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**UNITED NATIONS  
GROUP OF EXPERTS  
ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES**

**WORKING PAPER  
NO. 9/4/Rev.1**

**Twenty-eight session  
28 April – 2 May 2014**

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**Original: Chinese**

**Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda**

**Report of the divisions**

**Report of the China Division \***  
Submitted by China

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\* Prepared by Liu Baoquan and Liu Lianan

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Geographical Names

Twenty-eighth session

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Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Reports of the divisions

## **Report of the China Division**

Submitted by China

Prepared by Liu Baoquan and Liu Lianan

### **Summary**

Since the 10th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, the China Division has actively prepared to carry out the national toponymic survey, and has made progresses in the construction of the conservation organization on the cultural heritage of geographical names, the geographical name publications, and so on.

Since the 10th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, the China Division has actively promoted the standardization of geographical names to implement the resolutions of the United Nations, and progresses have been made in the following fields:

## **1. Toponymic Survey**

China implemented the first national toponymic survey in the 1980s. In order to meet the demand of modern informatization construction, China will carry out the second national toponymic survey between July, 2014 and June, 2018. It includes the confirmation of geographical names and its relevant information, naming geographical features which have no names, the standardization of less formal geographical names, the establishment of standard geographical name signs, the establishment and improvement of data bases of geographical names at all levels, the promotion on the information service of geographical names , and the foundation of archives. At present, the corresponding technical specifications are being further improved.

## **2. Construction of the Conservation Organization on the Cultural Heritage of Geographical Names**

China Association for the Protection of the Cultural Heritage of Geographical Names (CAPGN) was founded in June, 2013. This nation-wide, professional and non-beneficial organization is consisted of units, experts, scholars, professional personnel, administrators and social celebrities regarding the research and protection of cultural heritages of geographical names. The purpose of the organization is to unite the relevant units and personnel that concern and support the research and protection of cultural heritages of geographical names, to carry out the discovery, protection, development and publicity on the culture of geographical names, to promote the development of research and protection of cultural heritage of geographical names in China.

## **3. Undersea Feature Names and Antarctic Geographical Names**

Several national standards, including *Nomenclature of Undersea Feature Names* (GB 29432-2012) , *Antarctic Geographical Names - Part 1: Generic Terms* (GB/T 29633.1-2013), *Antarctic Geographical Names - Part 2: Classification and Code* (GB/T 29633.2-2013) , have been published. These standards promoted the standardization of geographical names in relevant fields.

On the 26th conference of the GEBCO Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN), ten undersea feature names proposed by China were all approved (eight of them are in the Pacific Ocean and two of them are in the Indian Ocean) and collected into the GEBCO Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names.

#### **4. Geographical Names Publications**

To standardize the Chinese transformation of lunar feature names and undersea feature names, some books, such as *Handbook of Chinese Transformation of Lunar Feature Names*, *Compilation of International Research Materials of Undersea Feature Names*, have been published. For deeply researching the Chinese transformation of geographical names from foreign and minority languages, *Basic Research of the Standardization on Geographical Names Transformation from Minority-Languages into Chinese* and *The Cross Reference Brochure of Chinese Transformation from Foreign Geographical Names* were published. In the respect of protection of cultural heritage of geographical names, some books such as *The Textual Research on the Geographical Names of Ancient Counties of Thousand Year's History in China* and *An Overview on China's Ancient Counties of Thousand Year's History* have also been published.