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

Berlin, 27 August-5 September 2002

Item 4 of the provisional agenda\*

**Reports by Governments on the situation in their countries  
and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical  
names since the Seventh Conference**

**Report of Estonia**

**Submitted by Estonia\*\***

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\* E/CONF.94/1.

\*\* Prepared by the Place Names Board of Estonia.

## Summary

The report outlines the main activities regarding the official standardization of geographical names in Estonia in the period from 1998 to 2002. The Place Names Board of Estonia, acting under the supervision of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, has the responsibility for coordinating the standardization of geographical names. About 1,100 names of populated places have been added to the official list in the years 1998-2002. Several minority place names became official during the reform. A new draft Place Names Act has been proposed and presented for review by other ministries.

Four large series of maps are produced in Estonia using public funding: (i) the Basic Map of Estonia (1:10,000; printed version, 1:20,000); (ii) the Base Map of Estonia (satellite photo map, 1:50,000); (iii) the Defence Map of Estonia (1:50,000); (iv) nautical charts. All production is carried out digitally. In 1999 an administrative map was produced indicating all officially approved names of populated places.

The National Place Names Register has been launched. It is intended to be a public source of official names, provided free of charge to all users. There are also several other databases that have information on geographical names, some of them available online.

A dictionary of foreign geographical names was published in 1999. A national standard listing country names was adopted in 2000.

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