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**Report on the activities in the field of standardization of geographical  
names in the Slovak Republic**

Submitted by Slovakia\*

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### **3 National standardization**

#### **a) Field collection of names**

In approaching the standardization of geographical names, the SR Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority takes into account that the name is an unambiguous identifier of the relevant geographic feature, that geographical names are part of our cultural heritage, that they are part of cartography, trade, telecommunications, statistics, searching for information about a particular geographic feature in the internet services, visualization of geographic information on the maps and on the screens, as well as in spatial data processing, and that its use on an international scale is of equal importance.

Geographical names standardization has been realized since the year 1970. There were collected and standardized:

- feature names of the Basic Map of SR with a scale of 1 : 50 000,
- feature names of the Basic Map of SR with a scale of 1 : 10 000,
- feature names of the Water Management Map of SR with a scale of 1 : 50 000
- names of the trigonometric points of SR
- names of the cadastral districts of SR,
- names of the protected areas of SR in the extent of the State Inventory of Specially Protected Parts of Nature and Landscape of SR
- Feature names of the network of the protected areas of the EU member states Natura 2000 (protected birds areas, sites of European importance),
- names of states and dependencies,
- names of geographic features located outside the territory of SR
- names of extra-terrestrial objects.

#### **b) Office treatment of names**

In order to provide for a specialized function of standardization, in 1970 the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority SR (hereinafter referred to as “NK”) was established as an advisory board of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority of SR for geographical name standardization. Working bodies of the Commission are as follows:

1. section dealing with the standardization of geographic feature names from the territory of SR

2. section dealing with the standardization of geographic feature names from the territory outside SR.

The role of NK is to verify, modify and prepare the proposals for the geographic names standardization. The NK secretariat as an executive body of NK is established to carry out specialized, technical and administrative work related to the geographical names standardization. NK consists of the representatives of special and research institutions, central organs, universities and professionals of the ÚGKK SR sector organizations. An important role in providing an opinion regarding the names within the scope of large-scale maps is fulfilled by the geographical names boards of district cadastral registries, whose task is the assessment of the geographical names in the territory within their competence and to initiate standardization.

The standardization of geographical names was provided by the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority of SR also by the law, it also published a technical regulation, which regulates the criteria of the classification, method, rules and procedure of geographical names standardization, it published the standardized geographic names in publications the list of which is given below. The Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority of SR acts systematically in accordance with the concept of the geographical names standardization development in the Slovak Republic and in accordance with the annual activity plans.

#### **c) Treatment of names in multilingual areas**

In the territory of the Slovak Republic the Bulgarian, Czech, Hebrew, Croatian, Hungarian, German, Polish, Romany (Gypsy), Ruthenian, Russian and Ukrainian languages are used as languages of ethnic minorities. These are of regional character. In cartographic series published in the Slovak Republic the geographical names are given in the Slovak language in a standardized form in principle. In ethnically and linguistically mixed areas the current standardization allows using on the maps of scales larger than 1:10 000 the double forms of names in the ethnic minority's language in brackets. These names are not standardised.

#### **d) Administrative structure of national names authorities, legislation, policies and procedures.**

On the territory of the Slovak Republic authorities for geographical names are National Council of the Slovak Republic, the Government of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of the

Interior of the Slovak Republic, Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority of the Slovak Republic. Competence of the authorities for geographical names is implied in the Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 221/1996 Coll. on Territorial and Administrative Division of the Slovak Republic as amended by later legislation, the act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 215/1995 Coll. on Geodesy and Cartography as amended by later legislation and the Act of the Slovak National Council No. 369/1990 Coll. on Municipality as amended by later legislation.

Names of regions and districts are established according to the Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 221/1996 Coll. on Territorial and Administrative Division of the Slovak Republic as amended by later legislation.

Names of municipalities are established or changed by Government of the Slovak Republic in a regulation with an approval of a municipality according to the Act of the Slovak National Council No. 369/1990 Coll. on Municipality as amended by later legislation.

Names of municipalities' parts are established and changed by the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic according to the Act of the Slovak National Council No. 369/1990 Coll. on Municipality as amended by later legislation.

