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Eighth United Nations Conference on the  
Standardization of Geographical Names  
Berlin, 27 August-5 September 2002  
Item 6 (d) of the provisional agenda\*

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES: INTERNATIONAL NAMES MEETINGS,  
CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

International Seminars on the Naming of Seas: 1998-2002

(Submitted by Republic of Korea)\*\*

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## International Seminars on the Naming of Seas: 1998–2002

In the last four years, the Society for East Sea, a Seoul-based group, has held annually international seminars to promote academic discussions about various issues related to geographical names. Particular attention was paid to the naming of the sea off the east coast of the Korea, historically referred to by various names including "East Sea", "Oriental Sea", "Sea of Korea", and "Sea of Japan". The Society invited world-renowned scholars and experts in this field from Canada, China, France, Hungary, Iran, Japan, Mongolia, DPRK, Norway, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, and USA.

During the last four years, over 50 papers have presented in the meetings and many valuable information documented. The sixth meeting was held in 2000 in coordination with the 29th International Geographical Congress in Seoul under Special Session 11 Geography and Place Names: Political Geography of Sea Names.

In July this year the eighth meeting was hosted by co-sponsorship of Pacific Geographical Institute, Far Eastern Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences, and The Society of East Sea, Korea, to be held in Vladivostok, Russia, under the title of The Eighth International Seminar on the Naming of Seas: Special Emphasis Concerning the North Pacific Ocean.

In the Vladivostok meeting, one of meaningful events was the adoption of a resolution at the end of the seminar based on paper presentations and discussions by participants and co-sponsors (see Appendix 2). We believe the Vladivostok resolution on the particular sea name will provide another guideline for experts and map makers as well as further understanding of the concerned issue.

(Appendix 1)

**A List of Research Papers Presented in International Seminar on the Naming of Seas: 1998-2002**

**The Fourth International Seminar on the Naming of Seas  
Special Emphasis Concerning the East Sea  
Seoul  
(1998.10.27 -28)**

1. Bela Pokoly (Professor, Dept. of Lands and Mapping, Hungary)  
‘Naming High Seas by Cardinals Point - the Case of the North Sea,
2. Eric Casino (Professor, University of Hawaii, USA), Myongsup Shin (Professor, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Korea)  
‘Single or Dual Name for the East Sea: Historical, Political and Legal Considerations」
3. Sond-di Wu (Professor, Institute of Historical Geography, Fudan University, China)  
‘An Preliminary Study for the Names of the Sea of Korea and the Sea of Japan in Old World Maps Keeping in Japan and Britain」
4. Younghan Park (Professor, Seoul National University, Korea)  
‘Sea of Far East in a Global Era : The Cooperation and Harmonized Space」
5. H. Malmirian (Director, National Geographical Organization, Iran)  
‘The History of Persian Gulf」
6. Wang Jitong (Director, China Institute for Toponymy, China) /NA  
‘China Institute of Toponymy and the Naming System」
7. Aleksey Nikolaevich Makhinov (Deputy Director, Institute Water and Ecological Problems FEB RAS, Russia)  
‘Modern Japanese Sea on the Old Maps of the Russian East and the Problem with its Naming」
8. Shin Kim (Professor, Kyung Hee University, Korea)  
‘A Study on the Historical Geography of East Sea」

**The Fifth International Seminar on the Naming of Seas :  
Special Emphasis Concerning the East Sea  
Seoul  
(1999.10.26 ~ 27)**

1. Peter E. Raper (Chair, The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names)  
‘Names of Oceans and Seas: the United Nations Perspective.’
2. Maoli Han (Professor, Peking University, China)  
‘A View on the Name of Korean Eastern Sea based on Chinese Historical Literatures.’
3. Tadao Furumaya (Professor, Niigata University, Japan)  
‘Sea of Japan - Her Three Pasts and the Problem of Naming.’
4. Sang-Tae Lee (Division Director, Institute of National History Compilations Committee, Korea)  
‘A Study on the Name of Tonghae(East Sea): Pushed aside by Japan Sea.’
5. Alexei Postnikov (Professor, Institute of the History of Science and Technology, Russia)  
‘The Charting of the Eastern(Japan) Sea and Korean Coast by the Russian Sailors in the Nineteenth Century.’
6. Dong-hu Sun (Researcher, National Name Institute, China) /NA  
‘The Background and Significance of Renaming the Sea of Japan by Chinese Academia in 1940s.’
7. Byung-Sun Lee (Emeritus Professor, Pusan National University, Korea)  
‘Historical Background of Renaming the Sea of Chosŏn to Sea of Japan and Some Problems related to the Names “Sea of Japan” and “Yamato-tai” in High Seas.’
8. Keiji Kushiya (Professor, Niigata University, Japan)  
‘Map History of ‘Sea of Japan’ and Perspective on Alternatives.’
9. Alexei Murphy (Rippey Chair in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Professor of Geography, University of Oregon, USA)  
‘The Use of National Names for International Bodies of Water: Critical Perspectives.’
10. Evagenii Pospelov (Russia Institute of Geography, Russia)  
‘Toponymy of a Coastal Band of Northern Part East(Japanese) Sea.’
11. Luce Moller (Human Sciences Research Council & National Research Institute, South Africa)  
‘Progress on Naming Issues in Southern Africa: Who Looks out to Sea?,’
12. Channshik Choi (Former Professor, Chung-Gu College, Korea)  
‘A Proposal for International Standardization of the “East Sea” (so called in Korea).’

