



STATEMENT/INTERVENTION

Agenda Item Number: 15	
Agenda Item Title: <i>Writing systems and pronunciation</i>	
Title of paper/report: Brief Introduction to Guidelines on Geographical Names Transformation from Japanese to Chinese	
Statement/intervention provided by: Hiroshi TANABE (Chair of East Asia (other than China) Division)	
Statement/intervention: <p>I appreciate this report that suggests the important point of writing system using Chinese characters, because most place names in East Asia can be written in Chinese script and understandable by each other, though some countries have simplified the originals and introduced their own writing system such as <i>hiragana</i> or <i>katakana</i> in Japan and <i>hangeul</i> in both Korean countries. Therefore, It is useful to promote the discussion on the possibility for an international use of Chinese characters through standardizing the writing system of Chinese characters for place names in this region. When it is difficult to find a common writing system of Chinese characters among us, I would suggest that each country provide similar guidelines as China did, on geographical names transformation from characters of the counterpart to their own ones.</p> <p>I would like to have comments from the members of East Asian Division (North and South Korea as well as Japan), China Division and if possible Vietnam and other South East Asian countries about this idea.</p>	
Submitted on:	5/1/2021