Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names  
New York, 21 - 30 August 2007  
Item 6(d) of the provisional agenda*  
Meetings and conferences: International names meetings, conferences and symposiums

International Seminar on the Naming of Seas, 2002-2007

Submitted by the Republic of Korea**

* E/CONF.98/1.
** Prepared by Ki-suk Lee and Sungjae Choo, Republic of Korea.
Summary

The International Seminar on the Naming of Seas, organized by the Society for East Sea to discuss the practices and principles at issue in the naming of seas, has been held annually during the 2002-2007 period. This seminar has generated widespread interest in the issue of naming seas as well as in a comparison of diverse cases of geographical names from all around the world. Over the last thirteen years, from 1995 to 2007, experts from twenty-five countries have participated in this seminar, presenting a total of 158 papers. The subjects of the papers presented span a wide field, ranging from history, geography, old maps and toponymy, to international politics and organizations.
International Seminar on the Naming of Seas, 2002–2007

The International Seminar on the Naming of Seas has been held annually during the period 2002-2007. This seminar has been organized by the Society for East Sea in order to discuss the practices and principles at issue in the naming of seas. Launched in 1995, the seminar has been held in major world political centers, including Vladivostok (2002), Shanghai (2003), Paris (2004), Washington D.C. (2005), Seoul (2006) and Vienna (2007).

This annual international seminar has provided a comprehensive forum to engage in extensive discussions on the history and principles of the naming of seas as well as to introduce diverse cases of geographical naming all over the world. Over the last thirteen years, experts from twenty-five countries have participated in this seminar and presented 158 papers. Forty-seven participants, 27.0% of the total, were from the Republic of Korea, followed by China (27 participants, 15.5%), Russia (25, 14.4%), Japan (12, 6.9%), France (9, 5.2%), and the USA (9, 5.2%). In recent years, there has been an ever greater diversity of countries participating, including Algeria, Hungary, Slovenia, Jordan, Bulgaria, Austria and Israel, which is an indication that this seminar has indeed succeeded in generating interest in sea names in various countries around the world.

The subjects of the papers presented have also encompassed a wide variety of areas, ranging from history, geography, old maps and toponymy, to international politics and organizations. As many as sixty-seven papers, 42.4% of the total, can be categorized under the title of historical geography and old maps, especially regarding the name “East Sea” or “Sea of Japan.” Based on historical literature and old maps from each country, these studies have mainly focused on searching for the trajectory of the name of the sea between Korea and Japan.

Worthy of special note is the fact that there has been a growing interest in toponymic principles and comparative case studies on the naming of geographical features in recent years. Since the eighth seminar in 2002, this field has been the focus of the greatest attention. This trend illustrates that the seminar has been coming to the fore as an academic forum for the discussion of naming issues.

The 14th International Seminar is scheduled to be held on the occasion of the 31st International Geographical Congress in Tunis, Tunisia in August 2007.

In addition to this international seminar, there have been workshops with experts on geographical names, organized by the Society for East Sea. Major examples include the workshop at which Dr. Milan Orozen Adamic lectured on the use of exonyms in the Slovene language in Seoul in December 2004. Another noteworthy instance is the workshop at which Dr. Peter Jordan and Dr. Isolde Hausner addressed the topic of exonym use in Austria and place names in Austrian multilingual areas, and the Austrian Committee on Geographical Names and the application of GIS to onomastics, respectively, in Seoul in December 2006.

Table 1. Chronology of the International Seminar on Naming Seas
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Number of Countries</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
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<td>Vladivostok, Russia</td>
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<td>15-17 October 2003</td>
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Table 2. Participants by Country

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The 8th International Seminar, 2002

P. Ya. Baklanov (Russia): Development of Integration Processes in Northeastern Asia
Adams Kerr (UK): Problems and Progress in Defining the Limits of Oceans and Seas
B.V. Preobrazhensky (Russia): Nomenclature of Underwater Landscapes
P.F. Brovko (Russia): Geographical Names of Bays and Inlets of Far East Seas
Philipppe Pelletier (France): The Role of French Geography in the Naming of the Sea between
  Korea, Japan and Siberia from the 17th to Early 19th Century
Jong Gak Lim (DPRK): The Formative History of the Names of the Seas Belonging to the Pacific
  Ocean
Sang-Tae Lee (ROK): A Study on the Understanding the East Sea (Donghae) in the Chosun
  Dynasty (14th to 20th Century)
Evgeny Suvorov (Russia): History and Evolution of the Names of the Bays of the Sea of Japan
N.N Komedchikov (Russia): Japan Sea on the Old Maps of Russia
Weimin Que (China): The Naming of the Sea between Korea and Japan in the 19th Century Maps
by English
Bo-Kyung Yang (ROK): The Names of the East Sea of the Korean Old Maps (on Old Korean Maps?), 17th ~ 19th Centuries
Kun Sop Choe (DPRK): Consideration on the Name of Eastern Sea of the Korean Peninsula
Jun Sagong (Japan): A Study on Naming 'The East Sea of Korea'
Tae Jin Yang (ROK): A Study on the Meaning of 'East Sea', especially based on the National Emotion
G.B. Dudchenko (Russia): The Geographical Names of the North–East Asian the Language Esperanto
V.A. Rakov (Russia): Borders of Peter the Great Bay of the Japanese Sea: Problems and Decisions
Jing Tian (China): Recent Research Progress on a Study of the Sea Name on East Sea and Japan Sea in China
"Recent Progress in Research: A Study of the Sea Names "East Sea" and "Japan Sea" in China"
Su Gil Ju and Kwon Muk Rim (DPRK): Geographical Consideration of Names of East Sea of Korea and its Neighbour Water
Ki-Suk Lee (ROK): New Trends in Identification of the East Sea (Japan Sea)

