THEME: Cape Verde (135) - Work of the National Commission of Toponymy (CNT), particularly with regard to recognizing geographical names in Creole and/or Portuguese

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National Commission of Toponymy (CNT)

The National authority on toponymy, functioning as a multidisciplinary body, assuming the responsibilities regarding the:

DL no. 05/2012, the Commission's main functions are:

- Standardization;
- Compilation;
- Validation;
- **obliging, stimulating and supporting** the municipalities

Misrepresentation in the translation of toponyms from Portuguese to Creole and vice-versa

Example 1: Below are two examples of mistranslation, of the word "Mampatraz", a species of plant that is prevalent in that stream, and which, due to the similarity of sound, was translated

Example 2: Another paradigmatic example is the translation of "Lin d'corvo", which in Creole means "Linha do Corvo", and which was translated into Portuguese as "Lindo Corvo".







Solutions:

- Correct the mistranslated names;
- Remain in both languages, for example the case of "Ilha Brava" written in Portuguese and "Djabraba" in Creole.
- Toponyms that exist only in Portuguese/Creole, so they should remain in Portuguese/Creole: For example, **Djongotó**, **Gongon**, **Godim** etc.







United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)