

10 March 2025

English

United Nations Group of Experts on**Geographical Names****2025 session**

New York, 28 April – 2 May 2025

Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda *

**Technical expertise: Names collection, office treatment,
features beyond a single sovereignty and international cooperation****Managing geographical names of administrative regions: coding system
of Indonesia based on Minister of Home Affairs Regulation No. 58 of
2021**

Submitted by Indonesia **

Summary:

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia has enacted Government Regulation No. 2 of 2021 to safeguard territorial sovereignty, preserve cultural heritage, and improve administrative management. As a follow-up, the Ministry of Home Affairs issued Regulation No. 58 of 2021, establishing a standardized coding system for administrative regions and islands. This system ensures consistency and accuracy in territorial data, supporting the principles of good governance.

The Administrative Region and Island Code, hereinafter referred to as the Code, serves as the unique numerical identity for administrative regions and islands across Indonesia. It covers provinces, regencies/cities, districts (or equivalent terms), villages (or equivalent terms), sub-districts, and islands. This coding system resolves issues of identical names in different locations, facilitates efficient data management, and enhances public administration, population management, and regional planning. By integrating geographical, cultural, and historical aspects, the Code adheres to toponymy standards, providing a robust framework for managing and documenting Indonesia's diverse regions and islands.

To address the dynamic nature of administrative and geographical data, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued a supporting policy in the form of an annual or as-needed Ministerial Decree on the Allocation and Updating of Codes for Administrative Regions and Islands. This policy ensures that the coding system remains current and relevant to national interests.

The allocation and updating of codes for administrative region data rely on proposals from local governments and recommendations from relevant components within the Ministry of Home Affairs. Meanwhile, the updating of island codes involves local government proposals and national-level verification of island names. This structured approach ensures the accuracy and inclusivity of geographical data, which is critical for effective governance and national development.

By integrating Minister of Home Affairs Regulation No. 58 of 2021 into its governance framework, Indonesia has enhanced administrative efficiency, ensured data accuracy, and supported sustainable national development. Furthermore, this regulatory framework underscores Indonesia's commitment to global cooperation by aligning its geographical names management system with

* GEGN.2/2025/1

** Prepared by Safrizal ZA, Indonesia, Ministry of Home Affairs.

international standards and contributing actively to initiatives led by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN). This initiative highlights Indonesia's efforts to utilize standardized geographical names to preserve its cultural heritage, strengthen territorial sovereignty, and foster better governance.

Managing geographical names of administrative regions: coding system of Indonesia based on Minister of Home Affairs Regulation No. 58 of 2021

Introduction

The codification of administrative regions and islands is a strategic step taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs as part of efforts to strengthen governance and territorial management in Indonesia. As a vast country consisting of thousands of islands, Indonesia faces significant challenges in ensuring that administrative region and island data are managed accurately, consistently, and in an integrated manner. Therefore, codification is an urgent necessity to support development planning, policy formulation, and effective resource management.

The codification of administrative regions aims to provide a unique and standardized identity for each administrative region, from the provincial level, regency/city, sub-district, to village/urban village and island. This system enables each region to have a distinct and uniform code, reducing the potential for errors in data collection and information management. Additionally, codification serves to support the preparation of official documents, statistical data reporting, and the development of geographic information systems (GIS) used by various government sectors.

The codification implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs aligns with the government's vision of creating transparent, effective, and accountable governance. With integrated codification, decision-making in various sectors can be based on valid and standardized data. Moreover, this system supports Indonesia's efforts to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs), particularly in terms of inclusive and sustainable spatial planning.

Determination of Administrative Region Codes

The Ministry of Home Affairs, through the Directorate General of Regional Administration Development, has formulated policies for the collection and management of administrative region and island data. Minister of Home Affairs Regulation No. 58 of 2021 provides a comprehensive framework for assigning, updating, and integrating codes for administrative regions and islands. The assignment process follows a structured approach, ensuring the accuracy and consistency of geographical data.

For provinces and regencies/cities, the Director General of Regional Autonomy submits proposals to the Director General of Regional Administration Development, who reviews and forwards recommendations to the Minister. Upon approval, the codes are assigned, ensuring proper documentation. Similarly, codes for sub-districts, villages, and islands follow a structured submission and verification process to ensure data consistency and compliance with regulatory standards.

Structure of Administrative Region and Island Codes

The assigned codes are numerical, ensuring uniformity across administrative regions and islands. The coding structure is as follows:

- Province codes (2 digits): The first digit represents the geographical location of Indonesian islands from west to east, while the second digit reflects the order of provincial establishment.

- Regency/City codes (4 digits): The first two digits represent the provincial code, and the last two digits designate the regency/city, assigned sequentially.
- Sub-district codes (6 digits): The first two digits represent the province, the next two the regency/city, and the last two the sub-district, assigned in order.
- Village/Urban village codes (10 digits): The first six digits follow the sub-district format, while the last four digits differentiate between villages, urban villages, and customary villages.
- Island codes (9 digits): The first four digits represent the province and regency/city, while the last five digits are explicitly assigned to each island.

This structured coding system ensures systematic identification, supports administrative efficiency and facilitates seamless integration with government databases and Geographic Information System (GIS) applications.

Updating Codes and Administrative Region Data

Recognizing the dynamic nature of administrative and geographical data, the Ministry of Home Affairs has instituted an annual or as-needed Ministerial Decree on the Allocation and Updating of Codes for Administrative Regions and Islands. This mechanism ensures that the coding system remains current and relevant. The updating process involves proposals from local governments, recommendations from relevant Ministry of Home Affairs units, and national-level verification, particularly for island names.

In cases of administrative changes such as the splitting, merging, or renaming of administrative regions, the coding system undergoes appropriate modifications. These changes ensure that governance structures remain efficient and responsive to evolving national and local needs.

Government Administrative Region and Island Data

The coding system integrates key administrative region and island data, including the name of the region, area size, population count, and geographical coordinates of islands. These data points are critical for governance, statistical reporting, and national planning. The Population Administration Information System, under the Directorate General of Population and Civil Registration, periodically updates demographic data, ensuring accuracy and reliability.

The integration of administrative region and island data with the coding system enables streamlined governance and data management. The government collaborates with non-ministerial agencies and legally recognized private entities to enhance the utilization of these data for national development.

Conclusion

Due to the vast amount of administrative region and island data, which is highly dynamic, it is necessary to assign codes through a policy in the form of a Minister of Home Affairs Decree on the Assignment and Updating of Codes and Data for Administrative Regions and Islands. This Ministerial Decree is issued once a year or whenever necessary for national interests. Since the issuance of Minister of Home Affairs Regulation No. 58 of 2021, two Ministerial Decrees have been issued: Minister of Home Affairs Decree No. 050-145 of 2022, published on 14 February 2022, and Minister of Home Affairs Decree No. 100.1.1-6117 of 2022, published on 9 November 2022.