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Item 20 of the provisional agenda

Other toponymic issues

National Land Survey of Finland names data available free of charge*

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The National Land Survey of Finland (NLS) has opened some datasets to be used free of charge as of 1 January 2011. The aim of opening the datasets is to promote the use of spatial data as well as the creation of new applications and innovations. The availability of free and easily-accessible authorised digital geographic names data is also seen as a key driver in encouraging the use of nationally standardised names.

Datasets and services free of charge

The datasets free of charge are all Geographic Names Register (GNR) products, including the GNR Web Feature Service (WFS), and small scale General Map products in scales 1:1 million and 1:4.5 million.

The licence grants a worldwide, irrevocable parallel right of use that is free of charge and allows the datasets to be freely used for:

- copying and distributing;
- editing and utilising commercially by further licensing;
- combining with other products;
- employing as a part of applications or services.

The datasets are licensed as such. The NLS does not guarantee that the datasets are constantly available, and the NLS can terminate the distribution of the datasets without prior notice.

Early statistics on the use of the datasets and services free of charge

During January 2011, 15 new users of the GNR Web Feature Service were registered, and GNR pre-defined data file products were downloaded 680 times. Small scale General Map products were downloaded 1 113 times (vector products 759 and raster products 354 times).

Additional information:

Additional information (e.g. licence terms) on the NLS datasets and services free of charge is available from <http://www.nls.fi> > Data and services > Datasets free of charge. The *Toponymic Guidelines for map editors and other editors, Finland*, is available from <http://www.kotus.fi/index.phtml?l=en&s=510>.