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Reports: Governments on the situation in their countries and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names

Report of Sweden

Summary**

The national report of Sweden is divided into six sections. The first, on national standardization, provides a short overview of current legislation and of the main authorities involved in the standardization of geographical names. The second, on names in multilingual areas, contains information on minority language names and the responsible authorities. The third focuses on two ongoing committee reports concerning the Sami-speaking minority in the north of Sweden. The fourth includes information on an English online version of a booklet (published in Swedish in 2001 and revised in 2016) on good place-name practice. The fifth provides an updated presentation of two Swedish working groups – the Place-Name Advisory Board and the Geographical Names Network – that provide information and advice to different stakeholders. The sixth section contains a description of two research projects involving field collection of place names on the island of Öland and in the city of Uppsala, a rural and an urban landscape, respectively.

The following resolutions adopted at the United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names are particularly relevant to the present work on name standardization in Sweden:

• 1972: resolution II/36 (E/CONF.61/4) on problems of minority languages
• 2002: resolution VIII/9 (E/CONF.94/3) on geographical names as cultural heritage
• 2007: resolution IX/4 (E/CONF.98/136) on geographical names as intangible cultural heritage
• 2012: resolution X/4 (E/CONF.101/144) on discouraging the commercialization of geographical names.

* GEGN.2/2019/1.
** The full report was prepared by Leila Mattfolk, Staffan Nyström, Annette Torensjö and Ebba Berling Åselius. The report will be available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/1st_session_UNGEGN.html, in the language of submission only, as document GEGN.2/2019/39/CRP.39.