Names of some other geographic features - names of non-settlement and specific settlement geographical features referring to the territory of the Slovak Republic, which make up the content of the primary database for geographic information system, Slovak exonyms for settlement and non-settlement geographical features from the area outside the Slovak Republic and names for extra-terrestrial features are established and modified by the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority of the Slovak Republic with consent of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic. The list of feature specification is laid down in § 14 of the Decree No. 300/2009 Coll. Implementing Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 215/1995 Coll. on Geodesy and Cartography as amended by later legislation.

Names of streets and other public areas are established by municipality, considering the history of a municipality, famous personalities, things, natural phenomena, important events, and the like, in accordance with Act of the Slovak National Council No. 369/1990 Coll. on Municipality as amended by later legislation.

#### Expert advisory boards

Important role in the process of standardization within the Authority's competence is played by expert advisory boards, which are the Authority's Geographical Names Commission and relevant geographical names boards of district cadastral registries.

## **To item 4 Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors**

The first guidelines for the Slovak Republic were compiled and published as part of Czechoslovak toponymic guidelines in 1987. The first Slovak edition was produced in 1993, the second one in 1996, the third one in 1999. The fourth edition of the Slovak toponymic guidelines published in 2010 takes into account legislative changes introduced after 2008. It was compiled according to the recommendation No. 4 of the Fourth Conference, No. 14 of the Fifth Conference and No. 7 of the Sixth Conference of the United Nations on the Standardization of Geographical Names and contains parallel Slovak and English versions.

## **To item 6 Toponymic data files and gazettiers**

### **a) Data collection procedures**

Creation of the database of geographical names from the territory of the Slovak Republic was finished in 2003. Updating of the database has been continued since that time. The database comprises the file of the names of settlement and non-settlement geographic features named in ZB GIS. All names in the database are standardized by “Authority” or other competent body. A basic information resource for the database is published lists of standardized names on the 1:10 000 Basic map of the Slovak Republic and 1:50 000 Basic map of the Slovak Republic. New names are currently collected, standardized and added into the database from cadastral maps or on the basis of requirements and information of central and local institutions.

### **b) Data elements required**

To every name the additional information entering the database is supplied. The introductory form of every name contains, besides the standardized form of the name, also its location according to the cadastral district and present administrative division. In addition, the name is located by means of the ZM 10 map sheet and geographic coordinates. Water courses and hills are included in the corresponding drainage basins or orographic units. Another data entering the database is the date of standardization, and also the previous form of the name in the case it exists, with the period of its validity and the feature type designation. Information on every name can be supplied with the selected data, which is characteristic for a certain kind of feature (e.g. dimension in hills). Gradually variant names are added.

#### **d) Automated data processing systems**

Geographical names are stored in digital stand-alone geographical names database and they are processed in program packet ArcGIS.

Data from the database can be distributed as MS Excel, Geodatabase or Shape formats.

#### **e) National gazetteers**

Lists of geographical names have been published in the Slovak Republic since the 70s of the last century.

Over the 1974 – 1981 period has the Slovak Office of Geodesy and Cartography published the following gazetteers in the Cartographic Information Edition:

1. List of Slovak Mounts (1974)
2. List of Slovak Exonyms of Flows and Water Surfaces of the World (1974)
3. List of States and Countries of the World (1974)
4. List of Slovak Exonyms of World Cities (1974)
5. List of Slovak Exonyms for Formations in Horizontal Dissection of the Earth Surface (1975)
6. List of Slovak Exonyms for Formations in Vertical Dissection of the Earth Surface (1975)
7. List of Slovak Exonyms for Extraterrestrial Features (1976)
8. Geographical Names in the Basic Map of ČSSR, 1 : 50 000 from the territory of the Slovak Socialist Republic. Names of Non-Residential Geographical Features – The East Slovak Region. (1976)
9. Geographical Names in the Basic Map of the ČSSR, 1 : 50 000 from the territory of the Slovak Socialist Republic. Names of Non-Residential Geographical Features – The Central Slovak Region (1977)
10. Geographical Names in the Basic Map of the ČSSR, 1 : 50 000 from the territory of the Slovak Socialist Republic. Names of Non-Residential Geographical Features – The West Slovak Region (1979)
11. Geographical Names in the Basic Map of the ČSSR, 1 : 50 000 from the territory of the Slovak Socialist Republic. Names of Settlement Type Geographical Features (1981)
12. List of Caves and Gorges in Slovakia (1979)

