

13 February 2023

Original: English

---

## United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

2023 session

New York, 1–5 May 2023

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

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

### Report of Sweden

#### Summary\*\*

The present report presents a summary of the major activities undertaken by Sweden since the 2021 session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. It provides in particular highlights of government initiatives aimed at increasing support for national minorities and minority languages in Sweden. Since 2022, the Institute for Language and Folklore has hosted language centres for Finnish, Meänkieli, Romani čhib and Yiddish with the main purpose of promoting and fostering the increased use and knowledge of these minority languages. In 2022, the Swedish Riksdag adopted a law on a consultation scheme for the Saami people. The scheme means that the government and state administrative authorities are obliged to consult representatives of the Saami people before making decisions on matters that have special significance for the Saami, including within the fields of culture, languages and place names.

The report provides information on the revised fourth edition of *Toponymic guidelines for cartography: Sweden*, developed through collaboration between the Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authority of Sweden (Lantmäteriet) and the Institute for Language and Folklore. The revised publication is supplemented by an adjustment in the spelling of the Saami languages, given that Pite Saami received an official orthography after the previous edition. The update is aligned with recent changes in map production.

The full report provides a short overview of the Swedish legislation and the main authorities involved in the standardization of geographical names, as well as a presentation on some updates of the register of geographical names at the Institute for Language and Folklore.

---

\* GEGN.2/2023/1.

\*\* The full report was prepared by Annette Torensjö, Ebba Berling Åselius and Leila Mattfolk. It will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2023/70/CRP.70, in the language of submission only, at [https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd\\_session\\_2023/](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd_session_2023/).

