
United Nations
Group of Experts on
Geographical Names

Working Paper
No.66

Eighteenth Session
Geneva, 12-23 August 1996

Item 5
of the Provisional Agenda

REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONS

Asia, South East & Pacific, South West Division

8th Divisional Meeting,
Jakarta, Indonesia, 12 & 23 June 1996



**UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS
ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES**

ASIA, SE & PACIFIC, SW DIVISION

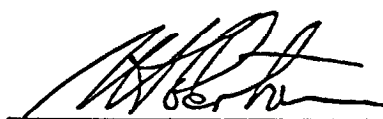
*8th DIVISIONAL MEETING
JAKARTA, INDONESIA 12th & 13th JUNE 1996*

CONFIRMATION REPORT

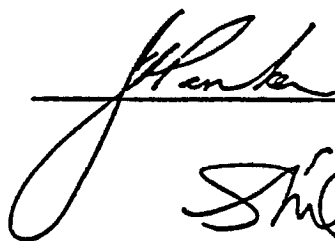
The attached report of the Eighth Meeting of the United Nations Divisional Group of Experts on Geographical Names, Asia, South East and Pacific, South West Division, held in Jakarta, Indonesia 12 and 13 June 1996 is hereby confirmed.

Decisions, recommendations and resolutions contained in the Report are subject to the approval of each representative government.

Mr. W.A. Robertson
Chairman of the Division



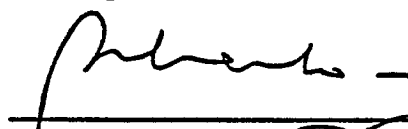
Mr. J. Parker
Chief Delegate of Australia



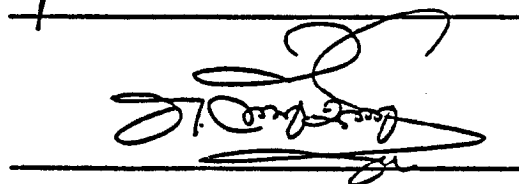
Hjh. Salmahwati Hj Mochsin
Delegate of Brunei Darussalam



Dr. Paul Suharto
Chief Delegate of Indonesia



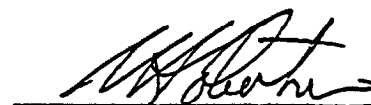
Khamkhong Detchanthachack
Delegate of Lao Peoples Democratic Republic



Abdul Majid Bin Mohammed
Chief Delegate of Malaysia



Mr. W.A. Robertson
Chief Delegate of New Zealand



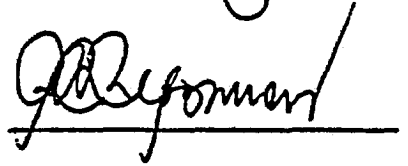
Wence Aquino

Chief Delegate of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands



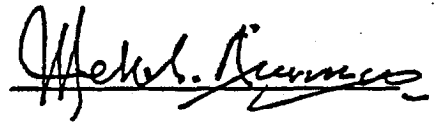
Mrs. Felisa Nepomuceno

Delegate of the Philippines



Meko L. Aimu

Delegate of American Samoa



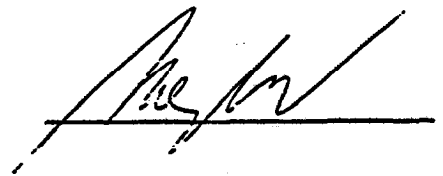
Col. Payon Timjaroen

Chief Delegate of Thailand

Col. P. Timjaroen.

Trinh Anh Co

Chief Delegate of Vietnam



Jakarta, Indonesia

13 June 1996

Report of the Meeting

1. Introduction

The Eight Meeting of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names for Asia, South East and Pacific, South West Division was held in Jakarta, Indonesia 12 and 13 June 1996.

The meeting was attended by the following member countries: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, New Zealand, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Philippines, American Samoa, Thailand and Vietnam. Other member nations who were unable to attend were: Cambodia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Palau and Singapore (See Annex 1).

The Republic of Palau had planned to be represented and completed a Country Report. Unfortunately their delegates could not attend. Cambodia and Papua New Guinea completed a Country Report.

