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NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION: OFFICE TREATMENT OF NAMES

Korea National Standardization : Office Treatment of Names

(Submitted by Republic of Korea)**

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Korea National Standardization: Office Treatment of Names

Official treatment of names

Kind

Geographical names marked in the nation's maps are divided into administrative, natural and marine ones. Administrative geographical names in the charge of the Ministry of Government Administration and Local Autonomy are for administrative areas. Natural geographical names are for mountains, hills, villages etc naturally formed and in the charge of the National Geography Institute of the Ministry of Construction and Transportation. Marine geographical names are for straits and undersea mountains and basins within the nation's territorial waters and in the charge of the National Oceanographic Research Institute of the Ministry of Maritime and Fisheries.

Procedure for naming and changing

Matters concerning administrative geographical names are carried out as per the Local Autonomy Act. A new name of an administrative area is proclaimed after deliberations by the Cabinet Council Meeting and ratification of the National Assembly after going through the local assembly, the Ministry of Government Administration and Local Autonomy and the Ministry of Legislation.

Natural geographical names are put on public notice by the Minister of Construction and Transportation under the Measurement Law. The procedure for naming and changing a natural geographical name requires an initial action by the local (city, *gun* or *gu*) geographical names committee, followed by deliberation by the provincial (metropolitan or *do*) geographical names committee and by deliberation and final decision by the Central Geographical Names Committee under the National Geography Institute. The National Geography Institute has been engaged in the work overhauling natural geographical names nationwide since 1993. The first phase will be completed by 2005 with the work for 16 cities and 6 *dos*

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already completed by 2001.

Matters concerning marine geographical names are carried out by the Ministry of Maritime and Fisheries under the Watenvay Act. The procedure for naming and changing a marine geographical name requires putting it on public notice in the Official Gazette after a decision by the Marine Geographical Names Committee at the National Oceanographic Research Institute under the Ministry of Maritime and Fisheries.

Geographical names-related services

○ Internet Service

Since October 2000, the National Geography Institute has provided internet-based geographical names-related services (including www.ngi.go.kr/ngi/jimyung/juml.asp and 4 others) based on the database of more than 20,000 administrative and 100,000 natural geographical names on the 1/25,000 reduced-scale basic map.

○ Korea Geographical Names Handbook

In 1982, the Korea Geographical Names Handbook was published in which information on history, language and folk custom related to administrative and natural geographical names is systematically provided. The Handbook makes an attempt to unify the geographical names which are often marked differently from each other on maps. It also contains introductions to the history, location, natural surroundings, industry and culture related to administrative (those for *myeon* or higher in level) and natural geographical names as basic materials for those that require new names.

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- A Collection of Origins of Geographical Names

In 1987, the National Geography Institute published "A Collection of Origins of Geographical Names" introducing the historical origins of, and the process of changes in, geographical names in an effort to preserve local traditional culture.

- Other Bibliographies Related to Geography

The National Geography Institute also published a list of a total of 669 old maps in 1979 and "Maps and Geographical Names" in 1981.

Bibliography	Year of Publication
Maps and Geographical Names	1981
Geographical Bibliographies in Korea (5 volumes)	1980 ~ 1985
A Collection of Origins of Geographical Names	1987
A Survey of Sample Geographical Names	1981