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English only

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

Berlin, 27 August-5 September 2002

Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

**Reports by Governments on the situation in their countries
and on the progress made in the standardization of
geographical names since the Seventh Conference**

Report of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran**

* E/CONF.94/1.

** Prepared by the National Cartographic Centre and the National Geographical Organization.



Introduction

In accordance with the resolutions adopted at the Seventh Conference and at the twentieth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on the Standardization of Geographical Names, we are submitting this brief report about our activities in the field of standardization.

In materializing the economic development plans of the country, particularly, the Third Development Plan (started in 1997) and in the view of its anticipated objectives in the third-plan, we have undertaken an extensive activities in the field of revising, compiling and preparing the basic coverage maps of the country at scales 1:250000, 1:50000, 1:25000 as well as collecting geographical information (for GIS) using the latest & updated methods.

In the line of above-mentioned activities, two projects were also defined, the programme for the first project was the field collection of geographical information on the basis of 1:25000 digital maps (for the national geographical names database) which was implemented for a wide area and data collection for other areas is continuing. The programme for the second project was the field collection of geographical information at Provincial levels of the country on the bases of 1:50000 map and observing political & physical administrative divisions which have been implemented in kerman, Hormozgan provinces and the work is already continuing

in Khorasan Province.

In these programmes, geographical information of all human habitats including centers of provinces , townships , cities , districts , villages , rural areas , farmlands , Places and other features in accordance with the filling out village identity booklets are being compiled .

In this process ,we may enumerate some of the important compiled Geographical Names such as names ratified by the Interior Ministry , the latin names , local names, previous names , altered names and the names given to the other local geographical features , including mountains surrounding human habitats , cold storages , water resources , superficial and natural features of phenomena including caves , tunnels, strait , passes and also nomenclatures of human habitats and onomastic history of names given to a place in different periods

1- National Gazetteer

One of the main objective of the activities outlined in our previous report has been collection of geographical informations to be utilized in the preparation of National Gazetteer of Iran . Accordingly , the work on the collecting and revising geographical Information for villages in the country has been started since 1997 . In this stage ,geographical information for the provinces of Yazd , Kerman and Hormozgan in the framework of 26 counties (Shahrestan) , 69 districts , 250 villages , 85 urban and 23084 rural areas are being compiled .

In addition , due to the development plans , many geographical names in the above mentioned provinces Undergone extensive changes. So, we decided to take Appropriate measures in revising the geographical maps and gazetteers of these areas. All changes occuring in geographical names , including names that recently coming into existence , and abandoned names , are registered on 1:50000 maps and on the gazetteers (Annex no .1)

2-Held of the first conference on geographical names of Iran

This conference was held in 21 february 2002 at National Cartographic Center (NCC) .

The goal of this conference was assessment and collection of all countrywide activities done in relation to geographical names and finding the best way for standardization of geographical names and its transcription in Iran.

3-Preparing the first version for standardization of National Geographical Names Database (NGNDB)

This version is prepared for standardization of geographical names database.

Accordingly, the information of geographical names on the basis of field collection is collected on the basis of map scale of 1:25000.

In this version the emphsise is on database model with the content of:

- Conceptual model for geographical names database.
- Logical model

- Standard for data entry
- User interface
- Quality of data
- Metadata

Of course this version offers good information about transcription standards in Iran.

4-Establishment of specialist committee for toponymy and standardization of geographical names in Iran.

National Cartographic Center established the specialist committee for toponymy and standardization of geographical names. This committee is supervised by N.C.C and its members are combined from different ministries and organizations that work on geographical names. Up to now N.C.C has held 16 sessions. In all sessions, members decide about all problems on standardization of geographical names in Iran.

5-Data collection for National Geographical Names Database (NGNDB)

In relation of preparing the maps scale of 1:25000, N.C.C collected all geographical names on a wide area of Iran(see the annex map no.2).

6- Changing and creating geographical names .

From total of 23084 geographical names in the provincial levels of Yazd , Kerman and Hormozgan , 317 names of villages , farms and places are changed and 800 names have recently come into entity .

7- Toponymic Guideline for map editors and other editors.

According to the resolution adopted in 6th UNCSGN and in compliance with the request of the president of conference , Islamic Republic of Iran as to revising TG acted and submitted a copy of the revised TG to the president of conference for insertion in the publication of world cartography and distribution as W.P.no : 41 in 20th Session of UNGEGN .

8- Setting up the Geographical Databank at GIS Site .

National Cartographic Center and National Geographical Organization has taken steps to set up the geographical databank at GIS site for all geographical information , cartography , aerial surveying , of the country including graphical satellite images at the GIS site .

This site, using the most powerful softwares ,will meet the required decisions- making in different levels of managements in the country and in the near future , all activities of national gazetteers will be accessible to users through CD . One the advantages of the system is rapid access to information in a possible short time .

9- Miscellaneous activities

9-1 Revising 1:50000 maps.

- 9-2 Preparing and printing gazetteers of Yazd province , together with the extracted thematic maps from GIS site .
- 9-3 Preparing and printing 1:25000 maps.
- 9-4 Compiling geographical information for preparing gazetteers of Yazd , Kerman and Hormozgan provinces .
- 9-5 Preparing National Gazetteer of Mountains in 4 vol ., together with the related pictures , maps and their locations in provinces .
- 9-6 Compiling and preparing the National Gazetteers of Dams on bases of their catchment basins for printing. (vol.1: Catehment Basins of Orumiyeh Lake)
- 9-7 Compiling and preparing gazetteers of Orumiyeh , Hamadan , Tabriz , Sanandaj , Kermanshah .
- 9-8 Hydrographical activities in Persian Gulf for preparing marine charts .
- 9-9 Installation & Operation of station for receiving satellite images .
- 9-10 Preparing photo-maps using latest satellite images .

10- Toponymic web sites

The necessary measures have already been taken to prepare and operate the Web site for geographical names of the country including official , local , previous , abandoned and new names in the frame of provinces Yazd , Kerman and Hormozgan numbering 24000 names .

ANNEX NO:1
Eighth United Nations Conference On The
Standardization Of Geographical Names

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Collected Information



Printed Volumes



Collecting Information



TÜRKİYƏ
ترکیه

ARMENIYA
ارمنستان

AZERBAIJAN
آذربایجان

TÜRKMENISTAN
ترکمنستان

CASPIAN SEA
دریای مازندران

IRAQ
عراق

AFGHANISTAN
افغانستان

PAKISTAN
پاکستان



جمهوری اسلامی ایران

اندکس ۱:۲۵۰,۰۰۰

فرهنگ آبادیهای کشور جمهوری اسلامی ایران

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National Gazetteer of the
Islamic Republic of Iran
Based on 1:250000 Maps
& Administrative Division Map
National Geographical Organization (N.G.O)



GULF OF OMAN
دریای عمان

