



UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Geographical Names Supporting Sustainable Development and
Management of the Pandemic

2021 Session UNGEGN | 3 - 7 May 2021 | @UNSD_GEGN #2021UNGEGN



Inaugural Meeting of UNGEGN Bureau and Division Chairs

Microsoft Teams Meeting
Friday 19 November 2021
from 7:00 -9:00 am NYC time



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WELCOME UNGEGN Divisions – Introductions

Africa Central	Baltic	India
Africa East	Celtic	Latin America
Africa South	China	Norden
Africa West	Dutch- and German-speaking	Pacific South-West
Arabic	East Central and South-East Europe	Portuguese-speaking
Asia East (other than China)	Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia	Romano-Hellenic
Asia South-East	East Mediterranean (other than Arabic)	United Kingdom
Asia South-West (other than Arabic)	French-speaking	United States / Canada



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UNGEEN Bureau

Officers of UNGEEN

Chairperson

- Mr. Pierre Jaillard, France

Vice-Chairpersons

- Mr. Sungjae Choo, Republic of Korea
- Ms. Susan Birtles, Australia

Rapporteurs

- Mr. Trent C. Palmer, USA
- Ms. Wendy Shaw, New Zealand



UNGEEN Chairperson



Vice-Chairpersons



Rapporteurs



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Opening Remarks



Stefan Schweinfest Director of the Statistics Division (UNSD/DESA) .

Stefan Schweinfest started his career joining the Statistics Division in 1989 in the area of national accounting. He subsequently worked in various other areas, such as statistical capacity building programmes, and indicator frameworks. For many years, he was also responsible for external relationships of the Division, both with member countries as well as with international partner organizations. He has been the substantive secretary of three intergovernmental bodies, the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) since 2002, the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UNGGIM) since 2011 and the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN).



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AGENDA

1. Welcome and opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Chair UNGEGN– Pierre Jaillardii. Director of UNSD-Stefan Schweinfest	10 mins
2. The Importance of Divisions in the UNGEGN framework– Pierre Jaillard	10 mins
3. Examples of operations and activities of Divisions <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Asia South East, Mohamad Arief Syafii, Indonesiaii. Norden, Ingvil Nordland, Norwayiii. Romano-Hellenic, Andrea Cantile, Italy	30 mins
4. Open discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Introductory statement -Pierre Jaillardii. Guidance required to assist Divisions	50 mins
5. Next steps and closing remarks	20 mins



Examples of operations and activities of Divisions

- i. Asia South East, Mohamad Arief Syafii, Indonesia
- ii. **Norden**, Ingvil Nordland, Norway
- iii. **Romano-Hellenic**, Andrea Cantile, Italy



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Divisional Guidance

The UNGEGN Rules of Procedure July 2018, section XIV, Rule 47

1. The Group shall be supported in its activities by linguistic and geographical divisions listed in the annex to these rules.
2. The number of linguistic and geographical divisions and their compositions may be revised as necessary by the Group.
3. A State shall decide for itself the division to which it wishes to belong. A State may be a member of another division provided that the nature of its participation does not change the linguistic and geographical character of the division or divisions concerned.
4. Each division shall elect, by methods of its own choosing, a Division Chair to represent the division at the meetings of the Group.
5. Each division may elect a Vice-Chair and such other officers as may be required.
6. The Division Chair and Vice-Chair shall stimulate activities in the standardization of geographical names within their division by all appropriate means, such as correspondence with national bodies on the standardization of geographical names and national geospatial agencies, and organization of meetings of the division members.
7. The Division Chair shall be responsible for ensuring that the work of the Group and its potential for technical assistance are brought to the attention of the individual States that are members of the division concerned and for reporting to the Group any special problems in the division.
8. To discuss technical and procedural matters, a division may organize meetings to be held in parallel with sessions of the Group and meetings of any body of its organizational structure, or at any other appropriate time.



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Divisional Challenges

Challenges/Issues	Recommendations
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification of members and maintenance of their contacts, 2. Exchange of good practices on geographical names standardization 3. increase the participation of divisional members, 4. Regulations to govern divisional operations 5. Research and partnership with Universities 6. Management and maintenance of Divisional websites 7. Transition and handover of leadership challenges 8. Strategies to reactive divisions 9. Uniform implementation framework 10. Research and partnership with Universities 11. review UNGEGN publications 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact national mapping agencies in countries 1. Seek assistance of the UNGEGN Secretariat 11. Dutch & German Div – will help with revision of UNGEGN publications 5 and 10 – increase cooperation with universities – 6- support from the Secretariat – WG Data management – use of WIKI – provide help to Divisions is creating wiki pages. important to have identified those responsible for the maintenance of the web, so that they share the information and publish it on the sites of the divisions. Content should remain on the UNGEGN website rather than separate websites. This would ensure a standardised look and feel and help each Division to address our main topics of interest.



NEXT STEPS

NEXT MEETINGS – first quarter 2022 and fourth quarter 2022

Topic for next meeting – to be decided – organizational, technical , strategic plan

Duration 2 hours



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