23 June 2017

Original: English

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

New York, 8-17 August 2017

Item 5 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 Tenth Conference (for distribution only).

## **Report of Timor-Leste**

Submitted by Timor-Leste\*\*

<sup>\*</sup> E/CONF.105/1

<sup>\*\*</sup> Prepared by Timor-Leste

#### THECKNICAL PAPERS

#### 1. OUTLINE OF EAST TIMOR

East-Timor is a country in Southeast Asia, officially known as the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste (RDTL). The country consists of the eastern parts of the island of Timor and the nearby islands of Atauro and Jaco. The first inhabitants are considered Australoid and Melanesian descendants. The Portuguese began to trade with Timor in the early 16th century and colonized it throughout the Middle Ages. The quarrel with the Dutch in the region eventually resulted in a treaty of 1859 in which Portugal handed over the western part of the island. The Japanese Empire occupied East-Timor during World War II, but Portugal restarted colonial rule after the Japanese surrender. The naming system of roads in the city of Dili and the area is based on the Portuguese government administration and the name of the Portuguese heroes and other national heroes.

East-Timor proclamated their independence on 28 November in 1975, but nine days later, it was attacked by Indonesian. East-Timor was under the administration of Indonesia for 24 years and became one of the provinces of Indonesia. The road naming system in the city of the Dili and Municipality is changed based on the history of Integration and other integration heroes as the street names.

On 30 August 1999, in a UN-sponsored referendum, the majority of Timorese voted for independence from Indonesia. On 20 May 2002, East-Timor was internationally recognized as an independent country.

#### 2. OUTLINE OF ORGANIZATION

#### 2.1. INTODUCTION

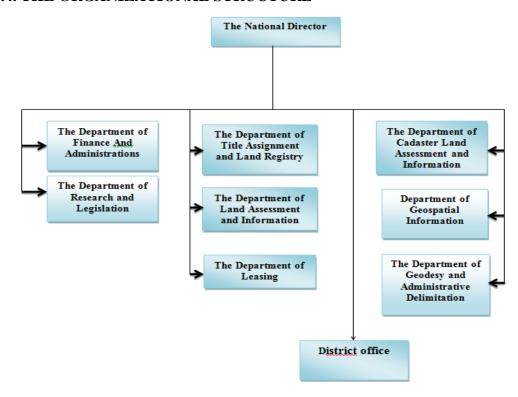
A Land and Property and Cadastral Services Unit for handling land matters or "DNTPSC" were originally established in 1999 within the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) and were a predecessor to the Directorate of

Land and Property and Cadastral Services (DNTPSC). The DNTPSC is now a part of the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) with prime responsibility for the administration and management of land in Timor- Leste.

Since the Independence of East-Timor, the property law has been established to support the DNTPSC operations including a law for the Juridical Regime of Immovable Property, a law for leasing of State land and a law for leasing private land. In addition, there are law to cover land dispute mediation and to establish a land property system including land registration and cadastral survey, which are still in the process of development/approval. DNTPSC has a total of 141 employees, which consists of 49 females, and 151 males. It locates at Bebora, Dili (national office) with the other 49 being spread across 12

Municipality and one especial region (Oecuse Ambeno).

#### 2.4. THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



Currently, Directorate of Land and Property and Cadastral Serviçes (DNTPSC) have 200 staff 58 in nacional office, 83 staff at municipality office, 141 permanent staff and 59 staff temporally.

#### 2.7. MAJOR PROJECT IN DNTPSC

The National Media Group (GMN): National company in cooperation with The Ministry of Justice Timor-Leste and National Directorate of Land and Property and Cadastral Services (DNTPSC) to address land tenure and property rights in Timor-Leste. By providing support and capacity development to National Institutions. The project aims is to record 50,000 parcels of land over five years.

Currently DNTPSC taking responsibility to updating the thematic map for capital the City of the Dili. The project aims is to provide information regarding to the street name base on applicable regulations



In additional DNTPSC responsibility is to organizing the establishment of National Geospatial Data Infrastructure (NGSDI), the objective is to make arrangements for access and use of geospatial entities. A cost-effective, Reduce duplication of the data. In additional opportunity to access and use geographic information of the society and people across the NGSDI as universal components, including the policy framework and structure, standards of geospatial information infrastructure.

Therefore DNTPSC is based on Ministry of Justice regulation n<sup>o</sup>. 5/2016, article 14 authorizing to design and establish the national standard of geographic data set for Timor-Leste with main purpose is to:

- Set the standards of GIS mapping in Timor-Leste including the establishment of a base map.
- Coordinate GIS activities by convening regular meetings.
- Centralize metadata and feature catalogues of GIS data from all Government Institutions, and
- Facilitate exchange of spatial data among Government bodies.

