

CONFIRMATION REPORT

The attached report of the 9th Divisional Meeting United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, Asia South-East Division, held virtually on 24 November 2021.

Decisions, recommendations, and resolutions contained in the report are subject to the approval of each representative government:

MOHAMAD ARIEF SYAFI'I
Chair of the Division



GELEY NORBU
Representative of Bhutan



NOR ZETTY AKHTAR HAJI ABD HAMID
Representative of Brunei Darussalam



ADE KOMARA MULYANA
Representative of Indonesia



AMMALA KEONUCHAN
Representative of Lao PDR



Sr. SOHAIME BIN HAJI RASIDI
Representative of Malaysia



ZE YA HTWE
Representative of Myanmar



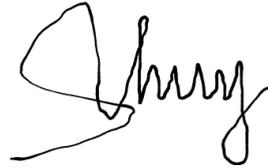
LEO GRAFIL
Representative of Philippines



SOH KHENG PENG
Representative of Singapore



DO THI THU THUY
Representative of Viet Nam



9th Divisional Meeting
United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)
Asia South-East Division (ASE Division)

Attending Member Countries: Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, and Viet Nam. The list of participants appears as **ANNEX A**.

Opening Remarks: Mohamad Arief Syafi'i, Chair of the UNGEGN ASE Division, delivered the opening remarks.

Adoption of Agenda The agenda was tabled by the Chair and adopted in the meeting.

I. Chairman's Report

The Chair addressed two main subjects in the report, namely: (i) Chairmanship and (ii) Activities of the UNGEGN Asia South-East Division.

On the chairmanship, Indonesia has been selected as the Chair of UNGEGN ASE Division during the 6th Divisional Meeting in Manila, the Philippines, on 26 March 2018. The Chairmanship shall be for a period of four years, from April 2018 to April 2022. Therefore, Indonesia requested UNGEGN ASE Division member countries to take over the chairmanship for the next period.

On the activities of the UNGEGN Asia South-East Division, the Chair presented that the 7th Divisional Meeting held in Headquarters, New York on 1 May 2019, was attended by delegates from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Singapore, and Thailand. On 27 October 2020, the 8th Divisional Meeting was held virtually and was attended by delegates from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, and Viet Nam.

Furthermore, the Chair reported the development of the Collaborative Platform. The Collaborative Platform is the realization of the 8th divisional meeting's resolution and has been developed since 2020. Through this platform, all ASE Division member countries can actively participate in contributing their data.

On 30 August 2021, the ASE Division Secretariat organized the webinar with the theme "Recognizing Generic Terms in Geographical Names from Local Languages". The objective of the webinar was to share knowledge about the

relation between toponymy and language, the distribution of local languages in ASE Division member countries, and the role of geospatial information in creating Estimated Distribution Language Map. The webinar took place as a live event and was subsequently published on BIG's social media platform. The webinar drew a massive interest with more than 350 attendees and hundreds of more viewers via online video streaming.

Regarding the International Training and Seminar on Toponymy, it had to be postponed for safety reasons, owing to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the Secretariat has already projected the International Training on Toponymy to be conducted in 2022, hoping for a more conducive situation.

In addition, a representative of the Chair of the UNGEGN ASE Division attended the Inaugural Meeting of the UNGEGN Bureau and Division Chairs on 19 November 2021. The meeting identified strategies, priorities, and actions relevant to addressing specific divisional organizational and operational issues, revitalization of inactive divisions, and strengthening UNGEGN Bureau and Division Chairs' involvement and contribution to the implementation of the Strategic Plan and Programme of Work 2021-2029.

II. Country Reports

A. UNGEGN ASE Division Member Countries Reports

Bhutan

National Land Commission Secretariat (NLCS), on behalf of Technical Experts on Geographical Names, presented their current status of Dzongkha Romanization and Standardization of Geographical Names in Bhutan. The Technical Working Group on Geographical Names comprises experts from the following agencies: Dzongkha Development Commission (DDC), Department of Civil Registration and Census (DCRC), Election Commission of Bhutan (ECB), and National Land Commission Secretariat (NLCS).

They presented the process of Dzongkha Romanization and the usage of Dzongkha Romanization in two ways (General Use and Academic Purposes). They presented the stakeholder's role in geographical names data collection, maintenance, and publication of gazetteer, including keeping the geographical names up to date and correct. Furthermore, NLCS has already initiated to host the Bhutan Geo Portal through which the user community can access datasets.

