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FIFTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
Montreal, 18-31 August 1987
Item 4 of the agenda

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR
REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON PROGRESS IN THE STANDARDIZATION
OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE FOURTH CONFERENCE.

Indonesia National Report

Paper submitted by Indonesia

Item Agenda 4.

INDONESIA

NATIONAL REPORT

(Submitted by Indonesia)

Collection of geographical names has continued progressively with the completion of national base maps at scale 1:50,000. At present, 25% of the base maps have been published, so, the geographical names of these maps have been compiled and stored in the computer. Publication of national gazetteers has to be suspended temporarily due to financial reason.

It should be mentioned in passing on the new figure of the total number of islands in the Indonesian archipelago; it has increased from the official figure of 13,467 islands to approx. 17,000 islands, according to the announcement made by the Hydrographic Office. This is due to the availability of larger scale hydrographic charts. Approx. 7,000 islands are non-inhabited and most of them still have to be given proper geographical names. The exact new figure is still under investigation.

There is no national geographical names authority yet, however, the National Coordination Agency for Surveys and Mapping, whose mandate is to undertake the base mapping program in the country, is also responsible for collecting toponym, with consultation of experts from Universities (The National Language Center, for example) for its standardization of transcription.

* Prepared by Prof. Jacob Rais, Chairman, National Co-ordination Agency for Survey and Mapping (BAKOSURTANAL)