#### 2.8. FUTURE PROJECT IN DNTPSC.

The needs for Technical Adviser in Mapping

- (1) Establishing the Rule for Cartography and map making Standard Operational Procedures (SOP)
- (2) Establishing the Rules for Management of Control Point
- (3) Managing the geographic data set with establishment of National Geospatial Data Infrastructure (NGDI)
- (4) Training on Administration, survey and mapping

#### 3. CHALLENGES IN DNTPSC

According to Decree law n°. 6/2015, 11 of March, about" VI Constitutional Government", the National Directorate of Land property and Cadastral Services (DNTPSC) was appointed to the Secretary of State for Land Property (SETP). Under the mandate currently have been submitting a proposed law on Timor-Leste Land registration system to be approved by the president.

#### **4.International Cooperation**

Timor-Leste is the youngest country in the world. The country declared itself an independent state on 20 May 2002. During this period, Timor-Leste has participated in various international forums such as:

#### 4.1 UNRCC-AP

United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP) was established based on a resolution adopted by Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in 1954. The purpose of the Conference is to promote survey and map activities necessary for development and conservation of national territories by providing a regional forum to exchange information and to cooperate together. For instance, the first Conference held in India in 1955 and it held every three years. Previous 17<sup>th</sup> Conference was held in Bangkok, Thailand in 2006, where the first time Timor-Leste was represented in the Conference after the independence.

### 4.2. Outline of 18th UNRCC-AP

The 18<sup>th</sup> UNRCC-AP was held on 26-29 October 2009 at UN ESCAP conference center in Bangkok Thailand. The main theme of the conference was "Spatial Enablement and the Response to Climate Change and the Millennium Development Goals". It was attended by

149 representatives of 37 countries and 12 specialized agencies and international scientific organizations. Under the presidency of Mr. Greg Scott (Australia), the following agenda were discussed: Objectives of the Conference; Report of the Permanent Committee on Geographic Information System Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP); Report

on the implementation of resolutions adopted at the 17<sup>th</sup> UNRCC-AP; Conference papers;

Reports of the technical committees of the Conference and adoption of the report of 18<sup>th</sup> UNRCC-AP. Finally, the conference adopted the resolutions. Main resolutions were listed below:

- Encourage countries to join to Asia Pacific geodetic framework
- ➤ Encourage countries to support capacity building, in particular for developing countries such as Timor-Leste
- Establish Annual Land Administration Forum for Asia and the Pacific.

- > Request UN to initiate the discussion on global coordination of geographic information management.
- 18th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP), 26-29 October
- 16<sup>th</sup> International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM), 25 October

#### 5. The National Geospatial Data Infrastructure (NGSDI) Development

Base on Ministry of Justice Regulation n°.5/2016 of 13 of January, describes tasks and responsibilities the National Directorate of Land property and Cadastral Services to register and manage not only the administration of a property information system, but also the creation of conditions for the effective management of the private land, state land, and to establish the National Geospatial Data Infrastructure. Moreover, helping builds geographic data set for Timor-Leste.

NGSDI describes the fundamental spatial datasets that enable them to be integrated; the distribution network in order to provide access to them and the policies and administrative arrangements that ensure compatibility between jurisdiction and agencies.

The main objective of national NGSDI in East-Timor are to ensure the users of spatial data and geographic information are able to acquire complete and consistent datasets in order to meet their requirements, even though the data is collected and maintained by different agencies. NGSDI for East-Timor will help ensure that all agencies involve concern themselves with the national interests, thereby maximizing the governments return on investment in data and maintenance.

Given the country is in the early stages of nation building, there is an opportunity to learn from other countries "struggles and specially their remedies. This holds as true for NGSDI issues as it does for many of the challenges. Government of East-Timor needs to resolve the issue of collaboration between agencies.

DNTPSC is in the process of taking the lead in coordinating all GIS and mapping activities and in setting up a protocol for spatial data exchange.

Various modes of corporation and sharing of spatial data need to be discussed with stakeholders. DNTPSC is examining how the NGSDI issues (data ownership, custodianship, data standardization, data exchange, metadata etc.) could resolved by others, notably by west Australia and the Philippines (and others who have relevant experiences to share).

#### 6. LEGAL REGIME OF TOPONYMIA AND POLICE NUMBERING

#### 6.1. INTRUDUCTION

The toponymy allows to locate the activities and the events developed by the man in the territory. In this way, the attribution of place names leads to spatial planning, while at the same time safeguarding the cultural and historical value of places, territories and people, so that the choice, attribution and alteration of the toponyms should be surrounded by particular care and be guided by criteria of rigor, coherence and exemption.

Thus, it constitutes an important element of identification, orientation and location of real state and as a traditional area of intervention of the local power (revealing the way in which the Municipal Administrations face their cultural patrimony).

