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Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda

Report of the Divisions

Report of the Dutch- and German-speaking Division

Submitted by the Dutch- and German-speaking Division *

Report of the Dutch- and German-speaking Division

Summary

The Dutch- and German-speaking Division of UNGEGN consists of experts from Austria, Belgium, Germany, Netherlands, South Africa, Suriname and Switzerland.

This document reports the achievements of the DGSD since 2014. The achievements have been reported under the headings of the relevant resolutions adopted by the various UNCSGN**.** The full text of the paper is being issued in English only.

The following summary provides selected highlights only:

Provision and dissemination of geographical names data

Slovene field and house names in Carinthia (Kärnten) were included into the Austrian National Inventory of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

The German dataset GN-DE has been made compliant with the INSPIRE Implementing Directive of the European Parliament. The 6th edition of the Toponymic Guidelines of Germany is being reviewed for publication in 2016.

To the website of the Dutch Language Union (called Taalunieversum) in the Netherlands, designations of the inhabitants of country capitals have been added. The Dutch national mapping and cadastral agency (Kadaster) has now ascertained the Frisian and Dutch versions of all inhabited places within the Frisian language minority area.

In Switzerland *swissNAMES[3D]* has been published in 2015 as the new national geodatabase for names.

Participation at meetings & further activities

In conjunction with the 139th meeting of the Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN) ("Permanent Committee on Geographical Names") in Graz (AT) in March 2016, the AKO organized together with the Styrian Provincial Archive a symposium on "Minority toponyms in Slovenia, adjacent bilingual areas and German-speaking countries", to which Slovenian experts contributed by presenting papers.

A representative of the Netherlands participated in the joint meeting of the WG on Publicity and Funding and Evaluation and Implementation held September 10-12, 2015 at Copenhagen University.

DGSD representatives took part as lecturers in several UNGEGN toponymy courses. The elaboration of an advanced toponymy manual is in progress.

Introduction

As a result of collaboration between experts from Austria, Germany, Netherlands and Switzerland, this document reports the Dutch- and German-speaking Division's[1] achievements since the last session of UNGEGN held in New York in 2014.

In accordance with the procedure in use within the Division, the achievements have been reported under the headings of the relevant resolutions adopted by the various UNCSGN.

A report of Suriname will be submitted under item 18 (other toponymic issues). This report is about new developments in geographical names and the historical dimension of place names in Suriname. Furthermore the etymological relationship of place names in Suriname with equivalent place names in other countries is explained.

Res. I/7 and II/19 Regional meetings

Meetings of the Dutch- and German-Speaking Division were held in:

- New York, UN Headquarter 29-04-2014

- Frankfurt am Main, BKG 06-03-2015

Res. IV/4: Publication of toponymic guidelines for map and other editors

Germany:

The 6th edition of toponymic guidelines is being reviewed for publication in 2016. Specifically the numerous examples of names spelling are explicitly referenced to the respective paragraphs of the new orthographic regulations (having been come into force in Germany in 2006). Explanations on the officially recognized national regional and minority languages in Germany are comprehensively revised.

Res. V/12: Collection of basic information on the standardization of geographical names

Germany:

The (Gazetteer-) web service developed in 2007 by the Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie (BKG) ("Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy") in co-operation with the Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN) ("Permanent Committee on Geographical Names") has been evolved continuously.

This (Gazetteer-) web service is based on a Web Feature Service (WFS) and thus compliant with the corresponding Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) specification. All geographical names information of several (topographic) vector data products based on scale level 1:200.000 and smaller was amalgamated. Technically the geographical names information is maintained in a single database called *"Geographical Names of Germany" (GN-DE)*. Through unique identifiers the names entries of the GN-DE are linked unambiguously to all data bases and products provided by BKG. At present the data base contains about 165 000 entries including more than 700 names in the languages of the national minorities of the Sorbs and Frisians. About 27 000 entries of gender of hydrographic features are still contained. The administration and maintenance tasks of the GN-DE are conducted in Frankfurt am Main,

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[1] DGSD

whereas the (Gazetteer-) web service is facilitated through the "National Geodata Centre" at the BKG in Leipzig (www.geodatenzentrum.de).

Switzerland:

Juli 2015: first publication of the *swissNAMES³D* product. *swissNAMES³D* is the new national geodatabase for names captured by land survey. Part of the new product are names of localities (geometry polygon), local names (polygon), mountains (point), regions (polygon) and other names of topographic objects (streets, buildings, areas, POI's). *swissNAMES³D* covers the whole area of Switzerland and Liechtenstein. The multilingualism is supported.

