subdivisions; discovering new geographical features or names not previously listed; etc.

For these reasons, the Bureau of the Census and Statistics thru its Geography Division, is again working on such an updated list of geographical names.

It has already completed the final draft of such an updated listing and the publication of same is expected momentarily. For this undertaking, the Bureau also made use of its local provincial census offices scattered all over the Philippines. These census field offices help collect provincial, city, municipal, municipal district and barrio names and forward them to the Geography Division for inclusion in its updated compilation of geographical names. In this way, complete coverage and authenticity of the listing is assured.

Meeting of the Divisional Group of Experts
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COUNTRY REPORT - SINGAPORE

1. In Singapore there is no central agency responsible for Geographical Names. Different Government Departments/Statutory Boards are responsible for the naming of roads, housing estates, port features, villages etc.
2. The names appearing on Singapore maps are usually taken from old superceded maps. No official Gazetteers have ever been produced as there is no urgent requirement to compile one. However, for the sake of easy and expedient reference of Geographical Names to maps a Gazetteer should be produced. This should not pose much difficulty as the Names could be compiled from existing maps and checked with the relevant Departments/Statutory Boards as regards correctness and spelling.

ANNEX D

COUNTRY REPORT - SINGAPORE

COUNTRY REPORT - THAILAND

1. NATIONAL BOARD ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Although there is no national body on Geographical Names in Thailand, some effective action has been taken by Committees dealing with names standardization, namely: Committee on the Thai Geographic Gazetteers under the Thai Royal Institute, and Committee on the Standardization of names for the Administrative divisions appointed by the Ministry of Interior.

2. GAZETTEERS

There are 4 types of Gazetteer in Thailand

- (i) Thai Geographic Gazetteers published by the Royal Institute in 1963 - 67 in 4 volumes. Entries in this Gazetteer consist of names of administrative divisions, natural features with their locations and designations.
- (ii) Map Gazetteer based on Series L708 published in 1967. Entries in this Gazetteer are romanised names, generic terms, co-ordinates and sheet numbers.
- (iii) The Thai Nautical Charts Gazetteer published in 1963 with the entries similar to that of the Map Gazetteer.

ANNEX E

COUNTRY REPORT - THAILAND

(iv) USBGN Gazetteer for Thailand published in 1966.

Besides the above, various kinds of name lists have been prepared by Government Agencies, such as, the Villages Directory of the Ministry of Interior which is brought up-to-date annually, the Directory of Administrative Divisions and their location by means of coordinates and map sheet numbers.

3. ROMANIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

A Modified General System of the Royal Institute was adopted at the first UN Conference in 1967 for international use. Geographical names on Thai maps are romanised in accordance with this system.

The Thai Government had proclaimed in 1967 an official romanised name list for all Provinces and Districts adopted by the Royal Institute. In 1965, it had also proclaimed an official list of the Thai version for names of Continents, Countries and their Capitals, Oceans, Seas and Main Islands.