Wednesday 12 June

2. Official Opening

- 2.1. Admiral Sutrisno, Deputy Chairman, (BAKOSURTANAL) of Indonesia welcomed delegates and observers to the meeting and to Jakarta.
- 2.2. Mr. Robertson expressed thanks to Indonesia for hosting the meeting and all those involved in setting up what promises to be a very good meeting.
- 2.3. Dr. Ir. Paul Suharto officially in opening the meeting, welcomed all foreign participants and extended his highest appreciation to Mr. Robertson for allowing Indonesia to be actively involved in this meeting.

Dr. Suharto in his opening address spoke of the need to learn more from member countries and this meeting needs special attention to develop co-operation among member countries and to seek for new innovation to realize the co-operation.

The full texts of the above opening addresses are included separately, after the 'Report of the Meeting'

3. Presiding Officers and Rapporteur

Mr. Robertson presided over the meeting and invited Admiral Sutrisno to act as Co-Chairman in the absence of Dr. Suharto. Mr. Parker was elected Rapporteur.

4. Adoption of Programme

The programme was adopted as tabled at the meeting (see Annex 2).

5. Country Reports

5.1. The following country reports were presented at the meeting, each of which appears separately under country reports:

Australia	- presented by Mr. John Parker;
Brunei Darussalam	- presented by Hj. Salmahwati Hj. Mochsin;
Indonesia	- presented by Mr. Sugiarto;
Lao PDR	- presented by Khamkhong Detchanthachack;
Malaysia	- presented by Abdul Madjid bin Mohammed;
New Zealand	- presented by Mr. Phil Dickson;
Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands	- presented by Wence Aquino;
Philippines	- presented by Felisa Nepomuceno;
American Samoa	- presented by Meko L. Aiumu;
Thailand	- presented by Col. Payon Timjaroen;
Vietnam	- presented by Trinh Anh Co

5.2. Reports from Cambodia, Papua New Guinea and Republic of Palau were tabled at the meeting.

5.3. The Chairman thanked delegates for presenting their reports and commented on the impressive record of activity being undertaken in some countries.

All reports were received with acclamation including those member countries who could not be represented.

6. Report of the Divisional Chairman

The Chairman presented the Divisional Report. The full text of the Report appear separately under "Divisional Chairman Report". Mr. Robertson also drew attention that when the Division Report is presented in Geneva in August 1996 that the UN meeting be made aware of insufficient funds being available for all Pacific countries to attend the UNGEGN Division meetings.

It was accepted that the name of the Division would remain unaltered.

7. Divisional Place Name Map

Mr. Dickson (NZ) presented the paper "The Future for the Divisional Place Names Map" and tabled copies for each member country of the Nations of the World Map (Version 6) and Version 1 of the enlarged Division map and sought comment. An invitation is extended to all member countries to comment back to New Zealand with any corrections, additions or deletions.

Member countries were very appreciative of the effort New Zealand had put into producing the version of the region map and expressed their support for the production of the map and its desire to have a digital copy of the map (see Resolution 1).

8. Matters carried forward from last meeting.

8.1. Toponymic Training

Following discussion on toponymic training it was endorsed that Australia would run an advanced course in Darwin in June 1997. All member countries present indicated they would like to have representatives on the training course. Approximately 20-25 may be expected to attend. Australia is to send out details of the proposed programme together with proposed costs as soon as possible to all member countries (see Other Items for Action 2).

8.2. Regional Atlas of Language Distribution

As there appears not to be any interest at present on the Regional Atlas of Language Distribution it was agreed to remove it from the agenda as a permanent item.

8.3. Pacific Islands countries membership

Following discussion it was agreed that Pacific Island countries of the South West Pacific be members of the Division and the endorsement of the full UNGEGN meeting in

Geneva be sought, following which invitations be issued to those countries that are now not members.

9. Geographical Indications in New Zealand

Paper prepared and presented by Mr. Phil Dickson, New Zealand which discussed the extent to which the New Zealand Geographic Board as implicated by new legislation following the Uruguay Round of international tables on the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade.

The full text of the paper appears separately under "Other Reports"

Thursday 13 June

10. Indonesian Guidelines for Geographical Names Standardization

A presentation by Prof.Dr.Ir. Jacob Rais, Indonesia on proposals for the National Permanent Committee on Geographical Names.