Res. V/15: Establishment of national geographical names authorities

Austria, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland:

The Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN, "Permanent Committee on Geographical Names") is the body responsible for the standardization of geographical names in the German-speaking area. The StAGN is an independent scientific body without sovereign functions to which in particular scientists and experts in practice from Austria, Germany, Switzerland and other German-speaking regions are affiliated.

Netherlands:

The Commission on geographical names in the Netherlands (Adviescommissie aardrijkskundige namen in Nederland) operates under the aegis of the Royal Netherlands Geographical Society (KNAG, Postbus 805, 3500 AV, Utrecht).

The Dutch Language Union (Nederlandse Taalunie) is an international body in charge of the Dutch language, of which Belgium, the Netherlands and Suriname are members. It has a Commission for the standardization of Dutch exonyms (Commissie Buitenlandse aardrijkskundige namen)

Res. VIII/1: Promotion of minority group and indigenous geographical names

Austria:

In 2010, Slovene field and house names in Carinthia [Kärnten] were included into the Austrian National Inventory of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The traditional Slovene field and house names are part of the living cultural heritage and are deeply rooted in the minds of the Slovene as well as the German-speaking Carinthian population. These names form an essential part of the Carinthian Slovenes' linguistic and cultural identity. In this context, hiking maps featuring the names of the locations in their dialect form and in standard Slovenian have been created in the past years. The toponyms documented and the maps are also available on the internet portal www.flurnamen.at, www.ledinskaimena.si.

Between 2011 and 2015, the cross-border European Union project „Cultural portal of field and house names" [Kulturni portal ledinskih in hišnih imen/Kulturportal der Flur- und Hausnamen, FLU-LED] was carried out within the framework of the program Austria-Slovenia (OP SI-AT 2007–2013). One of the results of the project in Carinthia are four printed maps of municipalities featuring field and house names. Each of them forms an important contribution to the linguistic and cultural identity of the respective municipalities.

A symposion in conjunction with the 139th Meeting of the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (StAGN) in Graz, 4 March 2016, titled "Minority toponyms in Slovenia, adjacent bilingual areas and German-speaking countries" highlighted minority situations in Carinthia [Kärnten], Burgenland, Slovenia and northern Italy as well as strategies for learning foreign languages in border regions by the example of the German-Polish border region.

Germany:

The languages of four national minorities residing in Germany - the Danes, the Frisians, the Sorbs, and the German Sinti and Roma – are officially recognized as minority languages. Low German has the status of a regional language preserving protection in the sense of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages[*]. An overview provides a brochure recently published by the German Federal Ministry of Interior[*]. Geographical names in minority languages are in use in Frisian and Upper and Lower Sorbian/Sorabic.

Since 2011 about 670 Sorbian and 20 Frisian names are presented in the web service WFS GN-DE of the Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG), in fact, not only as a variant or secondary name but, like the German name, as an equally entitled main entry.

The map "Federal Republic of Germany at 1:1 million scale, geographical regions – their names and margins" (new edition 2014) shows names of geographical regions in Sorbian and Frisian languages in those regions where the minority language is spoken.

The 6th edition of the *Toponymic Guidelines* of Germany is in process and will be published – very likely – in spring 2016. The currently available 5th edition contains a list of geographical appellatives, adjectives and other words for cartographic purposes in the languages German, Frisian, Upper Sorbian and English. This list shall be helpful to foreign users to read and evaluate German cartographic publications in which apart from German also Frisian and Upper Sorbian geographical names and generic terms appear. The list shows only frequently occurring appellatives of geographical names.

[*] http://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Broschueren/2015/Minderheiten_Minderheitensprachen.pdf?__blob=publicationFile

Netherlands:

To the website of the Dutch Language Union (called Taalunieversum) to be found at http://taaladvies.net/taal/aardrijkskundige_namen/ a list of the Frisian versions of place names in bilingual Dutch-Frisian province of Fryslân has been added, with the information which of the versions is considered the official one presently.

The Dutch national mapping and cadastral agency (Kadaster) has now ascertained the Frisian and Dutch versions of all inhabited places within the Frisian language minority area. For all these places that have an official Dutch name, the Frisian version comes secondly on the map; for all other inhabited places, the Frisian version comes first. To distinguish between Frisian and Dutch place name versions, the Frisian ones will be written in italics on the maps.

