

2 May 2014

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United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
Twenty-eighth session
28 April-2 May 2014

Draft report

Rapporteurs: Peder **Gammeltoft** (Denmark)
Trent **Palmer** (United States of America)

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2013/257, the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names held its twenty-eighth session at United Nations Headquarters from 28 April to 2 May 2014. The Group of Experts held [] meetings.

B. Attendance

2. The session was attended by [] participants representing the geographic/linguistic divisions of the Group of Experts (see annex). The list of participants is contained in document [GEGN/28/4](#).

C. Officers of the session

3. The Officers of the session were as follows:

Chair:

Bill Watt (Australia)

Vice-Chairs:

Ferjan Ormeling (Netherlands)

Naima Friha (Tunisia)

Rapporteurs:

Peder Gammeltoft (Denmark)

Trent Palmer (United States of America)



For the names of the Chairs of the divisions, see <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/divisions.html>. The Officers of the working groups were:

Task Team for Africa

Convener:

Brahim Atoui

Working Group on Training Courses in Toponymy

Convener:

Ferjan Ormeling

Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers

Convener:

Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu

Working Group on Toponymic Terminology

Convener:

Staffan Nyström

Working Group on Romanization Systems

Convener:

Peeter Päll

Working Group on Country Names

Convener:

Leo Dillon

Working Group on Publicity and Funding

Convener:

Peder Gammeltoft

Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation

Convener:

Sungjae Choo

Working Group on Exonyms

Convener:

Peter Jordan

Working Group on Pronunciation

Convener:

(to be confirmed)

Working Group on Geographical Names as Cultural Heritage

Conveners:

Annette Torensjö

Leif Nilsson

D. Opening statements

4. On behalf of the Chair, Bill Watt (Australia), the Vice-Chair, Ferjan Ormeling (Netherlands), opened the twenty-eight session of the Group of Experts at its first meeting, on 28 April 2014.

5. In his opening remarks, the Chair summarized the main tasks ahead, including making the best use of current technologies to enhance the work of the Group.

6. Stefan Schweinfest, Acting Director of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, made an opening statement summarizing the recent accomplishments and highlights of the work of the Group of Experts.

E. Adoption of the agenda

7. Also at its first meeting, on 28 April, the Group of Experts adopted its provisional agenda ([GEGN/28/1](#)) as orally amended, as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda and of the provisional programme of work.
2. Report of the Chair.
3. Report of the secretariat of the Group of Experts.
4. Reports of the divisions.
5. Reports of the liaison officers and international organizations.
6. Activities relating to the Task Team for Africa.
7. Implementation of resolutions and activities relating to the Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation.
8. Activities relating to the Working Group on Training Courses in Toponymy.
9. Activities relating to the Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers.
10. Activities relating to the Working Group on Toponymic Terminology.
11. Activities relating to the Working Group on Romanization Systems.
12. Activities relating to the Working Group on Country Names.
13. Activities relating to the Working Group on Publicity and Funding.
14. Activities relating to the Working Group on Exonyms.
15. Activities relating to the Working Group on Pronunciation.
16. Activities relating to the Working Group on Geographical Names as Cultural Heritage.
17. Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors for international use.
18. Other toponymic issues.

19. Preparation for the Eleventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.
 20. Dates, venue and provisional agenda for the twenty-ninth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
 21. Adoption of the report.
8. Also at its first meeting on 28 April, the Group of Experts adopted its organization of work ([GEGN/28/12](#)).

F. Adoption of the report

9. At its []th meeting, on 2 May 2014, the Group of Experts adopted the draft report on the activities of its twenty-eighth session (GEGN/28/L._) for submission to the Economic and Social Council, and authorized its Rapporteurs to finalize the report, in consultation with the bureau and secretariat of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

G. Documentation

10. The documents before the Group of Experts at its twenty-eighth session are available at the website of the United Nations Statistics Division at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/uneggn/uneggnSession28.html>.

Annex I

List of participating divisions

Africa Central Division
Africa East Division
Africa South Division
Africa West Division
Arabic Division
Asia East Division (other than China)
Asia South-East Division
Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)
Baltic Division
Celtic Division
China Division
Dutch- and German-speaking Division
East Central and South-East Europe Division
Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division
East Mediterranean Division (other than Arabic)
French-speaking Division
Latin America Division
Norden Division
Pacific South-West Division
Portuguese-speaking Division
Romano-Hellenic Division
United Kingdom Division
United States of America/Canada Division
