

11th UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

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19th Meeting of the Baltic Division

May 2018

The Conference in numbers

- 8–17 August 2017, New York
- 65 countries represented, over 200 participants
- over 160 documents presented, 13 special presentations, 6 panel discussions
- four technical committees
- four resolutions, incl.
 - reorganization of UNCSGN/UNGEGN
 - romanization of Arabic

Reorganization of UNGEGN

- Conferences in every five years will be discontinued
- UNGEGN sessions will be held every two years for the duration of five days
- UNGEGN sessions may adopt resolutions
- The topics will remain mostly the same
- The 1st session of (the new) UNGEGN will be held in May 2019 in New York

Romanization of Arabic

- Earlier system dated from 1972 (so-called amended Beirut System)
- In parallel often “variant B”
- Especially since 2002 new calls for revision of certain letters
- New Beirut system 2007, adopted by the Arabic Division
- Riyadh meeting in 2017, corrections
- Main differences: ζ replaced by dh, other cedillas by submacron (d, s, t)
- Decision was not unanimous (opposition from Algeria and Tunisia)