A copy of the overhead projector slides appear separately under "Other Reports"

11. Gazetteer of Australia

Mr. John Parker, Australia gave a presentation elaborating on the construction of the details of the National Gazetteer as included in Australia's Country Report.

The text of the paper appears separately under "Other Reports".

12. Standardization of the Hand Character Transcription for Minority Languages

No further action on this item.

13. Database of Geographic Names

Mr. Phil Dickson, New Zealand advised there was nothing further to report.

14. The Geographical Names in Indonesia

Dr. Hans Lapoliwa was not available to present this paper.

15. The Position of Bahasa Indonesia among the Regional Languages in Indonesia

Paper proposed and presented by Dr. Panuti Sujiman.

The full text of the paper appears separately under "Other Reports".

16. Future Directions and Projects for the Division

- 16.1. Following discussion it was agreed that a project involving all member countries would be to list all the different language names for generic features in their own country. The Chairman is to write to member countries setting an initial list of generic names for consideration.
- 16.2. It was also agreed that the proposed toponymic Training course in Darwin be considered a project of the Division.
- 16.3. The production of a digital version of the Regional map was also a Division project.
- 16.4. It was considered important that the Division continues to communicate with all member countries as well as member^s communicating between themselves on common issues.
- 16.5. Consideration of the Division having in affect on strategic plan (business plan) with objectives was discussed and agreed that the incoming Chairman should pursue this matter.
- 16.6. Each member country present was invited to comment on the role and duration of the Division. There was general support for the projects and direction proposed. It was noted this Division was one of the more active ones and members were urged to attend the full UNGEGN meeting in Geneva if at all possible. All member countries would receive an invitation to attend the Geneva meeting.

17. Chairmanship of Division

- 17.1. Mr. Robertson advised that due to restructuring of the New Zealand Department of Survey and Land Information he would be retiring and would not be offering himself as the future chairman. Following discussion it was agreed that Australia be put forward to UNGEGN meeting in Geneva to undertake the role of Chairing the next Division meeting. It was ruled that Indonesia considered the possibility of accepted the chair role but thought it was a little too early for them.
- 17.2. Consideration was given to the location of the next division meeting and any member countries who may wish to host the meeting are to correspond with the Chairman. It was accepted that by holding a meeting in Australia it may make it easier for the Pacific Island countries to attend. A meeting in mid 1998 would suit member countries and adequate notice of time and place to be given i.e. at least 12 months before the meeting.

18. Meeting Summary and Closing Address

Mr. Robertson presented his closing address and in doing so, noted the extensive hospitality of the Indonesian and the very well prepared meeting.

It was also noted the very positive role and contribution that the retiring Chairman had played. An expression of appreciation was carried by acclamation.

Certificates prepared by Indonesia were presented to all delegates.

19. Resolutions of the Meeting

1. Place Names Map

Motion : Recognising the effort that New Zealand had made in producing the map and wishing to consolidate the means of keeping it up to date and accurate, this division recommends that a digital version of the map be made and circulated to all member countries for their input.

Moved : Malaysia

Seconded : Brunei Darussalam

The motion was carried unanimously.

2. Regional Atlas of language distribution

Motion : Noting that no further action had been taken to progress the Regional Atlas of language distribution, and accepting that this project would be a linguistic one rather than one of cartographic naming, this division recommends removing this item from the agenda.

Moved : Australia

Seconded : Malaysia

The motion was carried unanimously.

3. Pacific Islands membership

Motion : Recognising the continuing desire for Pacific Islands countries to participate at further divisional meetings, and noting the limited attendance of most Pacific

Countries at recent meetings, this division recommends that the United Nations Secretariat be asked to write official invitations to Pacific Countries, and further recommends that endorsement of this invitation be made at this year's UNGEGN Meeting Geneva in August 1996

Moved : Malaysia

Seconded : Indonesia

The motion was carried unanimously.

4. Regional languages

Motion : Recognising the need to understand the range of local languages in the division, it was recommended that the secretariat of the division compile a table of suggesting a format for member countries to compile individually, regional language of generic feature names

Moved : Indonesia

Seconded : Brunei Darussalam

Australia suggested that the job of the chairing nation should be to forward to members the suggested format in the first instance.

The motion was carried unanimously.

