

Twenty-fourth Session
New York, 20 and 31 August 2007

Item 3 of the provisional agenda
Report of the working groups

Report of the Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation

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The 4th Meeting of the Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation was held at the East-West Center, Honolulu, U.S.A., on January 22-24, 2007, jointly with the Working Group on Publicity and Funding. The meeting was attended by the Conveners of the Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation, Mr. Ki-Suk Lee, and the Convenor of the Working Group on Publicity and Funding, Mr. David Munro; UNGEGN Chair, Ms. Helen Kerfoot; UNGEGN Vice-Chair, Mr. Brahim Atoui; Rapporteur of the Working Group, Mr. Botolv Helleland; and Dr. Sungjae Choo, Professor of Kyung Hee University, Republic of Korea. Mr. Stefan Schweinfest and Mr. Amor Laaribi from the United Nations Statistics Division participated in part of the meeting via teleconferencing.

The meeting was preceded by a short introduction on the East-West Center by Dr. Choong Nam Kim, Research Fellow, and a special presentation on Hawaiian place names by Ms. Kapa Oliveira, Professor at the University of Hawaii.

The general purpose of the meeting was to review the current status of the work and procedures of the UNGEGN and prepare for the upcoming 9th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names and 24th Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names to be held in August 2007. The Working Group first reviewed the results of the survey on UNGEGN evaluation conducted during the 23rd UNGEGN Session in Vienna and made some suggestions for the 9th Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in 2007. It was proposed that Country reports should be submitted within the deadline for presentation and be limited to five minutes, selecting important highlights. Oral presentations of division reports should focus on collective activities, not the activities of individual countries.

The Technical Committees for the past eight conferences were reviewed and the following committees were recommended for the Ninth Conference:

- I. National Standardization (Provisional Agenda Item 9)
- II. Toponymic Data Files; Toponymic Websites (Provisional Agenda Items 12 and 13)
- III. Exonyms; Pronunciation ; Writing Systems ; Country Names
(Provisional Agenda Items 10, 11, 16 and 18)
- IV. Terminology; Features Beyond a Single Sovereignty; Toponymic Education and International Cooperation (Provisional Agenda Items 14, 15 and 17)

Participants also discussed the implementation of resolutions and the future of the Working Groups. It was suggested that Working Groups review resolutions relevant to their activities and Divisions review resolutions for their implementation. It was also suggested that all Working Groups consider whether they have fulfilled their mandates and whether they should continue.

Time was allocated in the meeting to discuss how to encourage the participation of member states and outreach to other organizations. It was generally agreed that possible sources of funding need to be identified to facilitate the participation of delegates from developing countries. Mr. Atoui reported on the work of the Task Force for Africa and proposed that, in order to more efficiently promote its work, a Working Group be established for Africa through a resolution at the Conference. It was also suggested that the UNGEGN extend invitations to UN and other agencies, and engage in outreach to multinational companies with respect to their use of geographical names.

The next meeting of the Working Group will be held in August 2007 during the Ninth UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in New York.

AGENDA

Joint Meeting of Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation and Working Group on Publicity and Funding, January 22-24, 2007

1. Welcome
2. Administrative Matters (Chairs, Rapporteurs, Times, etc.)
3. Mandate and Objectives, etc , of the two Working Groups
4. Major Issues
 - 4.1. Secretariat Staff Changes
 - 4.2. Brief Review of the Action Items from the WG on 2005 Meeting
 - 4.3. Follow up on UNGEGN Evaluation for Future
 - 4.3.1. Materials in Response to the UNGEGN Chair's Paper at the UNGEGN (Working Paper 55 and Others)
 - 4.3.2. Evaluation received by Statistics Division Questionnaire (Please refer to sheets of analysis)
 - 4.4. Conference Planning
 - For recommendations of WG to the UNGEGN Bureau
 - Number of Committees for Conference
 - Resolutions: New Thoughts on Presentation of Country Reports
 - Thoughts on Special Presentations and Other Conference Activities
 - Recommendation for the Venue of UNGEGN 2009
 - Display Panels for the Corridor Area
 - 4.5. UNGEGN Items
 - Resolutions: Past
 - Future of Current WGs
 - Task Force for Africa

Towards Greater Effectiveness of Divisions

Multinational Companies: Their Use of Geographical Names and UNGEGN Outreach

Any Suggestions for UNGEGN Information Bulletin Material

Other Matters for Discussion

5. Progress in UNGEGN Secretariat work on:
 - Publications
 - UNGEKN Geographical Names Database
 - National Names Authorities Contacts Database
 - Preparations for the Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

6. Publicity
 - 6.1. Promotional leaflet
 - 6.2. Media kit
 - 6.3. Publication of technical manual
 - 6.4. Publication of basic manual in other official UN languages
 - 6.5. UNGEGN Website
 - 6.6. Guidelines for those wishing to create their own website
 - 6.7. Publicity since the 23rd UNGEGN Session in Vienna
 - 6.8. UNGEGN Bulletin Funding
 - 6.9. Funding for publications
 - 6.10. Fellowships for trainees and funds for consultants for training
 - 6.11. Support for trainees from non-participating countries
 - 6.12. Identifying sources of funding for geographical names projects

7. Any Specific Recommendations of the WGs

8. Next Meeting

9. Adoption of the Report of the Meeting