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National and international standardization of geographical names:

**Names collection, office treatment, national authorities, features beyond a
single sovereignty and international cooperation**

**Reorganization of Marine Geographical Names and Outreach
Activities, 2017-2018**

Submitted by the Republic of Korea**

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Summary

The Korea Hydrographic and Oceanographic Agency (KHOA) conducted research on the standardization of marine geographical names to manage them more systematically. In 2017 KHOA reviewed all nautical charts and publications and utilized the outcomes to assess the quality of the quality of marine geographical names database in 2018. As a result of such efforts, KHOA published a new edition of *National Gazetteer of Marine Geographical Names* to help the public use standardized marine geographical names. The total number of names listed in the new edition reached 1,091 with 176 new names added, seven corrected or modified, and nine deleted, resulting in an increase by 167 names compared to the previous edition. The new edition also includes updates with the latest chart images, coordinates, and romanization and definitions of generic terms.

Reorganization of Marine Geographical Names and Outreach Activities, 2017-2018¹

1. Reorganization of marine geographical names for standardization

To standardize marine geographical names, KHOA published the first edition of the *Guideline for the Standardization of Marine Geographical Names* in 2004 and the second edition in 2016 as Publication B-6 *Standardization of Undersea Feature Names*, co-published by the International Hydrographic Organization and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, was updated.

Accordingly, the need to reorganize publicly announced marine geographical names was recognized. In 2017, KHOA reviewed all nautical charts and publications and discovered 248 unannounced names which had already been in use. KHOA listed the names which needed to be announced after conducting a field survey and established the foundation for incorporating marine geographical names into the database management system which had not been previously included.

2. Review of the quality of marine geographical names

With the review outcome in 2017, KHOA reviewed the quality of marine geographical names database in 2018, which led to standardization and systematic management. The database KHOA manages includes Korean names, coordinates, announcement number, origin of the names, generic terms and its explanation and drying height. KHOA reviewed the adequacy of generic information, romanization, variable information (e.g. drying height) and the origin of the names.

3. New edition of *National Gazetteer of Marine Geographical Names*

KHOA also published a new edition of *National Gazetteer of Marine Geographical Names* at the end of

¹ This working paper pertains to the UNCSGN resolutions IV/3 (Systematization and generalization of experience in the sphere of the standardization of geographical names), II/22 (Standardization of maritime nomenclature), II/32 (Dissemination of decisions by national authorities) and V/6 (Promotion of national and international geographical names standardization programs).

2018 so that the public can use standardized marine geographical names with the above-mentioned review. This edition was published three years after the first edition in 2015 and is listed with 1,091 marine geographical names with their coordinates, origin of the names and generic information. Among them 176 names are new, seven are error corrections and changed names, and nine are deletions which meant an increase by 167 names and the total listed number is 1,091 in 2018.

A digital version of the edition was also published to enable easy access by the public and has been classified into five sea areas for easy download. The Table of Contents is organized in the order of generic terms in accordance with the Guideline for the Standardization of Marine Geographical Names.

KHOA conducted the above activities for better management and use of standardized marine geographical names and will continue to strive to provide more information on standardized marine geographical names.