

United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)
East Central and South-East Europe Division (ECSEED)

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**Report of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the
United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names on the
work of its twentieth session**

Zagreb, 9 – 11 February 2011

Submitted by ECSEE Division Chairman*

Summary

The twentieth session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division (ECSEED) of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, convened by the East Central and South-East Europe Division Chairman, was held from 9 to 11 February 2011 in Zagreb, Croatia.

The present report describes activities carried out at the Session and activities within member countries, including names authorities, national standardization, minority group and indigenous geographical names, toponymic databases and gazetteers, exonyms, romanization, country names, and other topics. The more details could be found in the documents of the Session.

Positive achievements in the work of geographical names standardization by participating countries can be recognized. Level of development and achievements in standardization of geographical names are not the same in all the ECSEED countries. The Session expressed special interests on the item, geographical names as the part of spatial data infrastructure and EuroGeoNames service of European geographical names infrastructure.

* Prepared by ECSEE Division Chairman, and approved by the Session during the Twentieth ECSEED Session.

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I. Terms of reference

1. The twentieth session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division (ECSEED) of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names convened by the ECSEED Chairman was held in Zagreb, from 9 to 11 February 2011.

II. Attendance

2. The Session was attended by 43 participants. There were 37 participants from 12 ECSEE Division countries and 5 from non ECSEED countries: Austria (1), Canada (1), Estonia (1), United Kingdom (1) and USA (1).

3. Excused: Merita Dollma (Albania), Janusz Gołaski (Poland), Boguslaw R. Zagórski (Poland)

4. The complete list of the participants in the Session was given in Annex I of this document, and issued in a separate document, available on the ECSEED website <http://ungegn.cgi.hr>.

III. Officers of the Session

5. The officers for the Session were as follows:

Chairperson:

Željko Hećimović (Croatia)

Vice-Chairpersons:

Ljerka Rašić (Croatia)

Zvonko Štefan (Croatia)

Reporter:

Biserka Fučkan-Držić (Croatia)

IV. Opening of the Session

6. The ECSEE Division Chairman opened the Session and welcomed the delegates. He then introduced prof. dr. sc. Željko Bačić, the Director of the State Geodetic Administration, who welcomed the delegates and underlined the importance of standardization of geographical names for Croatian system of spatial infrastructure and encouraged UNGEGN work. He pointed out newly organized systematical mapping and activities in Croatia connected with geographical names developing very successfully in comparison with earlier times.

7. The Chairman then introduced Ms. Duška Paravić, the representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration who welcomed the delegates and pointed out the importance of the standardization of geographical names. She

pointed out that the meeting shows how UN Group of experts on geographical names is committed to important issues in this field.

8. The Chairman announced Ms Helen Kerfoot who welcomed the participants and thanked for the opportunity to be in Zagreb. She pointed out the achievement of the organizers to collect so many participants of the Division, A lot of synergy is created through all meetings (20th ECSEE Division Session, UNGEGN WG TDFG meeting, EuroGeoGraphics – EuroGeoNames workshop). The meeting presents the opportunity to make contributions to the issues of geographical names in this part of Europe. The problems of financing have to be taken into consideration, but we are faced with great challenge in dealing with so called unauthorized geographical names. She wished to all the participants an interesting and successful work.

9. The Chairman then introduced Ms Borka Bobovec, the representative of the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction, who greeted and warmly welcomed the participants, pointing out the topics of standardization of geographical names recognized by the international community as extremely important. The Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction is very much interested in standardization of geographical names being the integral part of spatial data infrastructure.

10. The Chairman introduced Ms Helen Kerfoot, the UNGEGN Chair inviting her to make her presentation of UNGEGN.

Helen Kerfoot: UNGEGN: overview, Divisions and news

The report provided an overview of UNGEGN organization, its important projects and recent work, UNGEGN World Geographical Names Database, the creation of Divisions illustrating their development throughout the world, their work and obligations, and also the expectations in the future. It is pointed out that people would have a lot of problems without names, but with more than 6000 languages around the world coming in many scripts, the standardization of geographical names seems to be of utmost importance bringing technical benefits, economic benefits, social benefits, and cultural benefits. UNGEGN promotes the names authorities to be established in order to have correctly recorded names data based on local usage that will be available for people to use and easy to access. The report emphasizes the importance of creating web sites mentioning the web site of this Division as a very good example.

V. Adoption of agenda

11. The Agenda was adopted as present:

1. Opening of the Session.
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Organization of work.
3. National standardization:
 - (a) Field collection of names;