The following UN Gazetteers of Geographical Names of the Slovak Republic (UN – ČSFR to 1993) were published from 1982, Series A (except for the title A17):

- A1 Geographical Names of District of Bratislava-vidiek (1983)
- A2 Names of Land Preservations of Slovak Socialist Republic (1985)
- A2 Names of Protected Areas of the Slovak Republic, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (2005)
- A3 Geographical Names of Trnava District (1985)
- A4 Geographical Names of Topoľčany District (1985)
- A5 Geographical Names of Žiar nad Hronom District (1986)
- A6 Names of Mounts and Valleys of Slovak Socialist Republic (1987)
- A7 Geographical Names of Banská Bystrica District (1987)

- A8 Geographical Names of Poprad District (1988)
- A9 Geographical Names of Nitra District (1988)
- A10 Geographical Names of Stará Ľubovňa District (1989)
- A11 Geographical Names of Senica District (1989)
- A12 Geographical Names of Liptovský Mikuláš District (1990)
- A13 Geographical Names of Districts Košice-mesto and Košice-vidiek (1990)
- A14 Geographical Names of Rožňava District (1990)
- A15 Names of Castles and Mansion Houses in the Slovak Republic (1990)
- A16 Geographical Names of Vranov nad Topľou District (1990)
- A17 Geographical Names of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic (1990)
- A18 Names of Watercourses and Water Areas of the Slovak Republic - River Basin of Bodrog and Tisa (1990)
- A19 Geographical Names of Trenčín District (1991)
- A20 Geographical Names of Komárno District (1991)
- A21 Geographical Names of Veľký Krtíš District (1991)
- A22 Geographical Names of Trebišov District (1991)
- A23 Geographical Names of Bardejov District (1992)
- A24 Geographical Names of Rimavská Sobota District (1992)
- A25 Geographical Names of Lučenec District (1992)
- A26 Geographical Names of Prešov District (1992)
- A27 Geographical Names of Dunajská Streda District (1992)
- A28 Geographical Names of Spišská Nová Ves District (1992)
- A29 Geographical Names of Galanta District (1993)
- A30 Geographical Names of Zvolen District (1993)
- A31 Geographical Names of Svidník District (1993)
- A32 Geographical Names of Humenné District (1993)
- A33 Geographical Names of Nové Zámky District (1993)
- A34 Geographical Names of Michalovce District (1993)
- A35 Geographical Names of Levice District (1993)
- A36 Names of Cadastral Areas of the Slovak Republic (1993)
- A37 Geographical Names of Dolný Kubín District (1994)
- A38 Geographical Names of Žilina District (1994)
- A39 Geographical Names of Považská Bystrica District (1994)
- A40 Geographical Names of Čadca District (1994)
- A41 Geographical Names of Martin District (1994)
- A42 Geographical Names of Prievidza District (1994)
- A43 Geographical Names of Bratislava District (1994)
- A44 Names of Cadastral Areas of the Slovak Republic, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (1998)
- A44 Names of Cadastral Districts of the Slovak Republic, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (2003)
- A45 Names of Trigonometric Point of the Territory of the Slovak Republic (2001)
- A46 Older Slovak Names of the Municipalities of the Slovak Republic (2003)

Names of geographical features situated in foreign countries were published in the gazetteers in the B Series as follows:

- B1 Names of States and their Territorial Parts, 1<sup>st</sup> edition (1982) 2<sup>nd</sup> updated edition (1988) (both editions with the Czech Office of Geodesy and Cartography)
- B2 Slovak Exonyms of Countries and Dependencies, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, (1996)
- B3 Slovak Exonyms of Geographical Features Lying Out of the Territory of the Slovak Republic, 1<sup>st</sup> edition (1997)

- B4 Slovak Exonyms of Countries and Dependencies, 2<sup>nd</sup> editon (2000)
- B5 Slovak Exonyms of Geographical Features Lying Outside of the Territory of the Slovak Republic, 2<sup>nd</sup> unchanged edition (1999)
- B6 Slovak exonyms of extraterrestrial objects and apparent patterns in the sky, 2<sup>nd</sup> reworked edition (2005)

