

Closing Remarks
Peter N. Tiangco, Administrador NAMRIA
First regional training program in toponymy including marine toponymy
24 March 2018
Dusit Thani hotel, Makati City

On behalf of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names - Asia South East (UNGEGN-ASE) division and the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA), it is with both joy and sadness that I am formally closing the 1st regional training programme on toponymy, including marine toponymy.

My heart is full as we come to the end of our six-day international event. Indeed, we have been richly taught as we listened to our trainers (who, I must say, are experts in their chosen disciplines) impart and share their knowledge so we may understand the process of the standardization of geographic names. Allow me, then, to express my personal gratitude to our colleagues in UNGEGN, namely, **Ms. Cecille Blake** of the United Nations, Statistics Division, **Mr. Ferjan Ormeling** of the Netherlands, **Ms. Helen Kerfoot** of Canada, **Ms. Hyo Hyun Sung** of the Republic of Korea, **Mr. Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu** of Germany (who could not be with us today since he flew back home yesterday) and **Ms. Multamia Lauder** of Indonesia. Special mention is also in order for our presenters from the Philippines, Cambodia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Lao Peoples Democratic Republic.

In light of the specific objectives of this training, I can say that certainly it had been very successful. We had informative presentations which led to good discussions, thereby, stimulating a lot of thought processes. To all our participants from Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia and of course from the Philippines, thank you all for taking active representation and participation in all our activities.

Lastly, there is a hardworking team behind who made this event possible. The NAMRIA secretariat clearly deserves one round of applause.

As we part ways in a couple of hours, I wish you all a safe trip back home. Maraming salamat po!

NAMRIA Administrator, Peter N. Tiangco