5. Division Chairmanship

Motion : Recognising that the present Chairman, Mr. Robertson is about to retire as Chief Executive of New Zealand's Department of Survey and Land Information, and Chairman of the New Zealand Geographic Board, Mr. Parker of Australia was nominated as new Divisional Chairman.

Moved : Indonesia

Seconded : Malaysia

The motion was carried unanimously

20. OTHER ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. That the naming of oceans, particularly with regard to changes under the laws of the sea should be tabled at the Geneva UNGEGN meeting in August 1996, and that this be an item for a future meeting
2. That a follow up toponymic training course was endorsed by Australia, and that Australia would run an advanced course in approximately 12 months time in Darwin, Northern Territories, Australia. Australia will forward details of the proposed programme together with proposed costs to all member countries.
3. That to put firmly, the direction of the division, mission and vision statements be written as terms of reference, and that these be established by the incoming chair of the division
4. That the Secretariat set up a home page of the divisions activities on the Internet.

12/01/70
12/01/70
by Ball L
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**UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
8TH MEETING OF THE
ASIA, SOUTH EAST AND PACIFIC, SOUTH WEST DIVISION
JAKARTA, INDONESIA - 12 & 13 JUNE 1996**

DIVISIONAL REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF THE DIVISION

1. INTRODUCTION

This report deals with the activities of the on-going work programme on geographical names standardisation of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) Asia, South East and Pacific, South West Division. It covers the period since the 7th Divisional Meeting was held in Beijing, China 7 & 8 May 1994.

The 7th Meeting was attended by member countries of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. Paul Suharto, who was to have represented Indonesia, was unable to attend, but an Indonesian Country Report was presented. Indonesia indicated that it would commit to decisions made at the meeting and supported the continuation of UNGEGN activities. Other member countries of, Papua New Guinea and Singapore were unable to be represented, and no replies to invitations were received from Cambodia, Lao Peoples Democratic Republic or Myanmar.

Invitations were extended to Pacific Island countries to attend the meeting but unfortunately none was represented, most unable to fund delegates to participate.

2. 1996 MEETING

Invitations were extended to all member countries, and all but Cambodia and Papua New Guinea indicated they would attend. Replies were however also received from Cambodia and Papua New Guinea, and a Country Report has been received from Papua New Guinea. Pacific Island countries were once more invited, in accordance with Item 10 of the Report of the 7th Divisional Meeting in Beijing. As a result, I am pleased to welcome representatives from three Pacific Countries are attending this meeting, namely American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of Palau. Many of those from the Pacific who replied were unable to attend because they had insufficient funds.

3. REVIEW OF PROJECTS

3.1 1:10 500 000 Scale Divisional Place Names Map

This new map, published by the Department of Survey and Land Information, New Zealand has superseded the original 1:7 000 000 scale map of the division published by National Mapping, Malaysia. Contributions to the place names shown on it have been made by many member countries. As a result of Item 8 of the Report of the 7th Divisional

Meeting in Beijing, some design changes were incorporated into the map, including the addition of names in countries beyond those of the divisional members.

A copy of the published map is to be distributed to each Chief Delegate.

3.2 Gazetteers

The second edition of the Concise gazetteer and First Edition of the Regional Gazetteer are still to be completed as a result of the publishing of the divisional map.

3.3 Toponymic Training

Two resolutions were passed at the 7th Divisional Meeting concerning toponymic training.

One resolution recommended that the United Nations organise a toponymic training course in the region in 1995. The other resolution recommended that a half day session on toponymic techniques be included in a Cartographic Technical Meeting being planned by New Zealand in 1996.

A toponymic training course planned by Australia to be staged in the Northern Territories this year, in accord with Resolution 20.1 of the 7th Divisional Meeting, has been postponed until 1997.

The Cartographic Technical Meeting planned for this year has likewise had to be postponed as the Department of Survey and Land Information is undergoing a restructure. Future commitments to hosting such meetings will have to be evaluated by the new Government Department responsible for the New Zealand Geographic Board and its international obligations, Land Information New Zealand.

4. OTHER MATERS FOR DIVISIONAL CONSIDERATION

Some items from the 7th Divisional Meeting will be carried forward for discussion at this 8th Meeting.

Delegates may also wish to consider new projects that member countries of the division may initiate.