

Work plan:

- maintain **liaison with international standardization bodies** like the Unicode Consortium regarding digital text encoding in the context of geographical names, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) with reference to the development of exchange standards for toponymic information and to web (gazetteer) services for the provision of toponymic information through the Internet;
- maintain **liaison with the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group (UNGIWG)** in relation to UN developments and requirements;
- **promote and support the geographical names database of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN database);**
- **promote, complement and support the UNECA “AfricanGaz” initiative;**
- **promote and provide consultancy and technical advice to national standardization programs and to toponymic training courses** including the development of multipurpose toponymic database solutions in the context of spatial data infrastructures;
- **organize workshops** in conjunction with UNGEGN Sessions or UN Conferences, focusing on topics like data modeling, database applications or lessons learned through national and international geographical names programs or projects, and, as required, provide presentations on such topics at the UNGEGN Sessions and UN Conferences;
- **recommend content and structure of nationally produced authoritative gazetteers and toponymic data files** in particular making use of the Internet.