



## Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
26 June 2007

Original: English

---

### **Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names**

New York, 21-30 August 2007

Item 4 of the provisional agenda\*

**Reports by Governments on the situation in their countries  
and on the progress made in the standardization of  
geographical names since the Eighth Conference**

### **Report of the Netherlands, 2002-2007**

**Submitted by the Netherlands\*\***

### **Summary\*\*\***

The present report describes the organizational structure of geographical names processing in the Netherlands (a new law is now likely to provide a legal basis for the standardization work of the Topografische Dienst/Kadaster) and the progress made since 2002 in dealing with minority names and protecting geographical names as part of the cultural heritage. A highlight has been the organization of the International Conference on Minority Names/Indigenous Names and Multilingual Areas. There has been extensive support from the Netherlands in the 2002-2007 term for the organization of toponymy courses of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Finally, the participation of the Netherlands in the EuroGeoNames project which aims at establishing a virtual Europe-wide geographical names database is mentioned.

---

\* E/CONF.98/1.

\*\* Prepared by Ferjan Ormeling, Utrecht University (Netherlands).

\*\*\* The full text of the paper is being issued in English only as document E/CONF.98/17/Add.1.