- (b) Office treatment of names;
 - (c) Treatment of names in multilingual areas;
 - (d) Administrative structure of national names authorities, legislation, policies and procedures.
4. Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors.
 5. Geographical names as culture, heritage and identity (including indigenous, minority and regional language names).
 6. Toponymic data files and gazetteers:
 - (a) Data collection procedures;
 - (b) Data elements required;
 - (c) Toponymic data transfer standards and formats;
 - (d) Automated data processing systems;
 - (e) National gazetteers;
 - (f) Other publications.
 7. Terminology in the standardization of geographical names.
 8. Writing systems:
 - (a) Romanization;
 - (b) Conversion into non-Roman writing systems;
 - (c) Writing of names in unwritten languages.
 9. Pronunciation.
 10. Country names.
 11. Exonyms.
 12. Features beyond a single sovereignty.
 - (a) Features common to two or more nations;
 - (b) Bilateral/multilateral agreements.
 13. Toponymic websites.
 14. Co-operation with neighborhood countries and international organizations.
 15. Toponymic education.
 16. Geographical names databases:
 - (a) Data models and classifications;
 - (b) Data maintenance;
 - (c) Data standards and interoperability;
 - (d) Data services, applications and products (*for example, gazetteers and web services*).
 17. Promotion of indigenous and minority group names.
 18. The Geographical Names as Part of the Cultural Heritage.
 19. Implementation of resolutions and the aims and functions of UNGEGN.
 20. ECSEE Division Chairing.
 21. Preparations for the 26th UNGEGN Session, May 2011.
 22. Other information.
 23. Adoption of the Report of the Twentieth Session of the East Central and South East Europe Division of UNGEGN.
 24. Closing the Session.

VI. The Session reporting and documents

12. There are 30 documents submitted to the session and this Session report made. The List of documents is given in Annex II of this document.

13. The documents of the Session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the UNGEGN will be published in digital form on the ECSEED web site <http://ungegn.cgi.hr> and on the CD-ROM.

14. Reporting of the work of the Session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names is given in Annex IV.

VII. Provisional agenda for the twenty-first session of the ECSEED of the UNGEGN

15. The ECSEED Chairman introduced Provisional agenda for the twenty-first session of the ECSEED of the UNGEGN. The Provisional agenda is given in Annex III.

VIII. Conclusions and recommendations

16. The Twentieth Session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the UNGEGN held from 9 to 11 February 2011 in Zagreb made the following recognitions, conclusions and recommendations:

(a) The Session recognized positive achievements and the progress made in the work of geographical names standardization by participating countries.

(b) The submitted national reports and documents contain a lot of information referring the various items of the agenda, and the Session recognized the importance of the submitted documents by evaluating the progress made by participating countries.

(c) The Session recognized the importance of geographical names, and the necessity to continue the important work on standardization of geographical names and to encourage the countries that have not yet done so to establish national geographical names boards.

(d) The ECSEE Division Chairman recommends the usage of a system of single layout for the ECSEED documents with the unified first page on the ECSEED documents and unique index number.

(e) The Session concluded that the countries will send national contributions (half-page reports) to the Division Chairman to implement them in to the ECSEE Division Report of 26th UNGEGN Session.

(f) The Session encourages the countries of the Division to file their credentials as soon as possible with the United Nations in New York for participation at the 26th UNGEGN Session in Vienna in May 2011.

(g) The ECSEE Division Chairman recommends continuous changing and updating of the ECSEED countries data in East Central and South-East Europe Division overview document.

(h) The Session notes the value of the Division web site and suggests its continuity and ongoing updating. The Session recommends the inclusion of documents on the history of the Division.

(i) The Session concluded that Slovenia will be the next ECSEE Division chairing country, after the next UN Conference on standardization on Geographical Names in 2012.

(j) The next informal meeting of the Division will be held during the 26th UNGEGN Session in Vienna.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

East Central and South-East Europe Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

20th Session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division (ECSEED) of the UNGEGN, Zagreb, Croatia, 9 – 11 February 2011

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22	Mr.	Gábor	Mikesy	HUNGARY	Institute of Geodesy, Cartography and Remote Sensing, (member of Hungarian Committee on Geographical Names)	mikesy.gabor@fomi.hu
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Annex II List of documents

East Central and South-East Europe Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

20th Session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division (ECSEED) of the UNGEGN, Zagreb, Croatia, 9 – 11 February 2011

Nr.	UNGE GN Division Session Nr.	Date MM/YYYY	Document Symbol	Title	Prepared by	Country / Organization
1	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/1	East Central and South-East Europe Division overview (Edition: 10 February 2011)	ECSEED	ECSEED
2	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/2	ECSEE Division Chairman Report from 2008 to 2011	ECSEED Chairman	ECSEED Chairman
3	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/3	Polish lists of geographical names of the World, Vol. 12. Europe – part 2	Maciej Zych, Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland	Poland
4	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/4	Report of Poland 2009-2011	Prepared by Katarzyna Przystewska and Maciej Zych, Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland	Poland
5	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/5	Toponymic guidelines of Poland for map editors and other users. Fourth revised edition	Maciej Zych, Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland	Poland
6	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/6	Country names in Hungarian language	András Dutkó, Commission on Geographical Names	Hungary

