

**Twenty-third Session
Vienna, 28 March – 4 April 2006**

**Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda:
Activities relating to the Working Group on Toponymic
Data Files and Gazetteers**

Development of State Catalogue of Geographical Names of Russian Federation

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Information about geographical names is of great importance in all branches of map making. Availability of this information, its plenitude and up-to-dateness directly affect efficiency of geoinformation technologies in cartography.

The objective to develop a permanently maintained integrated database (state catalogue) of geographical names and accompanying data was posed in the Federal Law "On names of geographical objects" adopted in the Russian Federation in 1997. Its implementation was detailed in subsequent decrees of the Government of Russia.

Development, maintenance and use of the State Catalogue of Geographical Names is needed to provide a uniform and consistent usage of geographical names in legal documents, official correspondence, publications, mass media and to preserve names as a part of historical and cultural heritage of the peoples in Russia.

The Catalogue is to meet needs of state authorities, local administrations, agencies, mass media and citizens for officially adopted geographical names.

The State Catalogue includes the automated data retrieval system to register, store, update geographical names and output them by queries of the users authorized in the Catalogue (appendix 2).

The developed data retrieval system comprises dataware, software and hardware. The dataware of the system is a set of documents, indices, and data arrays together with some methods of data integration and storage. The software consists of the programs to provide a work of working stations and the database of the State Catalogue and the programs to provide input of geographical names via PC. The hardware includes a server, network equipment, working stations of operators and database administrator with a back-up device, and a network laser printer available for all the working stations.

The data input in the Catalogue's database comprises about 30 fields which are split into basic and ancillary ones (appendix 3).

The basic fields are those needed to register and retrieve geographical names:

- state registration number of a standardized name and a date of name registration in the database;
- geographical name in a standardized Russian spelling together with its source and date;
- generic term together with its source and date;
- for a populated place – its type and status;
- geographical and administrative reference of an object together with their sources and dates;
- geo coordinates (latitude and longitude).

In addition to the basic data, the Catalogue comprises some ancillary data fields (variants of names and generic terms, etymology, etc.)

To be input in the database, geographical names are gathered from different sources (official, cartographic, reference and so on.) Then they are standardized and put into uniform registration forms (appendix 1).

Since the development of the geographical names database for the territory of Russia is a very labor-consuming and long-term process it was split into several stages.

The first stage of the database compilation includes input of the names from the files containing information about major geo objects and accompanying information accumulated in the Central Geodesy, Air Survey and Cartography Research Institute (CNIIGAiK). Availability of this information in the database allows to get answers to queries about the names of these objects and also to provide geo reference for minor objects input in the database.

At the second stage the database shall be populated with the geographical names taken from the map at scale 1: 100 000.

The first stage implementation began in 2002. By Jan 1, 2006 the data about 140 000 geographical objects from the CNIIGAiK files was input in registration forms and further in the database. The subjects of the Russian Federation the names in which were totally input in the database are listed in appendix 4.

Since 2006 the second stage of the database development starts. It will include input of the names taken from the plates of the topographic map at scale 1: 100 000. This work shall be completed by 2010.

Simultaneously with the database population, it is being constantly updated and verified.

In future, the functionality of the Catalogue's data retrieval system will be developed in the following directions:

- communications with the users of geographical names via modern communication means, including the Internet;
- visualization of information on geographical names by digital maps;
- use of the database to compile gazetteers, dictionaries of geographical names, indices and maps at different scales.

State Catalogue of Geographical Names of Russia
UNIFIED REGISTRATION FORM FOR GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

1. Basic information:

(01) Standardized name			
(02) Source the standardized name is taken from			
(03) Date of name approval			
(04) Generic term		(05) Current availability of geo-feature	
(06) Source the generic term is taken from			
(07) Date of generic term approval		(08) Admin. status (for popul. places)	
Administrative and geographical reference			
(09) Name of subject of Russian Federation			
(10) Name of administrative district			
Geographical coordinates:			
	(11) Latitude	(12) Longitude	
(13) Geo reference (in relation to other geo features)			
2. Complementary information:			
(14) Name variants	(15) Source the name variant occurred in	(16) Date of name variant occurrence	(17) Date when the name was officially changed
(18) Generic term variants	(19) Source the generic term occurred in		(20) Date of the generic term occurrence
(21) Notes			

