

Agenda Item 5

Divisional Report

Asia, South-East and Pacific South-West

Submitted by Mr. A.M. Mohamed,
Divisional Chairman



3rd MEETING
of the

UNITED NATIONS
DIVISIONAL GROUP OF EXPERTS
ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

for
ASIA, SOUTH-EAST AND PACIFIC,
SOUTH-WEST DIVISION

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA 2 & 3 SEPTEMBER, 1986.

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by

Chairman of the Division

1. Introduction

1.1. The Second Meeting of the enlarged United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names for Asia, South-East and Pacific, South-West Division was held at Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia from 2-4 October 1984.

1.2. The meeting was attended by member countries of Negara Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia.

2. Review of Projects

2.1. Map of Asia, South-East and Pacific South-West Division (Political)

2.1.1. The fully coloured 5th edition of this map was printed on schedule by the Directorate of National Mapping, Malaysia, but without map information for Burma, Kampuchea, Laos, Vietnam and Papua New Guinea due to lack of map details from these member countries.

2.1.2. Lately, twenty copies of this map have been sent to member countries of Negara Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand for their perusal. A copy of this map will be distributed to member countries attending the 3rd meeting of this Division.

2.2. Map of Asia, South-East and Pacific, South-West (Physical, including Marine and Sub-Marine Features)

2.2.1 The Directorate of National Mapping, Malaysia is in the process of preparing the working sheet of this map using the same base map of the 5th Edition Political map.

- 2.2.2. Member countries of Burma, Kampuchea, Laos, Vietnam and Papua New Guinea are also urged to submit the hydrographic and physical details for the preparation of this map.

2.3. Gazetteers

- 2.3.1 There is no change in the Regional Gazetteer since there has been no new list of geographical names received from member countries.
- 2.3.2. The Second Edition of the Concise Gazetteer has been printed by the Directorate of National Mapping, Malaysia with the inclusion of amendments from Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines and new lists from Negara Brunei and Singapore. 20 copies of this gazetteer has been sent to member countries of Negara Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand for their perusal. A copy of this gazetteer will be distributed to member countries attending the 3rd meeting of this Division.
- 2.3.3. The Directorate of National Mapping, Malaysia is taking steps to store the National, Regional and Concise gazetteers as Toponymic data files, in the Department's computer system for easy updating, cross-referencing, fast retrieval and publication.

2.4. Course in Toponymy

- 2.4.1. As mentioned in para 7.3.4 and 7.3.5 of the 2nd meeting report of this Division held in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia 2-4 October 1984, the Indonesian delegation proposed that an Ad Hoc commission in Toponymy be formed particularly in the Malay Language region in the context of the Indonesia-Malaysia Language Council. To date there has been no response yet from these two member countries.

2.5. Newsletter (Geonames)

In accordance to the decision made in the last meeting held at Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia 2-4 October 1984, the Philippines had been consulted on the possibility that the role of publisher of the above Newsletter be given to another member country. Philippines has no objection and the role of the publisher was given to Negara Brunei Darussalam. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Negara Brunei Darussalam is unable to resume the role of publisher. It is hoped that other member countries could volunteer to take the role of publisher so that the 2nd Volume of the above Newsletter can be produced.

2.6. Regional Atlas

It is hoped that the above programme can be reactivated by Thailand and implemented to its successful completion.

3. Conferences and Meetings

- 3.1. The Report of this meeting will be tabled at the Twelfth Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names Geneva, 29th September to 7th October 1986 by the Chairman & members of the Asia, South-East and Pacific, South-West Division.
- 3.2. Member countries of this Division are also urged to make their our national reports to the meeting mentioned above.
- 3.3. As activities in the field of Geographical Names have assumed greater importance at the conferences of the United Nations, member countries of this Division are urged to make every possible effort to attend meetings of their Divisions as well as our parent body, the UNGEGN at the United Nations Headquarters at New York or Geneva.

DEPARTMENT OF SURVEY AND MAPPING, MALAYSIA

September 1986.