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**NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL
NAMES IN UKRAINE**

Submitted by Ukraine*

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NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

IN UKRAINE

(Item 3 of the agenda)

Summary

Ukraine's report represents information on the national bodies coordinating the activity in the field of standardization of geographical names, the legislative and regulatory basis of geographical names, the activity in regard to the issues of geographical names and international cooperation.

National Bodies of Standardization of Geographical Names

(Item 3 (d) of the agenda)

In Ukraine the State Service of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre (*Ukrgeodescartographia*) is engaged in carrying out and coordinating the activity concerning geographical names.

Ukrgeodescartographia works out regulatory papers on geographical names, works out and approves the standard and methodological papers concerning the determination, normalization, account, registering, use and preservation of geographical names, provides for the formation and management of the State Register of Geographical Names, carries out an expert examination of proposals and decisions of public authorities concerning naming and renaming of geographical objects, performs international cooperation in the issues of geographical names.

The Interdepartmental Scientific and Methodological Council in the Issues of Geographical Names in composition of *Ukrgeodescartographia* functions as an advisory body in the sphere of standardization of geographical names. The main tasks of the Council are the following:

- working out and forming of the main principles of national standardization of geographical names;

- examination of drafts of regulatory and standard and methodological papers in the issues of geographical names;
- giving suggestions concerning naming and renaming of geographical objects to *Ukrgeodescartographia*.

Legislative, Regulatory and Methodological Basis in the Sphere of Geographical Names

(Item 3 (d) of the agenda)

The Law of Ukraine *On Geographical Names* (2005).

The Law of Ukraine *On Topographic, Geodetic and Cartographic Activity* (1998).

Temporary rules of collection and establishment of geographical names on topographic maps and plans (1998).

Provision on the Interdepartmental Scientific and Methodological Council in the Issues of Geographical Names, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (2006).

Provision on the State Register of Geographical Names, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (2006).

The Instructions on rendering of foreign geographical names and terms into Ukrainian (instructions for 28 languages) (2001-2010).

Procedure of carrying out an expert examination of proposals and decisions of public authorities concerning naming and renaming of geographical objects (2009).

It defines the procedure of carrying out an expert examination in naming and renaming of geographical objects on the territory of Ukraine, the continental shelf, exclusive (marine) economic zone, geographical objects of the Earth discovered by Ukrainian explorers and scientists. The document was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in 2009.

The Toponymic Guidelines (for map and other editors). The Toponymic Guidelines generalize and elaborate the spelling rules for Ukrainian geographical names and their transliteration by means of the Latin alphabet (Ukrainian System of Romanization). The Toponymic Guidelines were approved by the State Service of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre in **2010**.

Resolution No 55 *On Normalization of Transliteration of the Ukrainian Alphabet by Means of the Latin Alphabet*, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of January 27, **2010**.

National Data Bases (Registers) of Geographical Names

(Item 6 (e) of the agenda)

The works aimed at the creation of the State Register of Geographical Names of Ukraine and the World go on.

In **2009** the State Service of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre approved the *Provision on the Structure and Content of the State Register of Geographical Names*. It defines the main principles of the forming and keeping of the State Register of Geographical Names, carrying out of standardization and registration of geographical names.

Dictionaries, Reference Books

(Item 6 (e) of the agenda)

Reference book “The names of administrative division units and their capitals of European countries” has been prepared in 2010.

Reference book *Names of Countries and Territories of the World* was revised for the re-edition in 2010. It contains data on the official names of the countries, dependent territories and the territories with a special status, the capitals of countries, and the capitals of the dependencies in Ukrainian, as well as adjectives derived from the country names, nouns (singular and plural)

derived from the country and capital city names meaning resident (residents) of countries and capital cities.

Writing System. Romanization.

(Item 8 (a) of the agenda)

The Ukrainian alphabet is based on the Cyrillic alphabet. Romanization of Ukrainian proper names (surnames, first names and geographical names) in official documents, in publications of cartographic production, on name boards and road signs, in place and street names etc. is carried out in accordance with the uniform rules, namely in accordance with the “Table of transliteration of the Ukrainian alphabet by means of the Latin alphabet“, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine by its Resolution No 55 of January 27, **2010** "On the normalization of transliteration of the Ukrainian alphabet by means of the Latin alphabet”.

The Normative Table of Rendering of Ukrainian Proper Names by means of English Language, which was approved by the Ukrainian Commission in the Issues of Law Terminology in 1996, served as the basis for the “Table of transliteration of the Ukrainian alphabet by means of the Latin alphabet“. *The Normative Table* was in use in Ukraine since 1996 till February 2010.

In 2010 city maps of Lviv in the scale of 1:20 000 and Odesa in the scale of 1:26 000 were published by the State Scientific Production Enterprise “Kartographia”, in which geographical names were transliterated according to the new rules of Romanization.

Compiling of Exonyms Lists

(Item 11 of the agenda)

The list of exonyms of European countries (2007) consists of exonyms, which are most often used in the cartographic production. In the electronic

gazetteer of the world more than 1300 exonyms were used. The work on the compiling of the general list of exonyms is going on.

Participation in International Events in the Sphere of Geographical Names

(Item 14 of the agenda)

Ukraine is a member of two Divisions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names:

Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division,
East Central Europe and South-East Europe Division.

Ukraine also takes part in the meetings of the Baltic Division as an observer.

During the period of 2008-2010 the representatives of the cartographic and geodetic service of Ukraine took part in such events:

- the 13th Meeting of the Baltic Division of the UNGEGN (Lithuania, Vilnius, 2009);
- the 24th International Cartographic Conference (Chile, Santiago de Chile, 2009);
- the 10th Meeting of UNGEGN Working Group on exonyms (Austria, Tainach, 2010);
- the 9th Session of the Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division (Bulgaria, Belohradchik, 2010);
- the 8th Meeting of the Working Group on Geographical Names of the Intergovernmental Council of Geodesy, Cartography, Cadastre and Remote Sensing of the Earth of CIS member states (Belarus, Minsk, 2010).