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English

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

New York, 3 – 7 May 2021

Item 4(a) of the provisional agenda *

**Reports: Governments on the situation in their countries and on the progress
made in the standardization of geographical names**

Report of Slovakia

Submitted by Slovakia**

Summary:

The Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority of the Slovak Republic has been ensuring the activities related to the standardization of geographical names inside and outside the territory of Slovakia.

The database of standardized geographical names from the territory of Slovakia was developed between 1995 and 2003. Since then, the updating of the database has been continuous. Since 2015, the content of the database has been gradually expanded through the addition of names from cadastral and forest maps and since 2018 through another source of names relating to watercourses managed by various administrators. Each year, specific districts of the territory of Slovakia are chosen to be surveyed and added to the database. Documentation on activities and selected lists of geographical names are published and updated.¹

The authority allows the free downloading of data from the database in the following formats: Esri shapefile, Esri Microsoft database, Esri geodatabase and comma-separated values.² An interactive web map application of spatial data and data from the database is also available,³ as is an interactive web map application of exonyms.⁴

International meetings

- Twenty-second session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, Bratislava, 13 February 2019

* GEGN.2/2021/1.

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¹ See www.skgeodesy.sk/sk/ugkk/geodezia-kartografia/standardizacia-geografickeho-nazvoslovia/.

² For more details, see www.geoportal.sk/en/zbgis-smd/download-section/.

³ See <https://zbgis.skgeodesy.sk/mkzbgis/en/zakladna-mapa?bm=zbgis&z=8&c=19.255902,48.659730&sc=n>.

⁴ See <https://zbgis.skgeodesy.sk/mkzbgis/en/geograficke-nazvy?bm=worldOceanBase&z=8&c=19.255902,48.659730&sc=n>.

- Technical meeting of Czech, Slovak and Polish national mapping and cadastral authorities representatives on harmonization, Warsaw, 27 and 28 May 2019
- Technical meeting of Czech, Slovak and Polish national mapping and cadastral authorities representatives on the harmonization of topographic data in the national border area, Prague, 7 and 8 November 2019
- 2019 session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, New York, 29 April–3 May 2019
- Twenty-third session of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, New York, 1 May 2019
- 147th session of the Permanent Standing Committee on Geographical Names (StAGN), Frankfurt, Germany, 2 and 3 March 2020

Report

During the period 2019-2020 we continued with densifying the content of the database of standardized geographical names by names from cadastral maps, forestry maps and managed watercourses names. We either standardized the names of non-standardized features or we modified the standardized names based on the new findings from these sources. By the end of 2020, we completed 14% of all districts and further 11% of districts are in progress stage.

We have standardized new names of protected features such as protected trees, nature reserves, caves, sites of community importance or cadastral areas. We have standardized long and short country names - Eswatini and North Macedonia according to the changes that had occurred.

We have continued in publishing of the periodical publication called Geographical Names Information and twice a year we provided information about activities in the field of standardization of geographical names in international and national content.

List of country names and other selected lists of names published on our website are regularly updated.

We also regularly update the database of standardized names that is used in map application called Map client ZB GIS. We continue to provide the standardized names for free. In 2018, we published a new digital terrain model - DTM 5.0. Since then, there have been increasing suggestions (requests from users) to specify the location and height of features in relation to standardized names for which we provide the additional information - elevation. In the near future, we plan to deal with this issue, first in a smaller test area and after debugging the procedure, we will address all features for which we state the height within the entire territory of the Slovak Republic.

We have started preparatory work on data harmonization at the Ukrainian and Hungarian borders.