№	SPECIFIED QUERY TYPES Output on screen or printer:
1	2
1.	Alphabetic list of standardized geographical names for the territory of a determined subject of Russian Federation
2.	Alphabetic list of standardized geographical names for a determined administrative district of Russian Federation
3.	Alphabetic list of standardized geographical names from a determined map sheet at scale 1: 100, 000
4.	Alphabetic list of standardized geographical names of Russian Federation with a determined generic term
5.	Alphabetic list of earlier existing geographical names with a determined generic term
6.	Alphabetic list of standardized geographical names with a determined generic term located on a determined subject of Russian Federation
7.	Alphabetic list of standardized geographical names with a determined generic term for a determined administrative district of a given subject of Russian Federation
8.	Alphabetic list of standardized geographical names with a determined generic term from a determined map sheet at scale 1: 100, 000
9.	List of geographical names registered in the State Catalogue homonymous with a determined name
10.	List of geographical names registered in the State Catalogue homonymous with a determined name for a determined subject of Russian Federation
11.	List of geographical names registered in the State Catalogue homonymous with a determined name for a determined administrative district in a given subject of Russian Federation
12.	List of geographical names with a determined generic term registered in the State Catalogue homonymous with a determined name
13.	Information on a determined geographical name with a given generic term located in a given subject of Russian Federation
14.	Information on a determined geographical name with a given generic term located in a given administrative district of Russian Federation
15.	List of geographical names for Russian Federation which have been changed within a determined time period (in alphabetic order of old names)
16.	List of geographical names for Russian Federation which have been changed within a determined time period (in alphabetic order of new names)
17.	Information on number of geographical names registered in the State Catalogue within a determined time period
18.	Any information on standardized geographical name with a determined registration number available in the Catalogue Registration Form
19.	Any information on a determined standardized geographical name of a given feature type for a given subject of Russian Federation available in the Catalogue Registration Form
20.	Any information on a determined standardized geographical name of a given feature type for a given administrative district of Russian Federation available in the Catalogue Registration Form
21-25	Lists of standardized geographical names (for a subject of Russian Federation or its administrative district) compiled by a determined portion of geographical name and generic term

State Catalogue of Geographical Names of Russian Federation

REGISTRATION FORM**1. Basic Information:**

Registration number of standardized name **0008606** Registration date **06/11/2001**
 Standardized name **Сорочинка**
 Source the standardized name is taken from **Списки центров сельсоветов Тульской области, 1960**
 Date of name approval **31/12/1960**
 Generic term **село** Current availability of geo feature **существует**
 Source the generic term is taken from **Списки центров сельсоветов Тульской области, 1960**
 Date of generic term approval **31/12/1960** Admin status (for popul. places) **Центр сельской адм**

Administrative and geographical reference

Name of subject of Russian Federation	Source the standardized name of the RF subject is taken from	Date of the standardized name of the RF subject occurrence
Тульская область	Постановление ЦИК СССР от 26/09/1937	26/09/1937

Name of administrative district	Source the standardized name of the RF administrative district is taken from	Date of the standardized name of the RF admin. district occurrence
Плавский район	Справочник административно-территориального деления Тульской области, 2000	31/12/1960

Geo coordinates of feature Latitude Longitude
53°41' С.Ш. 37°27' В.Д.

Sheet of map at scale 1:100, 000 **N-37-75**

Geo reference (in relation to other geo features)

2. Complementary information:

Name variants	Source the name variant occurred in	Date of name variant occurrence	Date when the name was officially changed
Сорочинка-Михнево	Списки центров сельсоветов Тульской области, 1955; Справочник административно-территориального деления Тульской области, 1956; Алфавитный список почтовых предприятий СССР, 1966	31/12/1955	
Сорчинский	Списки центров сельсоветов Тульской области, 1939	31/12/1939	
Сорочина	Материалы переписи населения, 1939	31/12/1939	

Generic term variants	Source the generic term occurred in	Date of the generic term occurrence
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Notes:

Сорочинский сельский округ. Доп. источники норм. названия: Важнейшие селения Европейской России, 1880; Алфавитный список почтовых предприятий СССР, 1938, 1955, N 37-75/1942, 1951, 1958, 1970, 1983, N-37/1943, 1952; Административная карта Тульской области, 1953, 1959, 1968; Справочник

List of subjects of Russian Federation input in catalogue's database
(by January 1, 2006)

№№	Name of RF subject	№№	Name of RF subject
1	Aginskij Burjatskiy avtonomnyj okrug	23	Novosibirskaja oblast'
2	Arhangel'skaja oblast'	24	Omskaja oblast'
3	Astrahanskaja oblast'	25	Orenburgskaja oblast'
4	Belgorodskaja oblast'	26	Orlovskaja oblast'
5	Brjanskaja oblast'	27	Penzenskaja oblast'
6	Vladimirskaja oblast'	28	Pskovskaja oblast'
7	Volgogradskaja oblast'	29	Respublika Mordovija
8	Vologodskaja oblast'	30	Respublika Saha (Jakutija)
9	Voronežskaja oblast'	31	Respublika Severnaja Osetija - Alanija
10	Ivanovskaja oblast'	32	Rostovskaja oblast'
11	Kalužskaja oblast'	33	Rjazanskaja oblast'
12	Kemerovskaja oblast'	34	Samarskaja oblast'
13	Kirovskaja oblast'	35	Sankt-Peterburg (city)
14	Kostromskaja oblast'	36	Saratovskaja oblast'
15	Kurskaja oblast'	37	Tambovskaja oblast'
16	Leningradskaja oblast'	38	Tverskaja oblast'
17	Lipeckaja oblast'	39	Tomskaja oblast'
18	Moskva (city)	40	Tul'skaja oblast'
19	Moskovskaja oblast'	41	Ul'janovskaja oblast'
20	Murmanskaja oblast'	42	Čitinskaja oblast'
21	Nižegorodskaja oblast'	43	Jaroslavskaja oblast'
22	Novgorodskaja oblast'		

*all
are
official*