Res VIII/4: Exonyms

Austria:

The „Recommendations for the rendering of geographical names in Austrian educational media", published by the Austrian Board on Geographical Names in 2012, are now fully reflected by all school atlases licensed for Austrian elementary and secondary schools and produced in Austria. The most recent atlas that has appeared according the "Recommendations" is the öbv-freytag&berndt-Schulatlas published in 2014.

Netherlands:

To the website of the Dutch Language Union (called Taalunieversum) to be found at
http://taaladvies.net/taal/aardrijkskundige_namen/ designations of the inhabitants of country
capitals have been added (for instance Paris: Parijzenaar (male, single), Parisienne (female,
single). Dutch versions of historical names (such as Roman Empire, Babylon, Oxus) have
been added to this website as well.

Switzerland:

In the new national geodatabase for names *swissNAMES³ᴰ*, the multilingualism is supported.
Exonyms can be recorded for each object type of the database. Actually, swisstopo is being
documenting and defining the use of exonyms in *swissNAMES³ᴰ*.

**Res VIII/5: Joint meetings of the linguistic/geographical divisions and working groups of
the UNGEGN**

Netherlands:

A representative of the Netherlands participated in the joint meeting of the WG on Publicity
and Funding and Evaluation and Implementation held September 10-12, 2015 at Copenhagen
University.

Austria, Germany, Switzerland:

In conjunction with the 139ᵗʰ meeting of the Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen
(StAGN) ("Permanent Committee on Geographical Names") in Graz (AT) in March 2016, the
AKO organized together with the Styrian Provincial Archive a symposium on "Minority
toponyms in Slovenia, adjacent bilingual areas and German-speaking countries", to which
Slovenian experts contributed by presenting papers.

**Res VIII/6: Integration of geographical names into national and regional spatial data
infrastructures**

Germany:

The German dataset provided for the INSPIRE[2] data provision for European purposes is a
single database called "Geographical Names of Germany" *(GN-DE)*. The GN-DE dataset is
currently used for the geographical names data provision within the "German Spatial Data
Infrastructure" (*GDI-DE*) and is therefore also the rationale for the INSPIRE compliant
provision, which is already available since December 2015 through:
http://www.europeandataportal.eu/

A separate Working Paper will be submitted to the 29ᵗʰ UNGEGN providing further
information on this topic.

According the open data initiative of the Federal government in Germany geographical names
data from BKG are available free of charge since 2013.

Switzerland:

swissNAMES³ᴰ has been integrated into the Federal Spatial Data Infrastructure FSDI and can
be visualized on map.geo.admin.ch. For the representation of *swissNAMES³ᴰ* a new legend

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[2] Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community

has been implemented. Also polygons and lines with geographical names can be visualized. In 2016, the representation of *swissNAMES³D* will be completed with a 3D-Modus.

Res VIII/7: Toponymic data exchange formats and standards

Germany:

The German dataset GN-DE has been made compliant in December 2015 with the INSPIRE Implementing Directive (COMMISSION REGULATION - EU - No 1089/2010 of 23 November 2010 implementing Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards interoperability of spatial data sets and services):

http://eur- lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2010:323:0011:0102:EN:PDF

A Technical Guidance document describes the INSPIRE Data Specifications for the spatial data theme Geographical Names:
http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu/documents/Data_Specifications/INSPIRE_DataSpecification_GN_v3.0.1.pdf

Netherlands:

In the Netherlands, a new data model has been introduced for the BRT topographic key registers (Basis Registratie Topografie). For inhabited places and water bodies the attribute 'official name'has been added. Data for this attribute have been filled in country-wide as far as the names for inhabited places in the BRT registers match with the placenames in the BAG Address key registers (Basis registratie Adressen en Gebouwen). For water bodies the official name'attribute has only been filled in as far as the Frisian language minority area is concerned. For Frisia, names for all water bodies have been standardized in Frisian.

Preparations are being made to convert the geographical names from the BRT Database to the INSPIRE Geographical Names data model. It is expected that these will be made available through wms/wfs webservices in March 2016.

Res VIII/11: Pronunciation

Germany:

Most recently a new edition of a pronouncing dictionary was published by the Duden Publishing Company.

