National Dialogue

Agenda item 4a

Governments on the situation in their countries and on the progress made in standardization of geographical names
United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNEGEHN)
Day 2
Theme: Cultural aspects of geographical names standardization

Topics:

a. Impact of cultural heritage on geographical names standardization

b. Recognition and significance of minority and Indigenous geographical names and language in standardization programmes

c. Treatment of names in multilingual areas

d. Addressing and urban feature naming
2a. Impact of cultural heritage on geographical names standardization

*National reports that consider this topic:*

Australia
Austria
Cabo Verde
Islamic Republic of Iran
Lithuania
Mozambique
Kingdom of the Netherlands

Norway
Oman
Peru
Russian Federation
South Africa
Sweden
United Kingdom
THEME 2b: Work of the National Commission of Toponymy (CNT), particularly with regard to recognizing geographical names in Creole and/or Portuguese

CABO VERDE

Alex J. Barbosa Andrade | alex.andrade@ingt.gov.cv
Executive Board Member
National Institute of Territorial Management
02 May
National Commission of Toponymy (CNT)

The National authority on toponymy, functioning as a multidisciplinary body, assuming the responsibilities regarding the:

DL no. 05/2012, the Commission's main functions are:

- Standardization;
- Compilation;
- Validation;
- obliging, stimulating and supporting the municipalities

Misrepresentation in the translation of toponyms from Portuguese to Creole and vice-versa

Example 1: Below are two examples of mistranslation, of the word "Mampatraz", a species of plant that is prevalent in that stream, and which, due to the similarity of sound, was translated as "Mão para traz".

Example 2: Another paradigmatic example is the translation of "Lin d’corvo", which in Creole means "Linha do Corvo", and which was translated into Portuguese as "Lindo Corvo".

Solutions:

- Correct the mistranslated names;
- Remain in both languages, for example the case of "Ilha Brava" written in Portuguese and "Djabraba" in Creole.
- Toponyms that exist only in Portuguese/Creole, so they should remain in Portuguese/Creole: For example, Djongótó, Gongon, Godim etc.
2b. Recognition and significance of minority and Indigenous geographical names and language in standardization programmes

National reports that consider this topic:

Australia
Cabo Verde
Canada
Cyprus
Denmark
Hungary
Latvia
Mozambique
Kingdom of the Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Peru
Republic of Korea
Slovenia
South Africa
Sweden
United Kingdom
THEME 2b: Minority names - status of Italian & Hungarian names

SLOVENIA

Dr. Matjaž Geršič
Geographer
Governmental Commission for the Standardization of Geographical Names
May, 2\textsuperscript{nd} 2023
### 2c. Treatment of names in multilingual areas

*National reports that consider this topic:*

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THEME 2c:
Situación de los Nombres Geográficos en el Perú

PERÚ

Capitan EP Luz Mauri Pérez
GEÓGRAFA
Instituto Geográfico Nacional (IGN)
02 de mayo de 2023
Avances del Instituto Geográfico Nacional en la Estandarización y Normalización de los Nombres Geográficos

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GRACIAS
2d. Addressing and urban feature naming

*National reports that consider this topic:*

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THEME 2d: Cultural aspects of geographical names standardization

ESTONIA

TIINA LAANSALU
Head, Department of Language History, Dialects, and Finno-Ugric Languages
Institute of the Estonian Language
2 May 2023
Handbook of Estonian Place Names and Address Data

Content:
1. Concepts, historical and cultural background
2. Instructions for practical implementation of legal acts
3. Guidance for municipalities
4. Advice for users of address and place name data

Link:
https://maaamet.ee/ruumiandmed-ja-kaardid/aadressid-ja-kohanimed/aadressiandmete-kasiraamat
THEME 2d: Cultural aspects – urban feature naming
Summary of Studies on politically charged street names and their handling in Austrian major cities.

AUSTRIA

Roman Stani-Fertl
Cartographer
University of Vienna, Department of Geography and Regional Research
2023-05-02
Critical Naming

- Categories of critical street names
  - politically charged
  - antisemitic
  - misogynic
  - racist
  - antidemocratic

Applied Policies

- Applied measures by cities
  1. Renaming of the street
  2. Leaving the street name unchanged but enhanced by an descriptive additional sign
  3. Leaving the street name as it is (for now)

Report of Austria - GEGN.2/2023/35/CRP.35 (f)
Cultural aspects of geographical names standardization

Some general questions

• What types of name changes are currently being seen or considered as a result of changing social and cultural norms?

• In countries where more than one name may be approved as a result of multilingual situations, how is the actual usage of one or more forms on products determined? Does a names board make recommendations, or do mapping agencies and document producers make their own independent decisions?

• In urban naming – for instance, for new street names – how much influence does a housing developer have on municipal decision-making?