



**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.  
LIMITED

E/CONF.79/ INF/10  
18 August 1987

ENGLISH ONLY

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Fifth United Nations Conference  
on the Standardization of  
Geographical Names  
Montreal, 18-31 August 1987  
Item 6(b) of the provisional agenda\*

TOPONYMIC DATA FILES  
DATA ELEMENTS REQUIRED

Automated Data Processing in Japan

Paper submitted by Japan

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\* E/CONF.79/1.

## AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING IN JAPAN

(Item No.6b in the Provisional Agenda)

With the spread of the use of computer systems in governmental agencies and private enterprises, the processing of information concerned with geographical names by utilizing computer systems has become very common.

About 3,300 local public bodies have been assigned administration code numbers by the Japanese Industrial Standard(JIS). Data files of the information of local bodies' code number with their names have been completed and are widely used by many agencies and companies.

The data base of the names of local public bodies and their sub-villages has been compiled by the Japan Geographic Association, which is the extra-departmental organization of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Close to 400,000 place names with data category, spelling of names, spelling in "Kata-Kana" for phonetic spelling purposes and other information have been stored in magnetic tape files. Several private companies have also been making these types of data base, and have made them available to the public.

In regard to the names of natural features and other conventional place names, the standardized geographical names adopted at the Joint Committee on Standardization of Geographical Names have been converted into digital form by the Geographical Survey Institute. The data on about 9,000 names for 1:500,000 scale maps including local public bodies' names, with the information of the data category,

spelling of the name ( in "Kanji", "Hiragana" and "Katakana"), phonetic spelling in "Hiragana", spelling in Roman letters, corresponding code number, map name and roughly assigned position, have already been stored into magnetic tape files. At the present time, data collection of the standardized names for 1:25,000 to 1:50,000 scale maps has been in progress and about 25,000 names have already been completed.

On the other hand, the Hydrographic Department and the Geographical Survey Institute are conducting developmental research on the construction of a data base for practical use, applicable to their respective computer-assisted mapping systems.