



International Perspective

In 1959, the Economic and Social Council, United Nations established an expert body to provide recommendations on standardising geographical names at the national and international levels – United Nations group of Experts of Geographical Names.

Why?

- Emphasize the importance of the standardization of geographical names at the national and international levels.
- Demonstrate the benefits to be derived from such standardization. Collect the results of the work of national and international bodies dealing with the standardization of geographical names and to facilitate the dissemination of these results to Member States of the United Nations.
- Study and propose principles, policies and methods suitable for resolving problems of national and international standardization.
- Facilitating the supply of scientific and technical help, in particular to developing countries, in creating mechanisms for the national and international standardization of geographical names.
- To provide a vehicle for liaison and coordination among Member States, and between Member States and international organizations, on work associated with the standardization of geographical names.
- To implement the tasks assigned as a result of the resolutions adopted at the United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names.



National Perspective

Mission

As the national focus group, to coordinate and communicate the consistent use of geographic place names, to meet community requirements

Terms of Reference

- Create a greater community awareness of geographic names.
- Develop and deliver an educational program to promote the significance of geographic placenames in the community.
- Develop national guidelines for geographic place names.
- Promote national guidelines for geographic place names to each jurisdiction.
- Promote the use of correct names by Map/Spatial database producers.
- Produce, maintain and develop the Gazetteer of Australia.
- Support national initiatives for the community use and protection of geographical names in the .au name space.
- Support the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) and its initiatives.



State Perspective

Surveyor-General provides

- Process by which names and boundaries are established or altered.
- Database of official place names – State Gazetteer



State Perspective

Directions

- Inclusion of feature extents as part of the State Gazetteer.
- Increase the use of the State gazetteer as the source of official place names information.
- Increasing the use of traditional Aboriginal place names in the general State Nomenclature – either as stand alone names or in a dual name capacity.
- Continue to monitor the relevance of suburb / locality boundaries to the underlying cadastre.
- Complete the creation of localities for the pastoral areas and the Anangu Pitjantjatjara and Maralinga Tjarutja lands.