

**Twenty-fifth session
Nairobi, 5–12 May 2009**

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

Activities relating to the Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers

Establishment of National Gazetteers and Publication Working Group^{*}

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United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

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ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL GAZETTEERS AND PUBLICATION WORKING GROUP

Report Submitted by Iranian Committee for Standardization
of Geographical Names (ICSGN)
National Cartographic Center



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ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL GAZETTEERS AND PUBLICATION WORKING GROUP

Collecting and documentation the name of all geographical features of Iran is one of the important tasks. Therefore ICSGN (Iranian committee for the standardization of geographical names) allowed establishing a working group entitled of National gazetteer and publications. Objectives of establishment of this working group are:

- Access to all geographical names of Iran,
- Access to correct/Native pronunciation of geographical names,
- Access to coordinate and others information of geographical names
- Preparing other publications such as magazine, books and etc.

Infact many users in Iran want to access to standard geographical names. Duty of this group is preparing standard geographical names in gazetteers.

The most important references for Iranian geographical names are maps at the scale of 1:25000. infact In Iran with preparing of 1:25000 maps, many geographical information such as geographical names gathered and these maps has enough information about physical and man made features. The reference boundaries for preparing of gazetteers are map in scale of 1:250000 and administrative division. This working group has four members.

For pilot project at first we want to collect and prepared geographical names of two block of 1:250000 map of Kashan and Golpaiyegan. These blocks located in central of Iran and NCC prepared maps of these areas in scale of 1:25000. Main geographical information in these gazetteers is as mentioned bellow:

- Name(in Persian)
- Kind of feature
- Transcription of the name
- Geographical coordinates
- Elevation
- Date of data collection
- Other name
- Previous name
- Administration division (province, county, district, village)
- Position of the name in different map scales such as 1:250000, 1:50000, 1:25000
- Population for populated places
- Status, only for population places

Infact Preparation of geographical names in Iran in format of book or other document come bake to centuries ago to Naser Khosro period an Iranian geographer. But in new format producing of gazetteer start from 1910 up to now. Many of these gazetteers are not completed. For example gazetteer of Iran that prepared in 134 volumes prepared geographical names of only manmade features such as town, village and some other features. Infact in Iran we have more than 20 gazetteer that prepared in different time and different contain. Much of these gazetteer supplies names of mane made features especially population place but among these gazetteer we have gazetteer of mountains and rivers. In our new gazetteer we want to prepare all genomes (man made and physical features.