UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES Working Paper No. 18

Twenty-fifth session Nairobi, 5–12 May 2009

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

Implementation of resolutions and activities relating to the Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation

# Database for the United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names Resolutions<sup>\*</sup>

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### **Database for UNCSGN Resolutions**

## ABSTRACT

Following a consensus reached in the meeting of the Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation, April 2008, a database has been created for the 195 UNCSGN resolutions to improve access to them by conference, topic and word search. The first version of the database is now open to public at the following UNGEGN web page: <u>http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/uncsgnresolutions.htm</u>. This work has been done by the sponsorship of National Geographic Information Institute of the Republic of Korea.

### 1. Background

One of the major functions of the Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation is to review the resolutions and report on their implementation. This is clarified by the followings:

• Resolution V/4: "The Conference recommends a working group be established to.... <u>review</u> the resolutions adopted by the UNCSGN and report on their implementation...."

• "The mandate of the working group would include ..... <u>finding ways and means of effectively implementing relevant resolutions on the standardization of geographical names by UN member states.</u>"

During the working group meeting, 21-23 April 2008, there was considerable discussion about assessing the extent of implementation and effectiveness of resolutions. A consensus was reached that, before conducting further surveys on this topic, it would be more useful to develop a more user-friendly web-structured access to resolutions by subject and by key word. Following this consensus, a project of creating a database of 195 resolutions adopted by the nine Conferences began. This work has been done by the sponsorship of National Geographic Information Institute of the Republic of Korea.

### 2. Structure of the Database

The database can be accessed at the UNGEGN website: <u>http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/</u><u>uncsgnresolutions.htm</u>. By clicking "UNCSGN Resolutions" in database search, the user is guided to search by each of nine Conferences and search by topics.

In the search by topics, 26 general subject headings first grouped by a former Secretary of UNGEGN, Max de Henseler, in 1987 at the Fifth Conference are being used. Some of the resolutions belong to more than one subject heading.

The first version of the database is now open. It is hoped that this addition to the UNGEGN website will provide a useful tool and can in time also be extended to the resolutions in UN languages other than English. Any comment to improve the working of this database is welcome.

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#### Geographical Information

#### UN RESOLUTIONS (1967-2007)

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The nine United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names have adopted 195 resolutions. These resolutions were first grouped under general subject headings by a former Secretary of UNGEGN, Max de Henseler, in 1987 at the Fifth Conference. This c process has been continued following each Conference to provide a useful updated compendium of resolutions for reference purposes.

#### complete texts (resolutions from all Conferences, grouped by subject)

UNCSGN RESOLUTIONS in English (pdf, 1723 KB) UNCSGN RESOLUTIONS in French (pdf, 1141 KB)

During discussions of UNGEGN's Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation in 2008, a decision was made to create a resolutions database to improve access to resolutions by topic, conference and word search. We hope that this addition to the UNGEGN website will provide a useful tool and can in time also be extended to the resolutions in the other UN languages.

#### database search

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UNCSGN RESOLUTIONS in English

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