Brunei Darussalam

Brunei Darussalam National Geographical Names Committee (JNKG) presented their country report covering all activities between November 2020

and November 2021. Several activities conducted by JKNG: JKNG Meeting, Road Naming, Finalising the Guidelines to Geographical Names and Road Naming, Developing an updated JKNG's Official Website, and reviewing proposals for JKNG's new official logo.

Further, the delegation from Brunei Darussalam attended the 8th Virtual Divisional Meeting of the UNGEGN ASE Division in October 2020 and participated in the UNGEGN ASE Division Webinar in August 2021.

Indonesia

Indonesia reported its activities that have been carried out in 2021. The activities are divided into 3 (three) groups: (i) Regulation on Standardization of Geographical Names, (ii) Activities on National Standardization of Geographical Names, and (iii) Involvements in UNGEGN Asia South-East Division.

Regarding the involvement as the Chair of UNGEGN ASE Division, Indonesia reported the work plan adopted in the 7th Divisional Meeting in 2019, organized by Indonesia (ASE Division Secretariat), is currently in progress. The progress details of the work plan are provided in the Chairman of the UNGEGN ASE Division Report document.

Indonesia reported the activities and achievements in geographical names standardization in 2021 as follows:

1. Indonesia enacted Government Regulation Number 2 of 2021 (GR No. 2/2021) on the Standardization of Geographical Names. Indonesian Geospatial Information Agency (Badan Informasi Geospasial - BIG) is currently drafting technical guidelines for the implementation of the GR 2/2021;
2. Indonesian Geospatial Information Agency (Badan Informasi Geospasial - BIG) is currently drafting technical guidelines for the implementation of the GR 2/2021;
3. Indonesia conducted Toponymic surveys using the Geographical Names Information System (SINAR). The project area covers 13 provinces in Indonesia. Through this system, 245,581 data has been collected from 4,162 users;
4. Verification of Geographical Names implements the bottom-up approach. Pursuant to GR 2/2021, the verification process is divided into three stages: regency/municipality, provincial, and national level;
5. Through various venues, Indonesia is advancing the education, research, and training on implementing geographical names standardization. BIG also regularly promotes geographical names activities and disseminates guidelines for geographical names collection and verification; and

6. Indonesia hosted a national gathering to disseminate the Gazetteer of the Republic of Indonesia in November 2021.

Lao People's Democratic Republic

The National Geographic Department has been tasked with carrying out the roles and responsibilities assigned to it, such as conducting surveys, taking aerial photographs, and mapping the fundamental principles of contributing to infrastructure construction and socio-economic development.

After The Government promulgated the Prime Minister's Decree No. 255 / PM, dated 16 August 2005 on the survey and mapping work in the territory of the Lao PDR, the Geographical Indication Manual has become an important tool in the management, implementation, and development of survey and mapping work.

Malaysia

The Malaysian National Committee on Geographical Names (JKNG) is responsible for coordinating the geographical naming activities in Malaysia. This committee is chaired by the Director-General of Survey and Mapping Malaysia (JUPEM). JKNG reported their country activities relating to geographical names, the progress reports on the Working Groups, projects undertaken, and other related matters.

There are 8 (eight) activities that have been done during the period from October 2020 to October 2021. Below are the related activities on geographical naming that were conducted during the period under review:

1. Second Session of UNGEGN Meeting: the delegation of Malaysia participated in the virtual meeting;
2. JKNG Meeting: the 16th and 17th Meeting of JKNG were held virtually from Kuala Lumpur on 3 November 2020 and 14 September 2021 respectively;
3. National Technical Committee on Geographical Names (JTNGK) held its 23rd Meeting on 17 June 2021 virtually from Kuala Lumpur. During this meeting, the Working Groups and States Technical Committee presented their activities;
4. Working Group on Policy and Geographical Names Updating (KKDPNG). There are 3 (three) meetings were held to address issues on policy and updating matters including the matter on naming the unnamed islands, updating the Geographical Names Database (PDNG), enhancing in-shore and off-shore geographical entity naming procedure, publishing the Book of Island and Geographical Entity Names (NPEG), etc;

