

---

**UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES  
Asia South East Division (UNGEGN ASED)**

**Second Divisional Meeting  
Bandung Indonesia 2 April 2014**

---

**Divisional Chairman's Report**

**1. Chairmanship**

- a. Malaysia has been elected as a Chairman of UNGEGN ASEPSW Division during the 17<sup>th</sup> Divisional Meeting in Sydney, Australia on 10 April 2010.
- b. The period of Chairmanship is from August 2010 to April 2014. The previous Chairmanship of Indonesia was for the period of August 2006 to August 2010.

**2. Activities During the Period of 2013**

The previous 1st Divisional Meeting was held in Brunei Darussalam on 14 May 2013. The delegates were from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Singapore. A seminar had also been organized mainly for the local participants. During this seminar, in addition to speakers from Brunei Darussalam, speakers from Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines were also invited to present the related paper on the theme of **“Placenames Preserving Cultural Heritage”**. A report of the meeting was published in Information Bulletin of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names No. 45.

### 3. Actions from the 1st ASED Meeting, 14 May 2013, Brunei Darussalam

- a. This meeting was held primarily to discuss among members following the resolution adopted during the Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in New York on 30 July – 10 August 2012.
- b. The Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names adopted a Resolution X/5 which splits the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division into the Asia South-East Division and the Pacific South-West Division. The resolution is as follows;

*The Conference,*

- i. Considering that the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division is, with twenty-two members, the largest Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, and noting that the high number of members has significantly impeded decision-making and the implementation of geographic naming activities,*
- ii. Noting that, at its twenty-seventh session, the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names agreed to split the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division into the Asia South-East Division and the Pacific South-West Division,*
- iii. Recommends that the Asia South-East Division and the Pacific South-West Division be granted full recognition as linguistic/geographical divisions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.*

This resolution is in accordance with the resolutions adopted during the 18th Divisional Meeting in Kuala Lumpur in 2011 and 19th Divisional Meeting in Manila in 2012. The UNGEGN Asia South East Division will now comprise of twelve member countries namely; Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

- c. One of the actions taken by Indonesia is with regard to the development of the Division's website. The establishment of this website was reported by Indonesia. In addition, generic terms need to be completed by member countries and submitted to Indonesia at email address : [asedivision@gmail.com](mailto:asedivision@gmail.com)
- d. The meeting decided that Australia should be invited for future forum to brief the members on the updating procedures of the Regional Map and Gazetteer and for the Division to eventually take over its maintenance and updating. In June 2013, the Secretariat had then sent an email to Mr Bill Watt to invite him to Bandung for the above discussion. Unfortunately he replied that he could not attend the discussion as proposed due to the inability to gain funding for this trip. However, Mr. Bill advised that the current situation of the South East Asia South West Pacific Gazetteer and Map is that the data is now in a position where there is a single ESRI file geodatabase database and for each country. He mentioned that any country that is willing and able can amend the relevant data as it sees appropriate and sent the amended data in to a central agency for compilation.
- e. In the meanwhile, Australia website should be link to the Division's website.

**During the 1st Meeting the proposed resolutions are;**

- a. The numbering of the Divisional Meeting will start from one, i.e. the current meeting would be 1<sup>st</sup> Divisional Meeting, United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), Asia South-East Division (ASE Division), with the past efforts of the Division be recorded in the ASE Division website.
- b. The term of the Chairmanship for the Division would be 3 to 4 years.
- c. On the Regional Map and Gazetteer currently maintained by Australia, the ASE Division would work further with Australia with a view to eventually take over this maintenance and updating responsibility for the Asia South-East Division.

#### **4. UNGEGN Meeting 2014**

The Twenty-Eight Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names will be held in New York on 28<sup>th</sup> April to 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2014. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.