#### **f) Other publications**

- C1 Toponymic Guidelines for Use of Geographical Names in the ČSSR Territory (with the Czech Office of Geodesy and Cartography) (1984)
  - C4 International Glossary of Geographical Terms Used in General Geographic Maps (with the Czech Office of Geodesy and Cartography) (1991)
  - C5 Toponymic Guidelines for Map and other Editors, 1<sup>st</sup> edition (1993)
  - C6 Toponymic Guidelines for Map and other Editors, 2<sup>nd</sup> updated edition (1996)
  - C7 Toponymic Guidelines for Map and other Editors, 3<sup>rd</sup> reworked edition (1996)
  - C7 Toponymic Guidelines for Map and other Editors, 4<sup>th</sup> reworked edition (2010)
- Rules for the Use of Slovak Geographical Names in Foreign Language Publications Published in the Slovak Republic are being prepared for printing.

### **To item 7 Terminology in the standardization of geographical names**

Geographical names authority prepares for publication on website the Glossary of terms Used in Geographical Names Standardization in the English and Slovak versions.

The STN 73 0401-2 Standard for Terms in Geodesy and Cartography Part 2: Terms of Cadastre of Real Estate, Mapping and Photogrametry (2009) was published, the part of which is a selection of terms connected with the geographical names standardization.

### **To item 10 Country names**

In the year 2000 was published the 2nd edition of the list of the Slovak generic names of countries and dependencies which alike the 1st edition includes, apart from the abbreviated and full forms of the names in an official language (official languages), the kind of establishment, the name of official language in Slovak, the name of the capital and its geographical coordinates. The list of country names is continuously updated on homepage of ÚGKK SR (<http://www.geodesy.gov.sk/>).

### **To item 13 Toponymic websites**

Information concerning geographical names in as well as selected sets of standardized names

are continuously published and updated on the home page of the authority on the address <http://www.geodesy.gov.sk/>.

Until now there were published besides common materials concerning the geographical names standardization lists of standardized names as follows:

Names of mountains, valleys, passes and saddles,

Names of cadastral areas,

Names of protected areas,

Slovak exonyms of geographical Features Lying out of the territory of the Slovak Republic,

Country names.

## **To item 16 Geographical names databases**

### **a) Data models and classifications**

Data model of the present database of geographical names from the territory of the Slovak Republic:

#### Entry ID:

#### Feature name

- name, startdate, enddate, status, national unique code;

#### Location

- region, city;

#### Spatial location

- xcoordinate, ycoordinate;

#### Feature location

- feature type, feature catalogue;

#### Metadata

- toponymic authority, date entered, last amended date, data source.

#### Feature catalogue

The catalogue is harmonized with FACC DIGEST.

<b>Number</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>FACC Code</b>
1	Parkway, Alley	EA020
2	Camp site	AK060
3	Mine, Shaft, Adit	AQ090
4	Road	AP030
5	Cemetery	AL030
6	Vale	OA020

7	Geyser	AA050
8	Geomorphologic Unit	OA020
9	Slag heap	AM032
10	Iron Mill	AL015
11	Weir	BI020
12	Gamekeeper's lodge	AL015
13	Farm Yard	AC000
14	Inn, Roadside cafe, Sheep Shelter	AL015
15	Hotel	AL015
16	Castle, Chateau	AL015
17	Ridge	OA020
18	Chalet, Chalets	AL015
19	Hop Garden/Field	EA055
20	Pavement	AP050
21	Cave, Abyss	AQ090
22	Lake, Lakes	BH080
23	Quarry	AA012
24	Chaneel	BH020
25	Chapel	AL015
26	Mansion, Settlement, Local Part	AL015
27	Monastery	AL015
28	Church	AL015
29	Basin	OA020
30	Wayside Cross	AL116
31	Swimming Pool	AK170
32	Spa	SC001
33	Foerest	EC015
34	Forest, Meadow, Pasture	xxxxx
35	Forest, Field	xxxxx
36	Forest Tree Nursery	EA030
37	Airport	GB005
38	Medical Institution	AL015
39	Grassland, Pasture, Field	EB010
40	Grassland, Pasture, Field	xxxxx
41	Mansion, Settlement, Local Part	AL105