5. Working Group on National Geographical Names Database and Gazetteer (KKPDNG). KKPDNG is in the process of developing the new feature of the Visualization Video Module to enhance the existing information in the database. Moreover, Malaysia also held verification of geographical names databases using various data sources. KKPDNG has completed the publication of documents for 10 (ten) states in Malaysia. The rest of 6 (six) states' documents are still in progress and KKPDNG targets to complete on 2023;
6. Working Group on Name of Islands and Geographical Entities (KKNPEG) has identified 904 islands and 794 geographical entities to be named. Until September 2021, the naming process of the 904 islands and 623 entities was done, whilst the remaining 171 entities is in progress. KKNPEG has also identified 20 undersea features since the year 2016. KKNPEG has forwarded the names of the 20 undersea features to Sub Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) for approval. KKNPEG has also republished a new format for the Book of Islands and Geographical Entities Name (NPEG). Book 1 NPEG covered Perlis, Kedah, Penang, Perak, Selangor, Negeri Sembilan and Malacca, Book 2 NPEG covered Johor, Pahang, Terengganu and Kelantan. Other versions will be published in 2022 and 2023;
7. There are several workshops and briefings: Field Verification of Book 2 NPEG; Online Briefing on Updating Geographical Name Database (PDNG) Phase III; Webinar UNGEEN ASE Division; and Discussion on Naming Procedure of Island and Unnamed Off-Shore Geographical Entities; and
8. Regional Map - ASED Collaborative Platform Website: On 19 November 2021, 2 (two) data layers of 'Main Roads' and 'State Capital' of Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak were successfully uploaded as a start. Other data layers will gradually be uploaded from time to time.

Malaysia also presented 3 (three) issues encountered by JKNG, namely: (i) verification of the geographical names, (ii) duplication in updating geographical names, and (iii) lack of management of spatial and non-spatial data.

Myanmar

The Survey Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation presented the profile of Myanmar and the profile of the Survey Department and its responsibilities.

The main responsibilities of the Survey Department are: (i) to produce a national topographic mapping of the entire state, (ii) to joint boundary demarcation tasks with neighboring countries friendship and cordially, and (iii) to offer survey technologies for the new generation.

The data collection and verification of geographical names are conducted by confirming the data with the local authorities. In the meantime, Survey Department does not have activities for the National Standardization of Geographical Names.

Philippines

National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) presented 2 (two) main subjects:

1. Past and Most Recent Activities

For the UNGEGN activities, the Philippines attended the 8th UNGEGN ASE Division virtual meeting, Second Session of UNGEGN online, and UNGGIM Americas Webinar. The Philippines representative also presented the local languages and toponyms in the UNGEGN ASE Division Webinar. For national activities, the Philippines has a systematic Philippine Standard Geographic Code (PGSC) and the updating of the Philippine Gazetteer Project was implemented in 2020.

2. Future Projects

For future projects, the Philippines plans to update the Philippines Gazetteer project. The Philippines will integrate the geographical names database in the Philippines Geoportal Project.

Singapore

Singapore had no major naming activities because all parts of the country have been mapped and names have been placed. Separately, Singapore plans to update the national mapping dataset in 2023 using LIDAR, photogrammetry technology, and precise GNSS technologies. Singapore will use the national mapping dataset to develop various smart nation types of applications including mapping products and services, self-mobility vehicles and platforms, construction automation, among others.

Viet Nam

Department of Surveying, Mapping and Geo-information of Viet Nam (DOSMVN), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment reported their activities related to geographical names in 2020-2021 and achievements in 2018. In 2020-2021, DOSMVN had completed and published a geographical names Gazetteer for 4 provinces: Lam Dong, Gia Lai, Kon Tum, Dak Lak. The delegation of Viet Nam also participated in the Second Session of UNGEGN on 3 - 7 May 2021.

For future activities, DOSMVN will undertake several activities namely:

1. Completing and publishing geographical names Category of Hanoi in 2022;
2. Updating administrative geographical names;
3. Updating geographical names database; and
4. Setting up the website could provide data of geographical name.

B. Discussion on Country Reports

1. Bhutan will update and add some information to the country report. The Secretariat welcomes and expects the updated report from Bhutan soon.
2. Indonesia commented on the plan of Malaysia to standardize the naming of maritime features exceeding 3 Nautical Miles (NM) and asked the special reason for the distance of 3 NM. Malaysia answered that according to a national act, the maritime boundary of a state is determined up to 3 NM and the maritime area beyond that will be under the authority of the federal government.
3. Myanmar asked Indonesia and Malaysia about the activities and guidelines in standardizing island names. Indonesia and Malaysia stated that it is an ongoing process not only in standardizing the name but also in verifying whether a certain feature complies with UNCLOS definition of an island. Indonesia and Malaysia have similar procedures in standardizing the island names.

III. Matters arising from the 8th Divisional Meeting of the UNGEGN ASE Division

No discussion

IV. Other Matters

The Chair invited members of the meeting to raise any other matters to the floor. The Chair tabled a matter to be discussed regarding the collaborative platform.

