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**Report on the activities in the field of standardization of geographical names
in the Republic of Croatia in the period from 2007 to 2008**

Submitted by Croatia*

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National Standardization

(Item 3 of the agenda)

In Croatia there is no national body for the standardization of geographical names. The Croatian Parliament is competent for the naming and specification of territories of the counties, cities and municipalities. The municipality committees are responsible for naming and making decisions on territories of settlements. Names changes of counties, towns and municipalities are published in *Narodne novine*, the official gazette of the Republic of Croatia, while the changes in settlements are published in official papers of a particular municipality. The names are kept in the Register of Spatial Unites in the State Geodetic Administration (SGA).

Pursuant to the *Law on Territories of Counties, Towns and Municipalities in the Republic of Croatia* (*Narodne novine*, the official gazette of the Republic of Croatia, No. 90/92), there are 21 counties, 70 towns and 419 municipalities established in Croatia. Since 1992 the number of counties, towns and municipalities has been changed. The issues of *Narodne novine*, the official gazette of the Republic of Croatia where the changes are published are: 69/95, 44/2000 and 86/2006.

Ethnical minorities are defined according to the the *Constitutional Law on Human Rights and Freedoms and of the Rights of Ethnic and National Communities or Minorities in the Republic of Croatia* (*Narodne novine*, the official gazette of the Republic of Croatia, No.105/2000).

Pursuant to the *Law of State Survey and Real Estate Cadastre*, Croatian Geodetic Institute (CGI) establishes and keeps the register of geographical names.

The people in Croatia, after the census in 2001, declared as their ethnicity: Croats, Albanians, Austrians, Bosnians, Bulgarians, Montenegrins, Czechs, Hungarians, Macedonians, Germans, Poles, Romaines, Romanians, Russians, Ruthenians, Slovaks, Slovenians, Serbs, Italians, Turks, Ukrainians, "Vlasi" and Jews.

In the Republic of Croatia, according to the Article 12 of the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, the Croatian language and the Latin script are in official use. In communities where certain minority constitutes more then one third of the population, minority language and other scripts may be introduced into official use under conditions specified by law.

The official state map production is in the Croatia under the responsibility of the State Geodetic Administration (SGA) in Croatia. The geographical names treated in the course of map production and standardizations of geographical names were mainly developed within the scope of the Topographic Information System of the Republic of Croatia (CROTIS).

The Hydrographic Institute of the Republic of Croatia (HHI) is responsible for creating nautical charts of the Adriatic coast and sea. They adapted national standards to be fully compatible with standards of the International Hydrographic Organization.

The Institute of Croatian Language and Linguistics (IHJJ) is the central Croatian scholarly institution for the study of the Croatian language.

Toponymic data files and gazetteers

(Item 5 of the agenda)

Gazetteers are systematic lists of geographical names in a specific country, with their locations and indication of nature. Croatia has several toponymic data files, registers and databases in different organizations. Some of them are:

- SGA - Topographic database with toponyms (100.000 names),
- SGA - Register of Spatial Units (counties, municipalities and settlements) (50.000 names),
- CGI - Geographical names database based on a 1:300.000 map (9000 names, including names from Register of Spatial Units),
- SGA and University of Zagreb, Faculty of Geodesy - Project "Toponimika",
- HHI - Catalogue of lighthouses and other navigational items,
- HHI - Names of islands and small islands (islets), rocks, reefs, etc. (1.250 names),
- IHJJ - Database extracted from historical documents back to the 13th century (about 80.000 names),
- IHJJ - Database of 114.000 geographical names for Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (from the existing gazetteers),
- IHJJ - Names from field name collection,
- Road authorities - register of names of roads, bridges and tunnels, etc.,
- Water authorities - names of water bodies, channels, etc.,
- Center for Adriatic Onomastic Research at the University of Zadar - database of historical and modern place names,
- Lexicographical Institute "Miroslav Krleža" and "Školska knjiga" - various lists of geographical names for publication purposes (atlases, encyclopedias etc.).

Croatian Geographic Names Database (CGND) is developed as the part of the national spatial infrastructure. Official maps and registers of geographical names are the main sources used for entering the data in to the Croatian Geographical Names Database. The CGND contains the geographical names for the whole part of Croatia in scale 1:300 000. The eastern part of the Croatia is covered with geographical names in scale 1:25 000, and small part of Croatia is covered with geographical names in scale 1:5000. The data from the Register of Spatial Units are also loaded in to the database. The official names of small islands and lighthouses are also loaded into the CGND.

