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Report of Indonesia

Submitted by Indonesia**

Summary

The full report of Indonesia, prepared by the Geospatial Information Agency (Badan Informasi Geospasial), contains a summary of all activities carried out by Indonesia from 2019 to the beginning of 2021.

As the national geospatial agency and the secretariat of the Asia South-East Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, the Agency has been actively involved in national standardization activities and has been working on the Division's workplan for the period 2019–2022.

The year 2020 was full of unprecedented challenges and upheaval. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic affected countries worldwide in many ways. The standardization activities of Indonesia were no exception.

To overcome that impact and ensure that all activities remain on schedule and are conducted accordingly, Indonesia has made some adjustments by conducting national activities following a hybrid model, combining online meetings with in-person meetings while observing health protocols and regulations. Indonesia has also arranged for the meeting of the Asia South-East Division to be held virtually.

In December 2020, the Agency successfully coordinated relevant ministries and local governments in national activities to standardize geographical names by publishing a comprehensive national gazetteer. The gazetteer contains the standardized geographical names of administrative regions, man-made features, islands and marine geographical features (sea surface and undersea features). To strengthen the coordination and accelerate the national standardization of geographical names, in January 2021, the President of Indonesia signed a government regulation mandating the workflow for coordinating and implementing the standardization process.

* GEGN.2/2021/1

** Prepared by Geospatial Information Agency

A. Regulation on Standardization of Geographical Names

On 7 January 2021, the Government of Indonesia enacted the Government Regulation Number 2 of 2021 on Standardization of Geographical Names (hereinafter referred as GR 2/2021). The enactment of the GR 2/2021 is fundamental as it regulates the standardization of geographical names comprehensively. The objectives of standardization of geographical names in Indonesia pursuant to GR 2/2021 are the following:

- a. To protect the sovereignty and security of the territory of the Republic of Indonesia;
- b. To preserve the cultural, historical, and local tradition values; and
- c. To achieve good administration of governance.

The GR 2/2021 contains several important details, including affirming the BIG as the coordinator of geographical name activities with related ministries, agencies, and local governments. This regulation also confirms that the SINAR (*Sistem Informasi Nama Rupabumi*), formerly SAKTI (*Sistem Akuisisi data Toponim Indonesia*) developed by BIG, is the primary system for geographical name management activities.

Technically, the GR 2/2021 establishes a new workflow that no longer adopts workflow outlined in previous regulations. According to the GR 2/2021, the procedure for assigning and changing geographical names consists of data collection, toponym data review, public announcement, standardization, assigning, and publishing the national gazetteer. Following the modernization of toponym data collection methods, the GR 2/2021 also incorporates participatory mapping and crowdsourcing aside from the regular toponymy field surveys. Through the promulgation of the GR 2/2021, Indonesia's standardization of geographical names is expected to evolve and significantly become more effective.

BIG is currently drafting technical guidelines as the implementation of the GR 2/2021. BIG has also started to disseminate the GR 2/2021 through several means, including through press releases on BIG's website, social media, a talk show on local radio networks, and meetings with related ministries.

B. Activities on National Standardization of Geographical Names

1. Coordination on Standardization of Geographical Names

The following coordination activities were organized between 2019 until 2021:

- a. BIG conducted several meetings regularly with two major themes: (i) maritime and undersea feature names; and (ii) other features and administrative boundaries. The theme related to maritime and undersea feature names were discussed with the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime and Investment Affairs, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesian Navy's Hydrographic and Oceanographic Center, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Home Affairs. For the theme related to the other features and administrative boundaries, BIG coordinated with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Education and Culture, and other related ministries. BIG also coordinated with local governments on technical issues related to standardization of geographical names;
- b. BIG has initiated discussions on toponymic data sharing with various ministries, agencies, and communities or non-governmental organizations. The discussions aimed to set up a data-sharing mechanism between the stakeholders to enrich data collection of geographical names and disseminate the recent government regulation. BIG plans to continue and follow up on these discussions in the future.

