



## Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
2 July 2012

Original: English

---

### Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

New York, 31 July-9 August 2012

Item 8 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**National standardization: office treatment of names**

### An inventory of Swedish place names in Finland

**Submitted by Finland\*\***

**Summary\*\*\***

Finland is a multilingual society, and Finnish and Swedish both have status as national languages. The languages are reflected in the geographical names. Most of the Swedish geographical names are to be found on the west coast and the south coast of Finland and on the Åland Islands, but there are also Swedish parallel names for places that are monolingually Finnish.

Since 1897, there has been an inventory of Swedish place names in Finland, *Svenska ortnamn i Finland* (Swedish place names in Finland); the previous edition was published in 1984. Since the municipality structure in Finland has changed extensively since 1984, through new settlements and municipality mergers, there was a clear demand for a revised edition of the inventory.

The new edition of *Svenska ortnamn i Finland* is a book-length inventory of the most important Swedish-language place names in Finland and will contain about 5,000 entries. Some 2,000 of the place names used as entries have names both in Swedish and in Finnish. The names included in the inventory are mainly names for settlements but also names for more important nature objects are included. The volume also provides information about the spelling and pronunciation of the place names. The inventory will be available online.

---

\* E/CONF.101/1.

\*\* Prepared by Leila Mattfolk (Institute for the Languages of Finland) and Maria Vidberg (University of Helsinki).

\*\*\* The full report is available in the language of submission only from <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/ungegnConf10.html>.