Databases are usually containing more information than the gazetteers. CGND gazetteer is defined using extracted data from database. It contains: nr. of the name, ID of the name, geographical name, administrative area, coordinates of the name, object groups, object type, object subtypes, CGND code and CROTIS code. The process of checking the geographical names and attributes is in the progress.

New national map grid is introduced in Croatia. The names are assigned to the new map sheets after the significant toponym on the sheet. To have more objective criteria the process of checking the toponym significance checking is developed. For every map sheet name collected are information: toponym, type of the toponym, it is than checked if the same toponym is used on the territory of Croatia, administrative importance, nr. of inhabitants for settlements, it is checked if there was some earlier sheet with the same name, historical, cultural, economical importance of the name is also checked.

Data elements required

(Item 5b of the agenda)

The main part of database is data model. It connects geographical names and its attributes with spatially related features. The main attributes in Croatian Geographical Names Database (CGND) are: geographical name, name ID, spatial information, administrative area, feature category, feature group, feature type, feature subtype, source of information, name status, pronunciation, language, area of usage, the product that the name will present.

Writing systems

(Items 7 of the agenda)

In Croatia the official language is Croatian and Latin script on the whole territory. Basic roman system and extensions for Croatian characters are in use.

Pursuant to the *Constitutional Law on Human Rights and Freedoms and of the Rights of Ethnic and National Communities or Minorities in the Republic of Croatia (Narodne novine*, the official gazette of the Republic of Croatia, No.105/2000) the equal official use of the minority language and script is applied by local authorities when members of a particular national minority comprise at least one third of the population of such a unit. The use of national minorities' languages and script privately, publically and in official use is guaranteed. The usage of the language and scripts of the national minorities in school system is also guaranteed.

In order to preserve traditional names, settlements, streets and squares can be named after national minority traditional names of persons and significant historical and cultural events. The right to use the family names and names of parsons in the languages of the national minorities is guaranteed. The right to use public titles in language and script of national minorities is guaranteed as well. The language and writing system of national minorities can be used in papers, radio, television and other media.

In Croatia there are two the main national minority groups (Serbian and Italian) that populate more than one third of the population in local areas, and they are using their national language and script as official together with Croatian language and script. The Serbian minority is populating the area in Croatia along the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina in the central part of Croatia. They are using Latin and Cyrillic script. Italian language is used in Istria, and they are using Latin script. Hungarian and Czech language are also used, but on the smaller territories in the areas.

The National and University Library of Croatia, Croatian Standards Institute (HZN), National Library of Serbia and Institute of Standardization of Serbia (ISS) applied together for the change of language codes for Croatian and Serbian language for bibliographic use in ISO 639-2 (B) - Codes for the representation of names of languages - Part 2: Alpha - 3 codes. The codes "scr" - Serbo-Croatian-Roman and "scc" - Serbo-Croatian-Cyrillic have been in use since 1998. Since Croatian and Serbian are officially recognized as two separate languages the languages codes are changed to "hrv" 3-letter codes for Croatian and "srp" 3-letter code for Serbian. The 3-letter code "hrv" has already been used in library and information community in Croatia, but this was made official on 17.6.2007 by the Joint Advisory Committee of the ISO 639-2 Registration Authority.

List of Country Names and Capitals

(Item 9 of the agenda)

The most of the country names are in use in traditional Croatian forms. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration compiled the list of country names. Those country names are used in diplomatic correspondence.

Exonyms

(Item 10 of the agenda)

The most of the Croatian exonyms are related to the neighbor countries and the most of them are related to the settlements in Italy, Austria and Hungary.

Toponymic Websites

(Item 13 of the agenda)

State Geodetic Administration (SGA) has developed GeoPortal that will make official maps publicly available. It will be used as background information in presentations of geographical names. The first release of SGA's GeoPortal includes: Central Registry of Spatial Units, Orthophoto Map 1:5000, Croatian Base Map 1:5000, Cadastral maps and the Database of Permanent Geodetic Control points. The GeoPortal is operational, but it is not in public use.

Implementation of Resolutions and the aims and functions of UNGEGN

(Item 16 of the agenda)

Croatia is participating in the UNGEGN World Geonames Database project. Croatia submitted requested data of cities/towns over 100,000 inhabitants. There are only four towns in Croatia with over 100,000 inhabitants: Zagreb, Split, Rijeka and Osijek.

Other information

(Item 17 of the agenda)

Dunja Brozović participated at the symposium GeoNames08 “Geographical Names as part of the cultural heritage” that was held in Vienna, 19 and 20 May 2008 in Austrian Academy of Sciences with the presentation titled: "Croatian Place-names as a Reflection of Regional and National Heritage and Identity".