Duden: Das Aussprachewörterbuch, Band 6. Dudenverlag Mannheim/Leipzig/Wien/Zürich, 7. Auflage, 2015.

Netherlands:

A pronunciation module, which had been made part of the Dutch Language Union website before but was withdrawn for improvement, was added again to the website, allowing users to find out the pronunciation of the Dutch exonyms listed.

Res VIII/12: Standardization of names of countries

Netherlands:

Country names have been standardized and are continually updated and can be found on the website of the Dutch Language Union ("Taalunieversum") to be found at
http://taaladvies.net/taal/aardrijkskundige_namen/

Austria, Germany, Switzerland:

An updated list of country names in German language was published by StAGN as 13th edition as of January 2014. The list is a synopsis of country names officially issued by the Foreign Ministries of the three countries, supplemented with comments made by StAGN.

Res VIII/15: Support for training and publications

Austria:

The Austrian Board of Geographical Names supported by co-editing, layout and covering the expenses the publication of three volumes of the toponymic book series Name & Place:

Peter JORDAN, Paul WOODMAN (eds.) (2015), Confirmation of the Definitions. Proceedings of the 16th UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms Meeting, Hermagor, 5-7 June 2014 (= Name & Place, 4). Hamburg, Dr. Kovač, 244 p.

Peter JORDAN, Paul WOODMAN (eds.) (2016), Place-Name Changes. Proceedings of the Symposion in Rome, 17-18 November 2014 (= Name & Place, 5). Hamburg, Dr. Kovač, 492 p.

Peter JORDAN, Paul WOODMAN (eds.) (2016), Criteria for the Use of Exonyms. Proceedings of the 17th UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms Meeting, Zagreb, 14-16 May 2015 (= Name & Place, 6). Hamburg, Dr. Kovač, 172 p.

Netherlands, Germany:

Representatives from the Dutch- and German-speaking Division took part as lecturers in the training course for trainers in toponymy, held September 15-17, 2014 in Oran, Algeria, Centre National de Recherche en Anthropologie Sociale et Culturelle (CRASC Oran), organized locally by Brahim Atoui.

Representatives from the Dutch- and German-speaking Division took part as lecturers in the workshop on geographical names co-organised and sponsored an international training course in toponymy, targeted at members of national names commissions, organized locally by the Centre National de la Cartographie et de la Teledetection (CNCT) in Tunisia. It was held January 12-16 in Tunis, and had a double agenda: the toponymic training of the newly appointed members of the National Committee of Toponymy of Tunisia (CNTT) and the elaboration of a road map for African national names bureaux. Captain Naima Friha was in charge of the local organization.

The elaboration of an advanced toponymy manual is in progress. The editorial committee is receiving draft chapters since end 2015. The current content will be further discussed at the 29th UNGEGN Session. It is envisaged to submit the manual to the 11th UNCSGN.

Res. IX/7: Dissemination of information concerning the origin and meaning of geographical names

Austria:

The Old German Place-Name Gazetteer of Austria and South Tyrol [Altdeutsches Namenbuch. Die Überlieferung der Ortsnamen in Österreich und Südtirol von den Anfängen bis 1200], edited by the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Corpus Linguistics and Text Technology, and published in 16 instalments since 1989 has been completed in 2014. This historical-philological place-name gazetteer comprises the historical and linguistic data

of all Austrian and South Tyrolian (Province of Bolzano/Bozen) place names, i.e. the names of populated places, mountains, fields and water bodies, noted in historical sources from the beginnings of their recording in the 7th/8th century until the year 1200.

The first volume (City of Salzburg and Flachgau) of the Historical-etymological Gazetteer of Salzburg Place Names (abbreviation of its German title: HELSON), edited by the linguist Thomas LINDNER, has been published in 2015. The Gazeteer is structured according to Political Districts [Politische Bezirke] or counties [Gaue] and will be published in five volumes: Vol. 1 – City of Salzburg and Flachgau, Vol. 2 – Tennengau, Vol. 3 – Pongau, Vol. 4 – Pinzgau, Vol. 5 – Lungau. Each volume will need about three to five years to be completed. The Gazetteer is intended to meet in the first line linguistic (in particular historical-linguistic) interests, but to be useful also for historians and geographers.

Res. X 11.: Web-course in toponymy

Netherlands:

Slight modifications were made to the Web course in toponymy at the behest of Japan.