2. Toponymy for Maritime Features

In 2019-2020, both BIG and the Indonesian Navy's Hydrographic and Oceanographic Center conducted maritime surveys. The survey carried out by BIG aimed to validate locations and island names in four provinces: Aceh, Kepulauan Riau, Nusa Tenggara Timur, and Nusa Tenggara Barat. Meanwhile, the survey carried out by the Indonesian Navy's Hydrographic and Oceanographic Center aimed to update shipping lanes, including geographical names, such as island names, bay, strait, and other sea feature names.

Further verification of geographical names is needed to resolve the differences between existing databases and the survey results. In 2021, BIG continues to survey island names in Bali, Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta, Jawa Timur, Nusa Tenggara Timur, Papua Barat, and Sulawesi Tengah Provinces.

3. Verification and Validation of Standardized Geographical Names to Support National Gazetteer

In collaboration with several ministries, BIG performs geographical names verification using SAKTI application. The activities are divided into three stages: regency/municipality, provincial, and national level. The verification data originated from several resources namely: official government data (e.g., topographical or thematic maps), participatory mapping and crowdsourcing activities (e.g., OpenStreetMap and navigasi.net).

The verification involved the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs and the Office of Language Center from respective provinces. This collaboration aims to preserve the original pronunciation from the corresponding native using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) writing system. Detailed information about the verification of standardized geographical names in Indonesia may refer to the GEGN.2/2021/32/CRP.32 document.

Verification of the maritime features conducted by BIG in collaboration with the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Coordinating Ministry for Maritime, Indonesian Institute of Sciences, Marine Geology Research and Development Center, Indonesian Navy's Hydrographic and Oceanographic Center, and Agency for Assessment and Application of Technology. In 2020, eight undersea feature names and 110 sea surface feature names had been officially recorded and verified.

Verification of the administration area names conducted through review the writing of the geographical names in accordance with the latest Ministry of Home Affairs Regulation, completing the Attribute Information (last adopted name, formation regulations, and name changing). In 2019, The Ministry of Home Affairs published the List of Unique Code for Government Administration Areas (stipulated by Minister of Home Affairs Regulation Number 72 of 2019). The recent update, as of March 2021, provides information on the addition of 27 districts, 10 *Kelurahan*¹, 7 villages, as well as the reduction of 3 villages due to the merger process. As a result, the number of registered administrative area names in Indonesia, as follows: 34 Provinces, 416 Regencies, 98 Cities, 7,257 Districts, 8,498 *Kelurahan*, and 74,960 Villages. The Ministry of Home Affairs assisted local governments in renaming the Toba Samosir Regency to Toba Regency in West Sumatra Province stipulated by Government Regulation Number 14 of 2020.

4. Toponymic Surveys to Support National and Local Government Programmes

BIG performed numbers of geographical name data collections in 2020 to support government programs, which primarily conducted using SAKTI as the data collection tool. For instance, survey for the new capital city in Kalimantan Timur and survey for creating the spatial planning in Derawan - Kalimantan Timur, Likupang - Sulawesi Utara, Anyer - Banten, and Cirebon - Jawa Barat.

¹ Kelurahan is the fourth level of government within a province. Kelurahan is equivalent to "Village".

Along with SAKTI, BIG also tries a new approach using the 360° camera to collect data. Further information about the development of the 360° camera for data collection may refer to the GEGN.2/2021/34/CRP.34 document.

The combination method of SAKTI and 360° camera is also used to collect named and unnamed roads (including alleys) initiated by the Natuna Regency Government. The survey activities were conducted in six *kecamatan* (districts). Detailed information about the field survey in Natuna Regency may refer to the GEGN.2/2021/33/CRP.33 document.

5. Training and Empowerment of Human Resources in Standardization of Geographical Names

BIG has provided technical assistance to local governments and related ministries. It focuses on the collection and verification of geographical names in the framework of standardization of geographical names. From 2019 until 2020, BIG provided a total of 36 technical assistance.