‘Geography and Place Names : Political Geography of Sea Names」  
and  
The Sixth International Seminar on the Naming of Seas :  
Special Emphasis Concerning the East Sea  
Seoul  
(2000.8.16)

T28 Geography and Place Names

T28-a Standardization of Geographical Names

August 15 (TUE) 13:30-14:40 / Room 320-C

Chair: Botolv Helleland(University of Oslo, Norway)

Helen Kerfoot(Natural Resources Canada, Canada): Standardization of Toponyms and the Work of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) - from a Canadian Perspective

Nélida da Costa Pereira, Elda Tancredi, Cludio Tuis(Luhan National University, Argentina): Naming and Renaming Places - History, Identity and Official Denomination. A Particular Case in Argentine Republic

T28-b History, Culture and Place Names - I

August 15 (TUE) 14:50-16:00 / Room 320-C

Chair: Ferjan Ormeling(Utrecht University, The Netherlands)

Adrien Berube(Université de Moncton, Canada): Une Carte du Ciel Peut Représenter la Terre

L.F. Mathenjwa(University of Zululand, South Africa): Eradicating Indigenous Peoples History and Heritage through Naming, a South African Experience

Lucia Ionescu, Iulian Nichersu(Danube Delta National Institute for Research& Development, Romania): Relations between the Topic Names and Ethnic Structure of Population on the Territory of Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve

T28-c History, Culture and Place Names - II

August 15 (TUE) 16:10-17:20 / Room 320-C

Chair: Ferjan Ormeling(Utrecht University, The Netherlands)

Sarat Kumar Phukan(Superintendent of Police, India): Khasi Elements in the Places Names of Maghaiaya

S. Dara Shamsuddin(Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh): Place Names of Bangladesh

SPECIAL SESSIONII GEOGRAPHY AND PLACE NAMES

Hosted by Korean Cartographic Association and the Society for East Sea

Date: August 16 (WED) 13:00-18:00

Venue: Carnation Room (BF-1) at Intercontinental Hotel,

**SS-II-a Political Geography of Sea Names - 1**

Chair: Hellen Kerfoot(Natural Resources Canada, Canada)

Botolv Helleland (Professor, University of Oslo, Norway)

‘Place-Names (Geographical Names) on and off the Coast of Western Norway: Names of Oil Fields Compared to Traditional Place-Name」

Ferjan Ormeling (Professor, Utrecht University, The Netherlands)

‘Sea Names Categories and Their Implications」

David Lanegran (Professor, Macalester College, USA)

‘The Cartographic Image of the East Sea as found in the Literature of European Commercial Expansion 1450-1800」

**SS-II-b Political Geography of Sea Names - II**

Chair: John Adams(University of Minnesota, USA)

P. Ya Baklanov, S. S. Ganzei (Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia)

‘The Name of Sea of Japan/East Sea on the Geographical Maps in Past, Present, and Future」

Jin-Mieung Li (Univeristé de Lyon 3, France)

‘<East Sea/Sea of Japan> for the Name of the Sea Surrounded by Korea, Japan and Russia」

Ki-Suk Lee (Professor, Seoul National University, Korea)

‘The Historical Precedent for the Geographical Name of East Sea(Sea of Japan)」

**SS-II-c Geographical Names and UNGEGN**

Chair: Ki-Suk Lee(Seoul National University, Korea)

Participants: Hellen Kerfoot(Canada), Botolv Helleland(Norway), Ferjan Ormeling(The Netherlands), F. L. Mathenjwa(South Africa), Bengt Rystedt(Sweden)

**The Seventh International Seminar on the Naming of Seas :  
Special Emphasis Concerning the East Sea  
Seoul  
(2001.11.1)**

1. Jong-Chul Soh (Professor, HanKuk University of Foreign Studies, Korea)

‘Inscription of East Sea-Korean Sea in the British Library Collections of Old Maps」

