

11 June 2002

Original: English

**Eighth United Nations Conference on the
Standardization of Geographical Names**

Berlin, 27 August-5 September 2002

Item 12 (d) of the provisional agenda*

Toponymic data files: automated data-processing (ADP) systems

**The Geographic Names Register of the National Land
Survey of Finland**

Submitted by Finland**

* E/CONF.94/1.

** Prepared by Teemu Leskinen, National Land Survey of Finland, Development Centre.

Summary

The Geographic Names Register (GNR) of the Finnish National Land Survey is a toponymic database that serves the needs of both national standardization and map production. The GNR comprises the National Place Name Register (PNR) and the National Map Name Register (MNR). The PNR contains data on feature type and feature location, as well as the approved spelling and language of the place names. The MNR includes product-related information for the cartographic representation of the place names in the PNR. The nationwide MNR products range from 1:20,000 in scale to 1:4.5 million. The primary aim of the GNR data model is multiple cartographic representation of geographic names.

The GNR is maintained through two processes: the place names and the large-scale map names are managed as part of the normal process of updating the National Topographic Database and compiling basic maps; the small-scale map names are compiled in conjunction with other GIS data production on the corresponding scale.

Plans exist to make the GNR available on the Internet by establishing a public web service that is free of charge. The service will make it possible to search the PNR by entering different combinations of spatial, attribute and spelling terms. The resulting names will be presented as lists and on maps on different scales.