6. Webinar on Toponymy

Considering the limitations and risks imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, BIG convened the technical meeting in the form of an online seminar (webinar). In 2020, BIG held three online seminars on geographical names for related stakeholders. These activities were part of the Geospatial Webinar Series (GWS) with participants from the governments (regency/municipality, provincial, and national level), academics, and the public. Three themes of GWS on toponymy, as follows:

- The Role of Technology and the Community in Collecting Toponyms;
- Toponym as part of Basic Geospatial Information and Access to Other Information; and
- The Urgency of the Implementation of Standardization of Geographical Names: Research, Institutional, and Policy.

Other countries may refer to the GEGN.2/2021/31/CRP.31 document for further information about this activity.

7. Publication on Toponymy

BIG published bulletins on toponymy to convey various topics in Indonesian toponymy's diversities and uniqueness. In total, BIG published three editions of the bulletin (in Bahasa Indonesia):

1. *Telusur Penamaan Pegunungan Schwaner dan Pegunungan Muller* (A study on the Geographical Naming of Mountains: the Schwaner Mountains and the Muller (Müller) Mountains);
2. *Ada Apa dengan MacArthur dan Werur?* (Lessons Learned from the Geographical Renaming of Douglas MacArthur Airport to Werur Airport);
3. *Jejak Toponim di Aceh: Sejak Marco Polo Hingga Telaah Termutakhir* (Revealing Historical Footprints of Toponyms in Aceh: Marco Polo to the Standardization of Geographical Names).

To access full-text articles, kindly visit this website: <https://www.big.go.id/content/produk/buletin-toponim>.

C. Publication of National Gazetteer

In December 2020, the Indonesian Government revised the 2012 edition of "National Gazetteer," which contains 19,348 geographical names, consists of natural features (including 16,771 island names), man-made features, and administrative regions. The information had been made publicly available and can be accessed through SINAR website at <http://sinar.big.go.id>. The gazetteer is also published in a

printed version of the National Gazetteer containing five primary information: standardized name, type of feature, variant name, coordinate, and administrative region.

BIG hosted a national gathering to disseminate the National Gazetteer. This event attended by the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime and Investment Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of Education and Culture, Indonesian Navy's Hydrographic and Oceanographic Center, Indonesian Army's Topographic Directorate, Indonesian Institute of Sciences, and Agency for Assessment and Application of Technology. According to Government Regulations Number 2 of 2021, the National Gazetteer will be updated annually or anytime as necessary.

D. Involvements in UNGEGN Asia South-East Division

1. Chairmanship

Indonesia has been selected as the Chair of the UNGEGN ASE Division during the 6th Divisional Meeting held in Manila, Philippines on 26 March 2018. The Chairmanship shall be for a period of four years, from April 2018 to April 2022.

2. UNGEGN ASE Division Secretariat

Indonesia has formed an ASE Division secretariat to communicate with member countries of the division and implement the ASE Division work plan. The scope of the work plan as follows:

- a. Regional Database and Gazetteer Standards
- b. UNGEGN ASE Divisional Meeting
- c. Regional Map of ASE Division
- d. Generic Terms

Details of the work plan are provided in the Report of the Asia South East Division document (see GEGN.2/2021/36/CRP.36).

Following the COVID-19 outbreak's development, ASE Division Secretariat decided to change the physical meeting to the virtual meeting. Indonesia hosted the 8th divisional meeting UNGEGN ASE Division virtually on 27 October 2020. Indonesia continues to follow up on the input submitted by attending member countries at the 8th divisional meeting UNGEGN ASE Division.

E. Conclusions

Indonesia consistently implements and improves the activity related to geographical names. In relation to the National Medium-Term Development Plan to complete large-scale topographic maps in 2024, BIG currently is exploring the technology and arranging the strategy to accelerate the acquisition of spatial data, including geographical names. A breakthrough approach using 360° camera for toponymic data acquisition field survey, optimizing public participation in the context of participatory mapping and crowdsourcing, is also being explored.

BIG's commitment to conduct the standardization of geographical names despite the COVID-19 pandemic was also reflected by its effort to adjust the activities into virtual format (e.g., toponymy seminar, coordination with some ministries/agencies, technical assistance, etc.).

The group of experts is invited to:

- a. express its view on the report;
- b. comments and provide input on similar works in accelerating the acquisition of geographical names.