

**Twenty-second Session  
New York, 20-29 April 2004**

---

**Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda**

**REPORT OF THE DIVISIONS**

**Report of the Netherlands 2002-2004\***

---

**\*Prepared by Ferjan Ormeling, Utrecht University, the Netherlands**

**Report of the Netherlands 2002-2004**

## - Geographical names as cultural heritage

1. A workshop on the collection of field names was held at the Meertens Institute (the Research and Documentation Institute for Dutch Language and Culture) of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences, April 25, 2003. This was organised in order to launch a new field names survey project in the Netherlands. The papers presented here can be accessed at <http://www.meertens.knaw.nl/books/veldnamen/> (in Dutch).

2. A project to build a digital spatio-temporal geographical names database for Fryslân province (Frisia) has been started up by the Fryske Akademy (Frisian Academy of Sciences). It aims at linking all versions of toponyms that are found through time for the Frisian language area.

## Promotion of minority group and indigenous geographical names

3. All 1000 hydronyms in the Frisian language area in the Netherlands have been collected and edited and standardized in their Frisian version and published in map-form (*Fryske Wetternammen*, published by Fryslân Province, Leeuwarden/Ljouwert 2003) on behalf of the Frisian provincial government; these minority names are expected to be accepted as the official version by the provincial administration in 2005. They will then be sent to the Topografische Dienst Kadaster, for incorporation in the topographical databases and maps and in the forthcoming new gazetteers.

## Pronunciation

4. A website has been started by the *Nederlandse Taalunie* (Dutch Language Union, an umbrella organisation in charge of the Dutch language in Belgium, Surinam and the Netherlands) which also contains an updated list of officially accepted Dutch exonyms with their standardized spelling and their pronunciation. This website can be found at: [http://taalunieversum.org/taal/aardrijkskundige\\_namen/](http://taalunieversum.org/taal/aardrijkskundige_namen/)

## Support for training and publications

5. In the field of toponymy courses the Netherlands cooperated with Germany in the production of a toponymy course manual, *Training course on Toponymy*, published by the Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie (BKG) as nr 28 of its publication series (Frankfurt 2004) with the edited lectures of the 2002 DGSD Toponymy course. The Netherlands also contributed to the *Manual for the national standardization of Geographical Names*, Part 2, edited by Ms H.Kerfoot, and to be published in a number of language versions by the United Nations in 2004. Together with Germany the Netherlands provided the lecturing input for the UN toponymy course for East-Africa held in Khartoum, Sudan, January 29-February 7, 2003.

Together with the Institute of Cartography of the Eötvös Lorand University in Budapest, Hungary, the Netherlands produced a toponymy module for the International Cartographic Association (ICA) webcourse, which will be made accessible at the website of the ICA Commission on Education and Training, chaired by Dr Laszlo Zentai, Hungary (<http://lazarus.elte.hu/cet/>)

## **Joint meetings of divisions and working groups**

**6. A joint meeting of the Dutch- and German -Speaking Division of UNGEGN and the DGSD Symposium series, Geonames 3, is envisaged for September? 2005. It is proposed to have it in Leeuwarden, the capital of the Frisian minority language area in the Netherlands, with the theme Toponyms in multilingual areas.**

## **Integration of national names into national and regional spatial data infrastructures**

**7. For the first time ever, place name collection has been part of a law passed in the Netherlands. In the law on creating the Topografisch basisbestand (Basic topographical database of the Netherlands) the collection of geographical names was mentioned as the responsibility of the Topografische Dienst.**

**The new object-oriented version of the Basic topographical database of the Netherlands (TOP10NL) will be completed in 2005. One of the object attribute categories will be the geographical name, so that names will be linked in the files to objects as well, instead of to coordinates only.**

**A gazetteer based on the 1:100 000 topographic map is expected for 2005. New provincial topographical atlases 1:25,000 will be published 2004, and will contain place name indexes.**