Presentation on Collaborative Platform by the ASE Division Secretariat

Muhammad Hasannudin Yusa explained the progress of transforming the Division's website into a collaborative platform (www.asedivision-ungegn.org). He highlighted that ASE Division Member Countries could contribute to the

collaborative platform as a Contributor. The collaborative platform facilitated ASE Division Member Countries to add and modify their data with various data types.

The ASE Division Secretariat will send the login information to each country member and each country member is encouraged to submit the following data through this platform:

1. Administrative Boundaries on the Provinces level or better;
2. Major Cities;
3. Major Islands;
4. National Gazetteer; and
5. Generic terms.

On the collaborative platform mechanism, ASE Division Secretariat ensures that each ASE Division Member Country has the authority to manage its data.

V. Resolutions

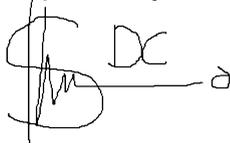
There are 5 (five) resolutions approved during the meeting, as follows:

1. Appreciation towards activities carried out by the ASE Division Member Countries in 2021;
2. Convene the International Training on Toponymy in 2022, subject to the situation of the COVID-19 outbreak;
3. The ASE Division Secretariat facilitates the contribution of ASE Division Member Countries in the division website through a collaborative platform concept;
4. All ASE Division Member Countries shall submit the updated regional map, gazetteer, and generic term through the collaborative platform; and
5. All ASE Division Member Countries are requested to nominate the candidate for the next UNGEGN ASE Division Chairmanship.

VI. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Indonesia will host the 10th ASE Divisional Meeting in April 2022, as the chairmanship period ends.

Prepared by,

Handwritten signature of Septian Dewi Cahyani, consisting of a stylized 'S' and 'D' followed by the initials 'DC'.

Septian Dewi Cahyani
Secretary
24 November 2021

Handwritten signature of Aldila Pradhana, written in a cursive style.

Aldila Pradhana
Rapporteur
24 November 2021

ANNEX A**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

No.	Name	Country
1	Geley Norbu	Bhutan
2	Gungsang Wangdi	Bhutan
3	Binay Tamang	Bhutan
4	Nor Zetty Akhtar Haji Abd Hamid	Brunei Darussalam
5	Saihalina Ibrahim	Brunei Darussalam
6	Hajah Siti Aminah binti Haji Jumaat	Brunei Darussalam
7	Hajah Norati Bakar	Brunei Darussalam
8	Rafidah Haji Berudin	Brunei Darussalam
9	Afiqah Haji Zulkiflee	Brunei Darussalam
10	Pengiran Hajah Mahani binti Pengiran Haji Ahmad	Brunei Darussalam
11	Mohamad Arief Syafi'i	Indonesia
12	Ade Komara Mulyana	Indonesia
13	Harry Ferdiansyah	Indonesia
14	Aldila Pradhana	Indonesia
15	Aji Putra Perdana	Indonesia
16	Tika Dwi Saputri	Indonesia
17	Wahyu Adi Yuliyanto	Indonesia
18	Septian Dewi Cahyani	Indonesia
19	Hanif Arafah Mustofa	Indonesia
20	Vinsensia Silviani	Indonesia
21	Muhammad Hasannudin Yusa	Indonesia

22	Rifki F.	Indonesia
23	Arief Yuswiyanto	Indonesia
24	Widi Hapsari	Indonesia
25	Yorda P. Utama	Indonesia
26	Davin Aristomo	Indonesia
27	Prasiantoro T.	Indonesia
28	Adi Puji	Indonesia
29	Yudhi Prasetyo	Indonesia
30	M Tan S	Indonesia
31	Risa Krisadhi	Indonesia
32	Arry A. Hanann	Indonesia
33	Muddan Zayadi	Indonesia
34	Yosef Dwi Sigit	Indonesia
35	Astuti Saleh	Indonesia
36	Multamia RMT Lauder	Indonesia
37	Yori Alief Darmansyah	Indonesia
38	Ammala Keonuchan	Lao PDR
39	Sr Sohaime bin Haji Rasidi	Malaysia
40	Sr Wan Mohamad Darani bin Ab Rahman	Malaysia
41	Ze Ya Htwe	Myanmar
42	Leo B. Grafil	Philippines
43	Brian A. Dela Cruz	Philippines
44	Nicandro P. Parayno	Philippines
45	Jane V. Roque	Philippines
46	Imelda P. Cabatay	Philippines
47	Sheila P. Eugenio	Philippines
48	Soh Kheng Peng	Singapore

49	Tan Hua Seng Jimmy	Singapore
50	Do Thi Thu Thuy	Viet Nam