



c/o Royal Geographical Society
1 Kensington Gore
London
SW7 2AR

Tel: 020 7591 3120 E-mail: info@pcgn.org.uk

PCGN Meeting Minutes, Thursday 28th September 2017
Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

Present

PCGN Staff
Defence Geographic Centre (JFIG-DGC)
Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)
BBC Monitoring (BBCM)
Defence Language Service (DLS)
United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO)
US Board on Geographical Names (BGN)
Apologies for absence: BBCM and DGC.

1. The Chair thanked FCO staff for hosting the 200th PCGN Committee meeting.
2. The Minutes of the virtual 199th meeting were considered and the action items arising discussed.
3. Head PCGN described recent work completed by the PCGN staff, including PCGN participation at the 11th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (UNCSGN) and 30th Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN).
4. PCGN described their attendance at the 26th International Congress of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS) and the Fourth International Conference on Onomastics “Name and Naming” (ICONN). The abstracts and programmes of both conferences were available on their respective websites.
5. PCGN gave details on the progress of the annual update of the ISO 3166-2 standard (on administrative subdivisions). PCGN would be attending the annual meeting of the Maintenance Agency in Geneva in December.
6. BGN staff briefed the Committee on the history and work of the US Board on Geographic Names, with whom PCGN collaborated closely.

7. FCO reported that briefing maps for most of the world had been produced. FCO described a searchable FCO GIS, which was about to start user acceptance testing.
8. BBCM was continuing to improve their new website (formerly known as the portal) and had recently introduced an improved search facility.
9. UKHO described a new product: Port Approach Guides.
10. DLS thanked PCGN for their recent briefing given to MOD staff, and recommended future sessions.
11. DGC reported that the next version of the MOD Gazetteer (including OS data) should be ready soon.
12. BL reported on recent acquisitions. PCGN thanked BL for hosting a visit by PCGN and the visiting BGN staff to the British Library's map collection.
13. PCGN described a new Thailand Factfile, and updates to the Libya Factfile. It was noted that PCGN aimed to write Factfiles on areas of toponymic interest. The Committee was invited to request Factfiles that would support their work.
14. PCGN had written an update to the 2003 PCGN information paper on North Korea, noting changes to the romanization policy in South Korea, and the status of the administrative divisions in North Korea.
15. PCGN reported on their liaison over the last quarter.
16. The date for the next meeting would be agreed at a later date. The Chair thanked the Committee members for their participation, the FCO for hosting the meeting and the BGN staff for their participation and closed the meeting.