The 9th International Seminar, 2003

Brahim Atoui (Algeria): Problematic of the Appellations of the Names of the Seas and Oceans and Policies of the UNGEGN
Lan-Sheng Zhang (China): How the Marginal Seas in the Far East to Get Their Names
Songdi Wu (China): The Naming Principle for Seas in Chinese Traditional Time
Kwon Yong Kim (DPRK): On the Forming History of Adjacent Seas in the Pacific Ocean
Alexander Ivanovich Alekseev (Russia): Historical and Ethnographical Aspects of the Sea Toponomy
Henny G. L. Savenije (Netherlands): Korea in Western Cartography
Sang-Tae Lee (ROK): A Study on the Inscriptions of The East Sea in the Old Maps of the Western World
Kwon Muk Rim (DPRK): Consideration for the Eastern Sea Name of the Korean Peninsula on the International Charts
Jin-Mieung Li (France): Recent Evolution on the Use of the Name East Sea in Western Countries, particularly in France
Jun Sagong (Japan): Historical Circumstances of 'Korea Sea' and 'East Sea' and Consideration of International Custom
Shijian Huang (China): Early European World Map: on the Sea Naming of the Far East
Bo-Kyung Yang (ROK): The Naming of the Korea Strait on Old Maps
Kun Sop Choe (DPRK): Historical Geographical Study on the Eastern Sea Name of the Korean Peninsula
Peter Ya. Baklanov and Sergei S. Ganzei (Russia): Results of the Vladivostok 2002 International Seminar on the Naming of the Seas and the Current Situation with the Geographical Names in
Russia
Weimin Que (China): On Principles Dealing with Japanese Seas Dispute
Yeann Hong Choi (ROK): East Sea/Sea of Japan: From Justice as Fairness Perspective

The 10th International Seminar, 2004

David Munro (U.K.): The Standardization of Geographical Names: Achieving the Impossible?
Brahim Atoui (Algeria): Historical Legitimacy of Cartographic Supports as Determining Factors in
the Consolidation of Toponymical Usage and Particularly in the Names of Seas and Oceans at
the National and the International Levels
Naftali Kadmon (Israel): Bi– and Multi–Lingual Marine and Lacustrine Names: Assent and
Dissent
Milan O. Adamic (Slovenia): The Use of Exonyms in Slovene Language with Special Attention on
the Sea Names
Jin–Mieung Li (France): Origins of the Toponyms: Oriental Sea, Sea of Korea, Sea of Japan
(Exonyms) / East Sea (Endonym)
Yeann Hong Choi (ROK): Dual Names of the Sea and Islands in the World Atlas: The National
Geographic’s View
Béla Pokoly (Hungary): The Naming of Seas on Hungarian Maps and Atlases
Vladimir Tikunov (Russia): Geographical Naming and Role of Geo–informatics: Applications for
Multiple Namings
Chan–Woo Lee (Japan): Issue at Naming of Korea Sea (Donghae) or Japan Sea (Nihon Kai) in the
Regional Cooperation Work in Northeast Asia
Maoli Han (China): A Revaluation on the Name for the Eastern Sea of Korea Peninsula based on
Chinese Historical Literature
Jun Sagong (Japan): A Study on Naming "The East Sea of Korea"
Sang–Tae Lee (ROK): The Sea Names in Old Maps of the 19th Century
Shin Kim (ROK): East Sea and International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)
Cecile Michoudet (France): Naming of the Korea or Tsushima Strait on the European Cartography
from the XVIIth to XIXth Centuries

