

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

New York, 21 - 30 August 2007

Item 5 of the provisional agenda\*

**Reports by divisions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical  
Names on the situation in their divisions and on the progress made in the  
standardization of geographical names since the Eighth Conference**

**Report of the East Asia Division**

Submitted by the East Asia Division\*\*

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\* E/CONF.98/1.

\*\* Prepared by Ki-Suk Lee (Republic of Korea), Chair of the Asia East Division (other than China).

## **Report of the Asia East Division (other than China)**

Since the Eighth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names the Asia East Division of the UNGEGN has held two meetings, engaging in discussions on how the Division can develop a structure for more solid cooperation.

On the sidelines of the 22nd Session of the UNGEGN in New York on April 29, 2004, the delegates of Japan and the Republic of Korea, as well as UNGEGN Chair, held a meeting in the main conference room to discuss and explore issues related to the future agenda of the Division. This provided a valuable opportunity for member countries to express their views on the future direction for their work.

On the occasion of the 23rd Session of the UNGEGN in Vienna on March 31, 2006, the Division held a meeting in the main conference room. Delegates of Japan and the Republic of Korea, as well as the UNGEGN Chair, engaged in discussions on how to increase cooperation on geographical names within the Asia East Division (other than China). The UNGEGN Chair suggested that the Division experts share databases of geographical names and discuss issues which are of common interest to all member countries. A Japanese delegate agreed on considering the possibility of talks on hydrographical and geographical issues, and expressed the view that there was a need to encourage the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to participate. He further suggested that such talks could be carried out in conjunction with Japan-ROK bilateral meetings between experts in the field. The Division Chair agreed to the suggestion by the Japanese delegate and referred to the meeting of hydrographic institutions of the two countries held the week before in Japan as one example of such bilateral talks. The UNGEGN Chair expressed her hope that the meetings would focus on geographical names. She also suggested that the Division invite the participation of some neighboring countries from other divisions, e.g. China and Mongolia. Delegates of both Japan and the Republic of Korea welcomed this suggestion.

### **Participants in the Meeting on April 29, 2004**

LEE, Ki-Suk (Division Chair, Republic of Korea)  
SEIICHI, Tanioka (Japan)  
UCHIDA, Hiroyuki (Japan)  
SON, Se Il (Republic of Korea)  
YANG, Bo-Kyung (Republic of Korea)  
KERFOOT, Helen (UNGEEN Chair)

### **Participants in the Meeting on March 31, 2006**

LEE, Ki-Suk (Division Chair, Republic of Korea)  
KOIDE, Masanori (Japan)  
MORIYASU, Katsumi (Japan)

YAMADA, Yoko (Japan)  
BAEK, Yong (Republic of Korea)  
CHO, Heung Muk (Republic of Korea)  
CHOO, Sungjae (Republic of Korea)  
JUNG, Eun-Kee (Republic of Korea)  
KERFOOT, Helen (UNGEEN Chair)