42 Mill	AL015
43 Marsh	BH015
44 Burial Mound, Monument, Memorial	AL130
45 Dead River Channel	BH080
46 Other features	OA020
47 Island	BA030
48 Park	AK120
49 Plain, Plateau	OA020
50 Mountain Lake, Mountain Lakes	BH080
51 Field	EA010
52 Hunting Lodge	AL015
53 Spring	BH170
54 Industrial Area	AC000
55 Pass, Saddle	OA020
56 Port	BB006
57 River Channel	BH140
58 Holiday Resort, Recreation Centre	OA020
59 Gorge, Glen, Gully	OA020
60 Pond, Ponds	BH080
61 Orchard, Garden	EA040
62 Housing Estate	AL020
63 Rock, Rocks	DB020
64 Open-air Museum	OA020
65 Well	AA050
66 Dry Reservoir	OA020
67 Hillside	OA020
68 Sports area	AK031
69 Cene Cover	BH015
70 Tunnel	AQ130
71 Vineyards	EA050
72 Water Power Plant	AD010
73 Water Reservoir	BH080
74 Water Works	BA052
75 Waterway	BH140
76 Waterfall	BH180

77 Hill	OA020
78 Spot elevation	CA030
79 Ruins	AL200
80 Bell Tower	AL241

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#### **b) Data maintenance**

The database is being updated continuously.

#### **d) Data services, applications and products**

In present time it is possible only browsing in database (VMS service). Data from the database can be distributed to those interested by means of printed reports or on CD. Formats in which geographical names are available: MS Excel, Geodatabase, Shape.

Geographical names from the whole territory of the Slovak republic are available on the internet page of the Geodetic and Cartographic Institute Bratislava at the address: <http://www.geoportal.sk>.

### **To item 19 Implementation of resolutions and the aims and functions of UNGEGN**

Recommendations of the UN conferences on the geographical names standardization in the Slovak Republic are fulfilled. Systematic geographical names standardization is in progress in the Slovak Republic.

In the ÚGKK SR edition „UN geographical gazetteers of the Slovak Republic“ geographical gazetteers of districts were published, as well as the publications concerning geographical names in general. Since 1 January 1996 the general obligation to use the geographical names standardized by ÚGKK SR has been legislatively completed.

SR Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority generally pursues correct usage of standardized names, it also pursues the observance of their linguistic characteristics (spelling, transcription, diacritics, pronunciation) as binding for the publishers of map series, specialized publications, for usage in the press and other mass media and in the official activities of public administration authorities covering the whole of Slovakia, circulated in the Slovak language as well as in a foreign language.

The Authority provides for the general public information about international activities and international collaboration in the field of geographical names standardization via the periodical *Názvoslovné informácie* (Geographical Names Information), which is published twice a year. In the publication are published also informative technical papers, results of the UN conference proceeding, of linguistic/geographical regional groups, findings of the Division of UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names, decisions on geographical names standardization and gazetteers, as well as the changes of standardized names. Information about the geographical names standardization are provided also by other periodicals, such as *Spravodajca úradu*, *Geodetický a kartografický obzor*, *Kartografické listy*, *Kultúra slova*.

In the field of geographical names standardization, in the near future the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority proposes activities as follows:

- Launch the ÚGKK SR geoportal: resolve the publication of standardized names through the Geoportal web services by means of the WFS services together with the ZB GIS data.
- Incorporate the geographical names database to ZB GIS – creation of the interface for direct editing of the geographical names in ZB GIS, create spatial connection of all names of the point theme of the geographical names database with spatial data and in case of area features also a proposal of the method for the definition of the geometry of these feature in ZB GIS.
- Incorporate into ZB GIS the geographical names from the map of 1 : 5000 scale and larger. Take over and incorporate in ZB GIS the geographical names also from other thematic GIS administrators.
- Revive the collaboration on the started project EuroGeoNames – compliance of the attribute structure in the database to the requirements of the GeoNames project and after starting the ÚGKK SR geoportal, especially WFS service, accession to the European project EuroGeoNames.
- Extend the publication of selected lists by means of the Internet, namely, e. g. the names of features from the territory outside SR including extraterrestrial features, Slovak exonyms of settlement and non-settlement geographic features lying outside the SR territory, Slovak names of seas, sea streams, undersea formations and names in Antarctica, historical names etc.