The 11th International Seminar, 2005

Francis Harvey (USA): Culture and Technology Meeting in Geographical Names
Vladimir Tikunov (Russia): Multiple Namings in the Integrated Digital Territorial Models
Jung–Chul Soh (ROK): Re–evaluation of Old Maps and Linguistic Aspects of the Name of East
Sea / Japan Sea
Philippe Pelletier (France): The French Geographers and the 'Sea of Korea'
Sang–Tae Lee (ROK): A Brief Review on the Name of East Sea in the Japanese Old Maps
Long Cheng (China): Research on Relationship between the Name of "East Sea" and the Local
Non–Han Government of Northeast China after the Tang Dynasty
Jin–Mieung Li (France): Trends of the Toponyms for East Sea / Sea of Japan, Past and Present
Henny G.L. Savenije (Netherlands): The Name of the East Sea in Historic Context
Bo-Kyung Yang (ROK): The Ulleungdo Island, the Dokdo Island and the East Sea on the Korean Old Maps
Ying Nan (China): The Name of East Sea in the Chinese Literatures and Recent Progress of the Sea Naming Research by Chinese Scholars
Cecile Michoudet (France): The Naming of the Korea-Tsushima Strait: Cartographic Origins and Current Customs
Alexander B. Murphy (U.S.A.): The Use of National Names for International Bodies of Water
Chan-Woo Lee (Japan): Current Situation and Prospect of Naming of East Sea / Sea of Japan in regards of Northeast Asian Cooperation Activities in Japan
Sungjae Choo (ROK): Reducing Exonyms Created by the Japanese Imperialism and Restoring the Name East Sea
Yean Hong Choi (ROK): East Sea / Sea of Japan: from Justice-as-Fairness Perspective
Lan-Sheng Zhang (China): Wish to be THE SEA of PEACE

The 12th International Seminar, 2006

Francis Harvey (U.S.A.): Culture and Technology Meeting in Geographical Names
Ibrahim Musa Zoqriti (Jordan): Historical Changes of Some Sea Names, Particularly of the Arabian Gulf
Sang-Tae Lee (ROK): A Study of East Sea (Chosunhae) on Old Maps Made by Japan
Cheng Long (China): East Sea in Chinese Historical Documents of Late Qing Dynasty
Jin-Yong Choi and Young-Rak Kwon (ROK): General Overview of Undersea Features and Its New Geographical Naming in East Sea
Ira B. Tsyo (Russia): Some Morphostructures of the Japan / East Sea Bottom and an Implication of their Nomenclature
Sungjae Choo (ROK): International Practices of Naming Undersea Features: their Implication for Naming Those in East Sea
Rainer Dormels (Austria): The Need of New Approaches in the Studies of Old Maps Regarding the Sea between Korea and Japan (Tonghae)
Naftali Kadmon (Israel): Can – and May – Two Toponyms for a Single Feature Live Side-by-Side?
Xin Jun Liu (China): Ancient Books of China Records and Narrate about East Sea / Japanese Sea
Henny G.L. Savenije (Netherlands): The Japanese Sea, a Sign of Japanese Aggression?
Marin Marinov (Bulgaria): Historical Development of Names of Antiquity Seas and Problems with their Adequate Names Today
Don-Soo Lee (ROK): A Proposal of ‘Sea of Korea’ in Examination of ‘Sea of Korea’ and Re-examination of ‘East’: An Analysis of Map History and Theoretical Background
Jun Sagong (Japan): The Naming of Chosun Sea / East Sea and the Policy of Seclusion

The 13th International Seminar, 2007

Nikolai Komedchikov (Russia): The Naming of Sea, East Sea and Japan Sea, Before and After
Russo-Japanese War in 1905

Maoli Han and Long Cheng (China): "East Sea" and "Korean East Sea": Records about the Sea Area to the East of Korean Peninsula on Chinese Literatures during the last 1000 Years

Norman Z. Cherkis (USA): Toponymy and Undersea Topographic Features

Yean Hong Choi (USA): Naming the Sea in Major US Newspapers: From Poetry to Politics, and to Ethics

Lukas Birsak (Austria): The Naming of Seas in Austrian School Atlases

Georg Gartner (Austria): Interactivity and Cartography

Gábor Gercsák and Matyas Marton (Hungary): The Naming of Seas, Maritime Features and Currents (Examples in English, German and Hungarian)

Béla Pokoly (Hungary): Naming of Seas in the Far East in Some Recent Maps and Atlases

Jin-Mieung Li (France): Process of the Acquisition of Sea Name in the Case of East Sea / Sea of Japan

Marin Marinov (Bulgaria): Korean Geographical Names in Bulgarian Geography: Case Study – the East Sea and Korea

Naftali Kadmou (Israel): Nihon Kai and Tong Hae – Sea of Japan and East Sea: Are They Exonyms or Allonyms, and Is There a Missing Term?

Saif Al-Qaydi (UAE): Highlights on the Seawater's Geographical Names of the Gulf Co-Operation Council

Peter Raper (South Africa): United Nations Resolutions Pertaining to the Names of Seas and Oceans

Jun Sagong (Japan): Consideration about Legitimacy of "the East Sea of Korea / East Sea" Naming

Shin Kim (ROK): Hydrographic Environment and SP-23 (Limits of Oceans and Seas)

Sang-Tae Lee (ROK): Even Japan Used the Name East Sea and Sea of Joseon, not Sea of Japan

Jung-Chul Soh (ROK): The Most Important Old Maps on Korea which Denotes its Relationship with China and Japan

Sungjae Choo (ROK): Recent Progress for Restoring the Name East Sea and Future Research Agenda

Zoqurti Ibrahim (Jordan): Dead Sea: Names and Its Relation with Geology and Religious Beliefs

Winfried Flüchter (Germany): The Territorial Dispute Over Dokdo / Takeshima / Liancourt Rocks: Risks and Opportunities