2. Yoshii Kenichi (Professor, Niigata University, Japan)

- 「The Historical Problems concerning the Process of Sea Name Popularization」
3. Gu Renhe (Professor, Nanjing Institute of Geography, ACADEMIA SINICA, China)  
 ‘Eastern Sea Area of Korea Peninsula should resume the Original Name: Donghai, Orient Sea」
4. D. Dorjgotov (Director, Institute of Geography, Mongolian Academy of Sciences, Mongolia)  
 「About the Sea Name between Korea and Japan」
5. N. G. Razigaeva (Researcher, Pacific Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia)  
 「Names of East Sea/Sea of Japan according to Russian Investigators of XVIII-XIX Centuries」
6. Shin Kim (Professor, Kyung Hee University, Korea)  
 「International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and East Sea」

**The Eighth International Seminar on the Naming of Seas  
 : Special Emphasis Concerning the North Pacific Ocean  
 Vladivostok, Russia  
 (2002. 7.24~26)**

1. P. Ya. Baklanov (Director, Pacific Geographical Institute, Far Eastern Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia)  
 「Development of Integration Processes in Northeastern Asia」
2. Adams Kerr (President, Private Consultant / Former Director of IHO, United Kingdom)  
 ‘Problems and Progress in Defining the Limits of Oceans and Seas」
3. B.V. Preobrazhensky (Professor, Pacific Geographical Institute, Far Eastern Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia)  
 ‘Nomenclature of Underwater Landscapes」
4. P.F. Brovko, A.N. Vasina, A.E. Lozinskiy (Far East State University, Vladivostok, Russia)  
 ‘Geographical Names of Bays and Inlets of Far East Seas」
5. Philippe PELLETIER (Professor of Geography, University of Lyon, France)  
 「The Role of French Geography in the Naming of the Sea between Korea, Japan and Siberia from 17th to early 19th Century」
6. Jong Gak Lim (Hydrographic Department, D.P.R. of Korea)  
 ‘The Formative History of the Names of the Seas Belonging to the Pacific Ocean」
7. Sang-tae Yee (Officer Director, Research and Compilation Division, National Institute of Korea History, the Republic of Korea)

「A Study on the Understanding the East Sea(Donghae) in the Chosun Dynasty (14th C ~ 20th C)」

8. Evgeny Suvorov (Russian Geographic Society, Russia)

「History and Evolution of the Names of the Bays of the Sea of Japan(Northwest Sea Coast: Olga, Rynda, Udobnaya, Serebryanka, Russkaya, Zholtaya)」

9. N.N Komedchikov (The Head of Laboratory of Cartography, Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia)

「Japan Sea on the Old Maps of Russia)」

10. Weimin Que (Professor, Department of History, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China)

「The Naming of the Sea between Korea and Japan in the 19th Century Maps by English)」

11. Bo Kyung Yang (Profesor, Department of Geography, Sungshin Women's University, the Republic of Korea)

「The Names of the East Sea of the Korean Old Maps, 17th–19th Centuries)」

12. Kun Sop Choe (Captain, Hydrographic Department, D.P.R. of Korea)

「Consideration of the Eastern Sea Name of the Korean Peninsula)」

13. Jun Sagong (Professor, Korea University, Tokyo, Japan)

「A Study on Naming 'The East Sea of Korea',

14. Tae Jin Yang (Director, Misu Research Center, the Republic of Korea)

「A Study on the Meaning of 'East Sea', especially based on the National Emotion)」

15. G.B. DUDCHENKO (Institute of History, Archaeology and Ethnography of Peoples of the Far East, Vladivostok, Russia)

「The Geographical Names of the North–East Asian the Language Esperanto)」

17. V.A. Rakov (Far East State University, Russia)

「Borders of Peter the Great Bay of the Japanese Sea: Problems and Decisions)」

18. Jing Tian (Professor, Department of Geography, Yanbian University, China)

「Recent Research Progress on a Study of the Sea Name on East Sea and Japan Sea in China)」

19. Su Gil Ju (Director of the Institute of Geography, Academy of Sciences, D.P.R of Korea), Kwon Muk Rim (Researcher, The Institute of Geography, Academy of Sciences, D.P.R of Korea)

「Geographical Consideration of Names of East Sea of Korea and its Neighbour Water)」

20. Ki-Suk Lee (Professor, Department of Geography Education, Seoul National University, the Republic of Korea)

「New Trends in Identification of the East Sea(Japan Sea)」



(Appendix 2)

*The International Seminar on the Naming of the Seas:*

*Noting: The desirability of having a single name for the sea AREA BETWEEN Japan and the Korean Peninsula and Russia, in the interests of international harmony and economic cooperation of the North East Asian Region.*

*Further noting: The long historical usage of various names for the relevant area.*

*Further noting: It is apparent that coastal states can not reach Agreement on a single name based on historical usage, geographic orientation, or national emotion, and a single country name.*

*Proposes: That the matter should be referred to the IHO and the U.N. Group of Experts on Geographical Names and reference be made to the U.N. Resolution advocating, in the lack of Agreement of the use of single name, both names to be used simultaneously, which is in accordance with the general rule of international cartography.*

*Vladivostok, Russia  
July 25, 2002*