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Item 8 (b) of the provisional agenda*

**Reports on achievements in geographic information in
addressing national, regional and global issues,
including: Spatial data infrastructures**

**EuroGeoNames: the vision of integrated geographical
names data within a European SDI****

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Abstract

Geographical names are geobasic reference data of all spatially related topographic data sets. In general, they serve as the first access to geoinformation. In the context of the INSPIRE¹ initiative, geographical names are considered to be one of the three most important data components. However, geographical names have not been given attentive focus yet.

The project EuroGeoNames (EGN) was initiated to integrate geographical names data better in a European Spatial Data Infrastructure. As a prerequisite to set up EGN, a detailed European survey/inventory on geographical names data (SI-EGN) was started in January 2005. It aims at investigating the availability, quality, accessibility and responsibility as well as the market potential of geographical names data.

An overview is given on the concept for EuroGeoNames (EGN) as well as on the current status of the survey/inventory (SI-EGN). Furthermore the future plans for setting up EuroGeoNames are being touched.

¹ INSPIRE — Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe.