

13 March 2023

English

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

2023 session

New York, 1 – 5 May 2023

Item 7 of the provisional agenda ^{*\}

**Social and economic benefits, supporting sustainable
development, measures taken and proposed for the
implementation of resolutions**

**Treatment of different geographical names proposed for
port naming**

Submitted by Indonesia ^{**}

Summary:

The Government of Indonesia has recently invested heavily in ports, airports and toll roads. The investment was designated as the national strategic project intended to support the country's economic and social growth as a result of Presidential Regulation No. 109 of 2020 to amend Presidential Regulation No. 3 of 2016 concerning the acceleration of national strategic project implementation. One of these projects is a newly built port named Kijing Terminal, located on the western coast of Borneo towards Karimata Strait in Mempawah Regency, West Kalimantan Province.

Government Regulation No. 2 of 2021 on the standardization of geographical names stipulates that all geographical features, including newly built ones, must be named by following its provisions. With the official launch of the port by the President of Indonesia approaching, several names were proposed by the Ministry of Transportation, port operators, local government at the regency and provincial levels, and the community. This case has brought naming disputes to the national level.

The Geospatial Information Agency (Badan Informasi Geospasial), as the national names authority of Indonesia, explores the geographical naming process through public participation, collaboration with stakeholders and preservation of local wisdom to determine the resolution of the different port names proposed. The report describes the steps taken and challenges and opportunities encountered during the port naming process.

*\ GEGN.2/2023/1

** ** Prepared by Aldila Pradhana, Armand Maulana Yusuf and Fadhil Abryanto Nugraha of the Geospatial Information Agency.

Treatment of different geographical names proposed for port naming

Geographical naming in Indonesia

The Indonesian Government has issued Regulation Number 2 of 2021 (GR 2/2021) to standardize geographical names in the country. One of the stages in geographical names standardization is the collection of geographical names data, which includes geographical naming.

The GR 2/2021 states that unnamed geographical features are eligible for naming. Proposals for names can be submitted by BIG, ministries/agencies, provincial governments, regency/city governments. Other parties, such as local communities, Non-Government Organization (NGO), and individuals, can propose geographical names through BIG, ministries/agencies, provincial governments, or regency/city governments.

The proposal process for geographical names is conducted via the Indonesian Geographical Names Information System (*Sistem Informasi Nama Rupabumi-SINAR*) and must be supplemented by supporting data and information regarding the geographical names and involving public participation. Public participation can be carried out in the form of public consultation, discussion, dissemination, seminar, and workshop. After the proposal process is completed, the next step is the verification process. The verification process is conducted in stages: starting from the district/regency level to the provincial level, and finally to the national level. The verified data is announced via SINAR and the public are able to give feedback within the 30 working-days period. Any feedback received during this announcement period is reverified by BIG within 14 working-days. The final data is then compiled as standardized geographical names and published in the Gazetteer of the Republic of Indonesia.

Public participation in geographical naming

In accordance with GR No. 2/2021, the proposal of geographical names should involve the participation of various stakeholders, including ministries/agencies, provincial governments, and regency/city governments, as well as the public in general. Public participation in this context encompasses a wide range of individuals and groups, such as local communities, NGOs, and individuals.

The importance of public participation in the geographical naming process cannot be overstated. It is crucial in ensuring that the naming process represents the cultural identity, values, and interests, while also promoting environmental conservation and sustainable development. The naming of the Kijing Terminal is one of good examples of the geographical naming process. During the process, the involvement of the local community ensured that the port's historical and cultural significance was duly recognized.

Kijing Terminal

The Kijing Terminal is a newly constructed container port located in the Mempawah Regency, West Kalimantan Province. It is positioned on the western coast of Borneo, facing the Karimata Strait, approximately 90 km Northeast of Pontianak. The terminal is a part of the National Strategic Project for the development of the Pontianak Port, which functions as a gateway for trade between Indonesia and Malaysia. The construction of the port cost around 186 million USD and aims to replace the overloaded Pontianak Port in handling the logistical flow.

Covering an area of 35 hectares, the port can accommodate up to 12,000 twenty-foot equivalent units of containers and is equipped with modern facilities such as an automated container handling system and an eco-friendly ship fueling system. It is planned to become one of the primary economic hubs in West Kalimantan due to its strategic location in an industrial and trade zone. The terminal is the main gateway for international trade in West Kalimantan, facilitating the international shipment of goods through land and river routes.

According to the Presidential Decree number 43/2017, the port is named *Terminal Kijing Pelabuhan Pontianak* and is managed under the Port of Pontianak. However, local communities had concerns regarding the port's name since it is situated in the Mempawah Regency and not in the Pontianak Regency. This has led to a debate over its official name. The previous location of the port was a tourist destination known as *Pantai Kijing* (Kijing Beach), and the locals wanted the port to be named after its historical name, *Terminal Kijing*.

Chronological orders of the port naming process

The process of the port naming was initiated by a three-parties meeting between BIG, the government of Mempawah Regency and the government of West Kalimantan Province on June 23, 2022. The government of Mempawah Regency presented a proposed name that had gone through various processes, including initial discussions and public consultations with the community and other stakeholders. The proposed name from the government of Mempawah Regency was *Pelabuhan Kijing Mempawah* (Kijing Mempawah Port). Additionally, the provincial government included *Pelabuhan Internasional Tanjungpura* (Tanjungpura International Port) as an alternative name for the port.

The provincial government stated that the decision on which name to be used as the standardized name would be a subject for the central government to decide, in accordance with the procedures and stages outlined in the GR 2/2021. The statement from the provincial government actually complies with the GR 2/2021 that stipulated the responsibility for naming geographical features located in cross-province areas or geographical features with national interest appointed to the central government. Later in June 2022, BIG coordinated with the Ministry of Transportation to discuss the proposed names from the local governments. The meeting concluded that further technical discussions and evaluations of the proposed names were required.

A follow-up meeting was then held on August 24, 2022 to further discuss the technical aspects and review the proposed names at the national level. The meeting was attended by BIG, the Ministry of Transportation, and the Ministry of State-Owned Enterprises. The Ministry of Transportation stated that the object in question was a terminal that was part of a port, consequently the appropriate generic element was "Terminal". Furthermore, the name of the terminal was already mentioned in the Presidential Regulation Number 43 of 2017 as *Terminal Kijing Pelabuhan Pontianak*. The Ministry of State-Owned Enterprises also stated that the name listed in the regulation was already being used in the licensing process for the terminal. BIG has noted that naming the Terminal with *Pelabuhan* (which means "port" in English) as the specific element could cause confusion whether the feature is a port or a terminal under the port management. As a result, people who are not familiar with the area might find it difficult to understand the name *Terminal Kijing Pelabuhan Pontianak* (Kijing Terminal of Pontianak Port). However, since the port naming is under the authority of the Ministry of Transportation, BIG thus left the decision to them. The Ministry of Transportation adhered to the existing regulation, so the name agreed upon in the meeting was *Terminal Kijing Pelabuhan Pontianak* (Kijing Terminal of Pontianak Port).

After the review process at the national level was completed, the selected name was further discussed in the high-level meeting on September 16, 2022. During the high-level meeting, the Ministry of Transportation confirmed that the name to be announced to the public is *Terminal Kijing Pelabuhan Pontianak*. The announcement period of the confirmed port name was conducted from September 22 to November 2, 2022. During this period, the government of Mempawah Regency gave feedback regarding the port name change from *Terminal Kijing Pelabuhan Pontianak* to *Pelabuhan Kijing Mempawah*.

The role of BIG in conflict resolutions

BIG involved various stakeholders such as ministries/agencies, provincial governments, regency/city governments, and other parties in reviewing geographical names that had received feedback. Therefore, on November 18, 2022, the review of the port name was conducted involving the Ministry of Transportation, the Ministry of State-Owned Enterprises, the government of West

Kalimantan Province, and the government of Mempawah Regency. At the meeting, BIG proposed “Terminal Kijing” as the candidate for a standardized name. The participants were asked to provide their opinions and agreement on the proposal put forward by BIG. The representative from the provincial government stated that, as the object was a national strategic project, the name to be standardized would be left to the central government. The representative from the Mempawah regency government agreed with the proposal, emphasizing the importance of retaining the word "Kijing" as an element of the name, as it was closely related to the local community. The Ministry of Transportation also supported the proposal put forward by BIG. Therefore, it was decided at the meeting that the name to be standardized for the object would be "Terminal Kijing", while the other proposed name was submitted as variant names. The final standardized port name in the national gazetteer is shown below.

Table 1. The final standardized port name of Terminal Kijing

Standardized Name	Variant Names	Feature Type	Coordinates	Area Description
Kijing, Terminal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terminal Kijing Pelabuhan Pontianak⁽¹⁾ Pelabuhan Kijing Mempawah⁽²⁾ 	Sea Port	00°30'26.58" U 108°54'31.86" T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mempawah Regency, West Kalimantan Province Under the management of the Pontianak Port
<p>⁽¹⁾ Presidential Regulation Number 43 of 2017 ⁽²⁾ Mempawah Regent Decree Number 109 of 2022</p>				

All proposed names were properly documented in the national gazetteer. The standardized name of the port is *Terminal Kijing*, while the other two names (*Terminal Kijing Pelabuhan Pontianak* and *Pelabuhan Kijing Mempawah*) were treated as variant names. In addition, the information that the port is under the management of the Pontianak Port was added in the Area Description column in the national gazetteer for clarification.

Conclusion

The naming of the *Terminal Kijing* is an act of goodwill by the local governments to preserve the culture and history of the area through geographical names. The port name uses the word "*Kijing*", which is a type of shellfish that was once a source of livelihood for the local community where the terminal is located. The geographical names standardization of the *Terminal Kijing* involves public participation, particularly related to the preservation of local history, emphasizing collaboration between government elements from the regency, province to the central government, and resulting in resolutions that prioritize national interests in decision-making that comply with applicable laws and regulations. The naming of *Terminal Kijing* serves as an example of the implementation of the naming mechanism in accordance with GR 2/2021 in Indonesia.

Points for discussion

The Group of Experts is invited to:

- Express its views towards the steps taken in the resolution of multiple geographical naming.