



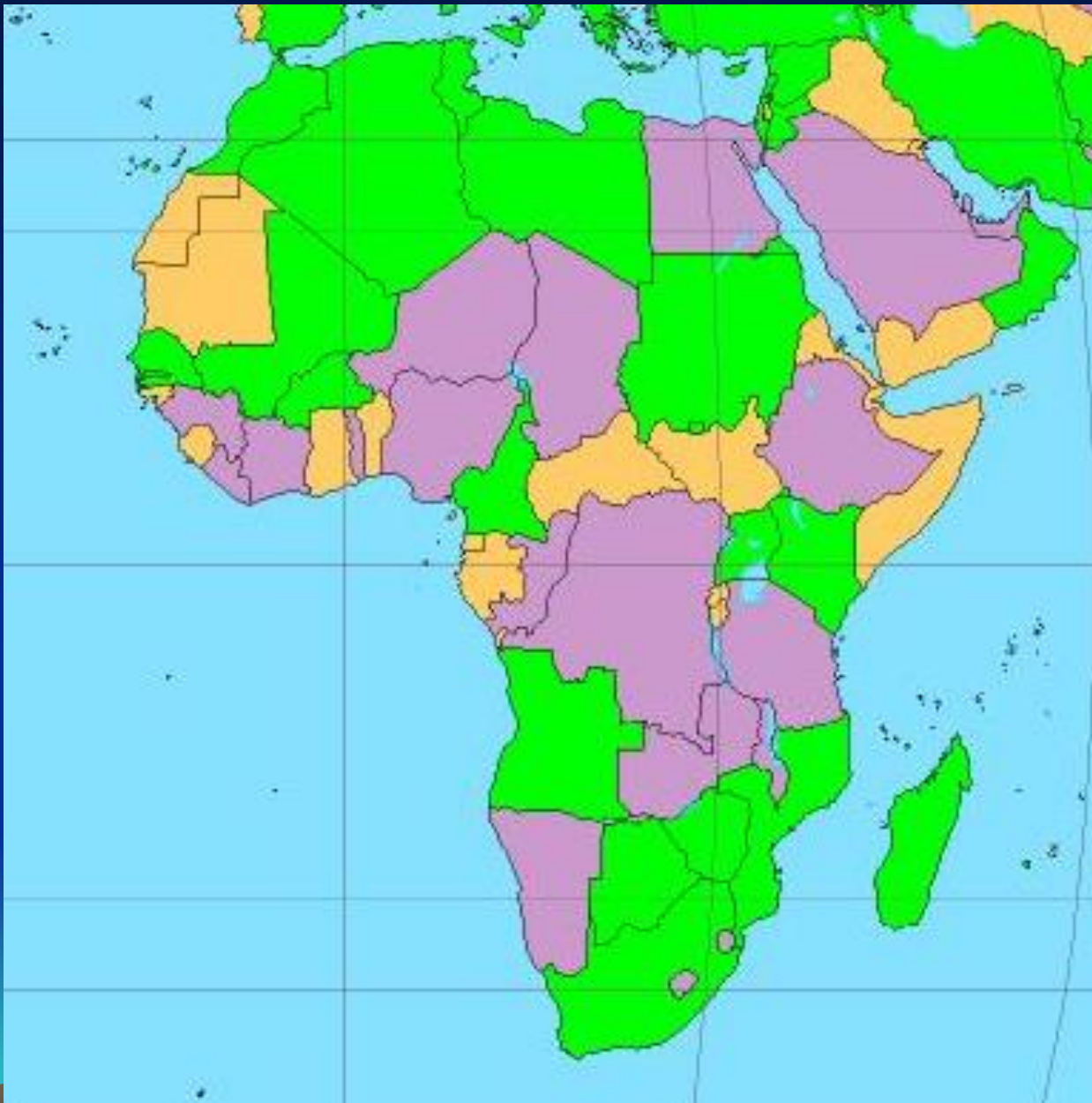
AFRICA

Looking to the future /
À l'avenir

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June 2013

AFRIQUE

Autorités nationales novembre 2012



 Avec une autorité nationale

 Sans autorité nationale

 Status inconnu

Ongoing challenges

- Lack of financial resources
- Lack of trained personnel
- Little continuity Government; UNGEGN
- Little realization of advantages of a good toponymy for the country
- Competition between Government departments

- Work with UNECA, with other countries, with UNGEGN continuous process of awareness and development





UNGEGN's Task Team for Africa



Since 2004,
revitalization
process in Africa
to assist with
geographical
names
standardization

(Brahim Atoui,
Algeria)

- Liaison with African organizations – promote benefits and seek finances ... African Union, UNECA ... Geographical names on conference agendas ... e.g. CODIST, GIS Africa
- Cooperation with African agencies to support organization of training
 - Tunis, Ouagadougou, Nairobi, Yaoundé
- Efforts to re-invigorate UNGEGN's African regional divisions and encourage collaboration
 - West, East, Central, South
 - Arabic, Dutch- and German-speaking, French-speaking + Portuguese-speaking
- 25th UNGEGN held in Africa (Kenya, 2009)
- UNECA developing database/gazetteer software for African use ("GeoNyms")



Gaborone Action Plan 2011

- **Improving national institutional arrangements with respect to geographical names authorities**
 - Address benefits by increasing awareness; encouraging governments; establish network of contacts
- **Increasing capacity building and knowledge sharing**
 - Courses, workshops, on-line training
 - Promote cooperation, exchange, best national practices, workshops with conferences
- **Promote coordination and cooperation at national, regional and global levels**
- **Address advances in communication and technology**

GAP follow up ...

- **StatCom-Africa III**, Cape Town, South Africa, 18 – 23 January 2012
 - Presentation by Lucy Phalaagae (Botswana)
- Follow up in **South Africa**, April 2012
- **6th Meeting of the Committee of Director-Generals of National Statistics Offices**, Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, 30 Nov – 2 Dec 2012
 - Presentation by Naima Friha (Tunisia)
- **Letters requesting support** to AU, AfDB, UNECA
- **Africa GeoNyms** under development by UNECA



... And next ?

- UNECA to take lead with work programme
- Africa GIS Conference & GSDI 14th World Conference
 - UNECA Conference Centre, Addis Ababa
 - November 4-8, 2013
- Other Conferences and meetings?
- Better cooperation with RCMRD in Nairobi?
- (Recent success in Burkina Faso, Tunisia, Algeria, and Africa GeoNyms)

Your suggestions?

- What should UNGEGN and the Task Team for Africa focus on for the next UNGEGN session?
 - ... likely June 2014 in Bangkok
- Suggestions for cooperation, exchanging best practices, etc.?

