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Toponymic data files: automated data-processing systems

The development of a toponymic geo-database in the context of preparing the national gazetteer

Submitted by Indonesia**

Summary***

Indonesia, as an archipelagic State with many tribes, has been challenged with regard to geographical names standardization. In an effort to achieve orderly governance administration, the National Coordination Agency for Surveys and Mapping (BAKOSURTANAL) has cleared a path towards making a stand-alone toponymic geo-database a part of establishing the national gazetteer. In the interest of orderly governance administration, the relationship between the central Government and local governments should be increased; hence, a system of linkages between both should be developed in respect of standardizing geographical names. To ensure that those relationships develop successfully a web-based toponymic geo-database is needed. A model of a web-based gazetteer was produced in 2001 at the Office of Research on Geomatics, BAKOSURTANAL.

Data on geographical names have been obtained from topographic map series of Indonesia at various scales ranging from 1:25,000 to 1:50,000. Those data are compiled in the form of a toponymic database and are spatially linked. Previously, geographical names were collected at the completion of the mapping survey. Hence, the toponymic geo-database has not yet achieved accuracy as a national toponymic database.

In the near future, it is expected that the toponymic geo-database will be separated from the existing topographic database and it can be so linked that geographical names will be shown seamlessly on the base map.

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*** The full text of the paper is being issued in English only as document E/CONF.98/74/Add.1.

