

**Twenty-eight session  
28 April – 2 May 2014**

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**Item 17 of the Provisional Agenda**

**Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors for international use**

**Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors,  
for international use – Report of the Coordinator\***

Submitted by the Coordinator, Toponymic Guidelines

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## Summary

The report presents a short survey over the aims and intentions of UNGEGN Toponymic Guidelines (TG), on TG newly published and updated as well as on the accessibility of TG.

## Background

The aim of UNGEGN Toponymic Guidelines is to gather and disseminate toponymic information on a specific country, especially from the perspective of standardization of geographical names. The content of these guidelines follows a proposal presented in 1977 which has been updated and enriched over the years. It includes information about official, national and minority languages, names authorities, source material for toponyms, glossaries, abbreviations used on official maps, methods of differentiating text from toponyms on national maps, and administrative division. For the time being, over 40 countries have issued Toponymic Guidelines or at least drafts of such Guidelines, and a number of countries have also developed several updates and editions. The following short report gives a survey on activities regarding UNGEGN Toponymic Guidelines since the 27th UNGEGN Session held in New York (August/September 2012).

## New Toponymic Guidelines

At the 10th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (New York, 31 July – 9 August 2012) one country presented new Toponymic Guidelines (as a monograph):

**Republic of Korea** (National Geographic Information Institute (NGII) / Ministry of Land, Transportation and Maritime Affairs – Republic of Korea: Toponymic Guidelines for Map and Other Editors. For international use. Republic of Korea. First Edition. Suwon, NGII 2012; ISBN: 978-89-93841-11-4; languages: English and Korean; online: <http://www.ngii.go.kr/en/contents/contentsView.do?rbsIdx=81>)

The 1st edition of the Ukrainian Guidelines that has already been presented at the 26th UNGEGN Session in 2011 has been made accessible online: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/docs/Toponymic%20guidelines%20PDF/Ukraine/Verstka.pdf>

The Coordinator has been involved in the revision of new Toponymic Guidelines, planned to be submitted and presented by Malaysia at the 28th UNGEGN session.

## Updated Toponymic Guidelines

At the same 10th Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names six countries presented updated versions of Toponymic Guidelines:

**Austria** (7th edition, 2012; language: English; online: <http://www.oeaw.ac.at/ako/TG%20AT%2017%202012.pdf>)

**Denmark** (update of the 2nd edition [from 2007], version 2.2, May 2012; online: [http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/docs/10th-uncsgn-docs/econf/E\\_CONF.101\\_10\\_topguide12.pdf](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/docs/10th-uncsgn-docs/econf/E_CONF.101_10_topguide12.pdf))

**Estonia** (4th edition, June 2012; language: English; online: [http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/docs/10th-uncsgn-docs/econf/Toponymic\\_Guidelines\\_Estonia\\_2012.pdf](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/docs/10th-uncsgn-docs/econf/Toponymic_Guidelines_Estonia_2012.pdf))

**Finland** (update of the 4th revised edition [from 2004], version 4.6, March 2012; language: English; online: <http://www.kotus.fi/index.phtml?l=en&s=510>)

**Hungary** (4th edition, 2012; language: English; online: [http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/docs/10th-uncsgn-docs/crp/E\\_Conf.101\\_CRP24\\_Toponymic%20guidelines.pdf](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/docs/10th-uncsgn-docs/crp/E_Conf.101_CRP24_Toponymic%20guidelines.pdf))

**The Netherlands** (4th edition, December 2011; language: English; online: [http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/docs/10th-uncsgn-docs/econf/E\\_CONF.101\\_31\\_Toponymic%20guidelines\\_The%20Netherlands.pdf](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/docs/10th-uncsgn-docs/econf/E_CONF.101_31_Toponymic%20guidelines_The%20Netherlands.pdf))

## **Availability and dissemination**

The links to Toponymic Guidelines available on the UNGEGN homepage have been monitored and updated. The entry “UNEGN Toponymic Guidelines” on Wikipedia (English, German, Russian versions) has been updated and expanded. New references to these articles under other Wikipedia entries have been added.