

15 February 2019

Original: English

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**United Nations Group of Experts on  
Geographical Names  
2019 session**

New York, 29 April–3 May 2019

Item 7 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**National and international standardization of geographical  
names: names collection, office treatment, national  
authorities, features beyond a single sovereignty and  
international cooperation****Urgency of drafting the government regulation on  
guidelines for assigning and changing geographical names****Summary\*\***

There has been a change in the national policies of the Government of Indonesia relating to the standardization of geographical names, namely the amendment of Presidential Regulation No. 112 of 2006 concerning the national team for the standardization of geographical names by Presidential Regulation No. 116 of 2016 concerning the dissolution of non-structural institutions. It is stated in section 2 of Presidential Regulation No. 116 that the duties and functions of the national team for the standardization of geographical names are conducted by non-ministerial government institutions that carry out government duties in the geospatial field.

At present there is a dualism of laws and regulations on the standardization of geographical names in Indonesia that are still valid and actively used:

(a) Regulation No. 39 of 2008 of the Ministry of Home Affairs concerning general guidelines for the standardization of geographical names, which refers to Law No. 32 of 2004 concerning regional government;

(b) Regulation No. 6 of 2017 of the Geospatial Information Agency of Indonesia concerning the implementation of the standardization of geographical names, which refers to:

- (i) Law No. 24 of 2009 concerning flags, languages, national symbols and the national anthem;
- (ii) Law No. 4 of 2011 concerning geospatial information;
- (iii) Law No. 23 of 2014 concerning regional government.

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\* GEGN.2/2019/1.

\*\* The full report was prepared by the Geospatial Information Agency of Indonesia. The report will available at [https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/1st\\_session\\_UNGEGN.html](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/1st_session_UNGEGN.html), in the language of submission only, as document GEGN.2/2019/89/CRP.89.



Law No. 24 of 2009 contains an article prohibiting violations of the use of flags, national symbols and the national anthem, though not of languages.

Therefore, a regulation on the proper and correct use of the Indonesian language is urgently required. The standardization of geographical names and of widely used languages and foreign terms, including geographical names used in public places, is also considered urgent and necessary.

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