

22 February 2021

Original: English

**United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names****2021 session**

Virtual, 3–7 May 2021

Item 15 of the provisional agenda*

Writing systems and pronunciation**Verification of geographical names in Indonesia****Summary****

The standardization of geographical names in Indonesia consists of three stages: acquisition, verification and confirmation. Verification is an essential step in determining the quality and correctness of geographical names and comprises a spatial and written verification of each toponym. This process requires the cooperation of several ministries, agencies and local governments, depending on the object's location and strategic value. This process frequently involves community leaders and related experts who gather information that can complement topographical name data.

Verification is normally conducted through field work and meetings with stakeholders. However, given the circumstances of the pandemic, that now has to be done online. SAKTI (Sistem Akuisisi Data Toponim Indonesia) is a toponym data acquisition application that can be accessed through the Internet. The name is currently being changed to SINAR (Sistem Informasi Nama Rupabumi). The application has made it possible to perform verification activities online. However, the quality of Internet connections in remote areas has made it a challenge to gain benefit from the application there.

The Geospatial Information Agency, as the coordinator of the national name authority in Indonesia, has realized that the online verification process was not as effective as when conducted face-to-face. The challenges and opportunities of the first online toponym data verification in Indonesia will be discussed in detail in the full report.

* [GEGN.2/2021/1](#).

** The full report was prepared by Arifah Trisnawati, Aldila Pradhana, Harry Ferdiansyah of the Geospatial Information Agency. It will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2021/32/CRP.32, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/2nd_session_2021/.