7	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/7	Resolution of the Hungarian Committee on Geographical Names on Minority Names	Gábor Mikešy and Martin Išpanović, Commission on Geographical Names	Hungary
8	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/8	Activities of the Hungarian Committee on Geographical Names, December 2008 – December 2010	Béla Pokoly, Commission on Geographical Names	Hungary
9	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/9	Report of Slovenia	Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia and Commission for Standardization of Geographical Names of Republic of Slovenia	Slovenia
10	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/10	National Standardization of Geographical Names in Ukraine	Nataliia-Sofiia Pinchuk, Nataliia Kizilova, (State Service of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre), Nina Syvak (State Scientific Production Enterprise “Kartographia”)	Ukraine
11	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/11	Romanization system in Ukraine	Nataliia-Sofiia Pinchuk, Nataliia Kizilova, (State Service of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre), Nina Syvak (State Scientific Production Enterprise “Kartographia”)	Ukraine
12	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/12	Toponymic Guidelines for Map and other Editors (Ukraine)	Nina Syvak (State Scientific Production Enterprise “Kartographia”), Nataliia Kizilova, (State Service of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre),	Ukraine
13	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/13	Report of the activities relating the standardization of geographical names in the Czech Republic	Pavel Bohac	Czech Republic
14	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/14	Geonames Database of the Czech Republic	Pavel Bohac	Czech Republic
15	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/15	Report on the activities in the field of standardization of geographical names in the Slovak Republic	Mária Kováčová, Geodetic and Cartographic Institute Bratislava, Slovak Republic and Eva Miklušová, Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre	Slovak Republic

					Authority of the Slovak Republic	
16	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/16	Geographical Names of national minorities in the Republic of Croatia	Zvonko Štefan, Željko Hećimović, Željka Jakir, State Geodetic Administration, Croatia	Croatia
17	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/17	Romanization systems and their implementation	Peeter Päll	Estonia
18	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/18	An overview of ECSEE Division, its past and future perspectives	Milan Orožen Adamič	Slovenia
19	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/19	Report on the Activities in the Field of Standardization of Geographical Names in the Republic of Croatia in the period from 2008 to 2011	Željko Hećimović, Ivan Landek State Geodetic Administration	Croatia
20	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/20	Place names as a part of global, regional and national spatial data infrastructure	Željko Hećimović	Croatia
21	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/21	Presentation of the ECSEE Division at the 26th UNGEGN Session	ECSEED Chairman	ECSEED
22	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/22	Report of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names on the work of its twentieth session	ECSEED	ECSEED
23	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/23	National Report of Cyprus	Prodromos Vasileiou	Cyprus

24	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/24	Relationship between the standard and the local toponymic forms - standardization of Croatian toponyms	Dunja Brozović Rončević, Ankica Čilaš Šimpraga, Domagoj Vidović	Croatia
25	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/25	Toponomastic publications of the Center of Onomastic Studies of the University of Zadar (islands: Pašman, Ugljan, Vrgada, Murter)	Dunja Brozović Rončević	Croatia
26	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/26	Terminology in the standardization of geographical names "Slavic toponomastic terminology vs. ICOS & UNGEGN terminology	Dunja Brozović Rončević	Croatia
27	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/27	Exonyms as a reflection of cultural heritage	Dunja Brozović Rončević	Croatia
28	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/28	Presentation of the onomastic data base (Tshwane) of the Institute of the Croatian Language and Linguistics	Dunja Brozović Rončević	Croatia
29	20	02/2011	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/29	UNGEGN: overview, Divisions and news	Helen Kerfoot, UNGEGN Chair	Canada
30	20	02/2012	ECSEED/Session.20/2011/30	Commission Report of the Standardization of Geographical Names of the Republic Serbia	Slaviša Tatomirović	Serbia

Annex III

Provisional agenda for the twenty-first session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

1. Opening of the Session.
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Organization of work.
3. National standardization:
 - (a) Field collection of names;
 - (b) Office treatment of names;
 - (c) Treatment of names in multilingual areas;
 - (d) Administrative structure of national names authorities, legislation, policies and procedures.
4. Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors.
5. Geographical names as culture, heritage and identity (including indigenous, minority and regional language names).
6. Toponymic data files and gazetteers:
 - (a) Data collection procedures;
 - (b) Data elements required;
 - (c) Toponymic data transfer standards and formats;
 - (d) Automated data processing systems;
 - (e) National gazetteers;
 - (f) Other publications.
7. Terminology in the standardization of geographical names.
8. Writing systems:
 - (a) Romanization;
 - (b) Conversion into non-Roman writing systems;
 - (c) Writing of names in unwritten languages.
9. Pronunciation.
10. Country names.
11. Exonyms.
12. Features beyond a single sovereignty:
 - (a) Features common to two or more nations;
 - (b) Bilateral/multilateral agreements.
13. Toponymic websites.
14. Co-operation with neighborhood countries and international organizations.
15. Toponymic education.
16. Geographical names databases:
 - (a) Data models and classifications;
 - (b) Data maintenance;
 - (c) Data standards and interoperability;
 - (d) Data services, applications and products (*for example, gazetteers and web services*).
17. Promotion of indigenous and minority group names.
18. Implementation of resolutions and the aims and functions of UNGEGN.
19. Other information.

20. Adoption of the Report of the Twenty-first Session of the East Central and South East Europe Division of UNGEGN.
21. Closing the Session.

Annex IV

The Session reporting

The 20th ECSEED Session reporting is not part of the Report because it was not approved during the Session. It was not approved because lack of time. The Sessions discussions are concluded in the Conclusions and recommendations of the Report.