The numbering of buildings is another key element, which in conjunction with the toponym of a street, allows faster and efficient communication between individuals and the various services. The door numbers not only contribute to the urban planning organization but also allow the right identification of a building within a given street.

The VI Constitutional Government faced with the accelerated growth of the population, faces new challenges for which it proposes a more efficient performance, through a functional structure that meets the needs of the population, whereby the attribution of place-names to streets and Are important tools for an urban planning organization and effective institutional communication.

According to the article 19 of Decree-Law no. 6/2015 of 11 March, one of the objectives of the Central Government through Ministry of State Administration among other duties is, to promote and conduct the process of administrative decentralization. In particular, through legislative initiatives to promote hygiene and urban public order which constitute

under the terms of the current law and the proposal of legal norms concerning toponymy and numbering of buildings.

In Law no 11/2009 of 7 October, establishing the administrative division of the territory into thirteen municipalities. Thus, under articles 1 and 2 of Law no. 11/2009 of 7 October, municipalities are collective persons with administrative and financial autonomy and elected representative bodies, which serve the populations for the benefit of national unity and development local.

Therefore, in this procedure the Municipal Administrations will play an important role. This Decree-Law aims to create, simplify and clarify the procedures for assigning and implementing both toponymic plates and building numbers through a set of rules that guide, facilitate and harmonize both the display processes to be used by All Municipalities. I. The names of avenues and streets should be linked as much as possible with the sites because the streets are contiguous.

- II. The main Avenues and Streets of the city of Dili should evoke as much as possible the nationally prominent figures, considering here that the concept of the Martyrs of the Fatherland encompasses and represents all those who have heroically perished in the struggle for National Liberation.
- III. Avenues and Streets may adopt the names of events dates of national reliefs to be remembered by future generations.
- IV. Preferably the names of avenues and streets may adopt names that perpetuate values common to all democratic nations, such as human rights and freedom, the latter concepts includes freedom, Freedom of the press and religious freedom.
- V. The names of avenues and streets may take the names of foreign countries and cities, which according to the principle of reciprocity and for important reasons are linked to the life of the East Timor nation or to the Dili Municipality.
- VI. Names already in existence as of the date of these resolutions may be changed, case by case, and their alteration shall be duly substantiated.
- VII. Anthroponymic names shall not be assigned with the names of living persons, except in extraordinary cases where it is recognized that, for exceptional reasons, this type of homage and recognition should be provided during the life of the person and

accepted by the person.

VIII. Foreign words and / or foreign words will only be accepted when their use proves to be absolutely indispensable.

Criteria for the attribution of toponyms to dishes and to the alleys of the six pilot juices of the city of Dili:

- 1. The names of the Crossings and the Alleys will evoke circumstances, figures or reality of Municipal expression
- 2. The Crossings and the Alleys should be linked as much as possible with the places because the streets are known, considering the following classification of toponyms:
- (A) Agrotoponyms: those originating from the names of farmland, fields or related to agricultural activity;
- B) Anthropyms: those that refer to names or aliases of people;
- C) Arqueotoponyms: those that refer to archeology;
- D) Axiotopyonyms: those that refer to titles, positions or patents;
- E) Phytopathyonyms: those referring to flora;
- F) Geomorfotopónimo: those that refer to the topographical forms shapes and relief feature;
- G) Hagiotoponyms: those that originate in the religious life or names of saints;
- (H) Hydrotopyonyms: those relating to hydrographic accidents;
- (I) Historiophonyms: historical movements, ancient kingdoms, commemorative dates or events that mark a local or national event or event:
- J) Sociotyponyms: those related to professional activities, workplaces; To community meeting points;
- K) Zootoponyms: those that refer to fauna.
- 3. The Crossings and the Alleys as far as possible have the names related to the places with which they connect.
- 4. The Crossings and Alleys can be assigned the names of dates of national relief to be remembered by the future generations.
- 5. Crossings and sidewalks may take the names of foreign countries and cities which, according to the principle of reciprocity and for important reasons, are linked to the life

of the Timor-Leste Nation or the Dili municipality.

6. The Proposals for assigning place names according to the classification specified in

paragraph 2 shall be in accordance with the place names indicated on the map for the city of Dili, and approved by the Ministry of State Administration and proposed by the

Municipality Government.

7. Anthropomorphic designaaçoes shall not be assigned with the names of living persons.

Except in extraordinary cases where it is recognized that, for exceptional reasons, this

type of homage should be provided during the life of the person and accepted by the

person.

8. Foreign languages and / or foreign words shall only be accepted when their use

is absolutely indispensable.

Prepared by;

Paulino da Cruz, Head of Geospatial Information, The Secretary Estate

Land Property, The National Directorate of Land Property And Cadastral Services

E-mail: dacruz paulino@vahoo.com

Telp: +670 76435035,77305733

**Dili 25 oh May 2017** 

Paulino da Cruz