
HIS Registry of Geography

Date: 2017-09-25

Abstract: Documents the Registry of Geography (ROG) for the Harvest Information System (HIS). This registry defines the standardized codes used for identifying geopolitical areas of the world. **Document URL:** <http://hisregistries.org/rog/>

Interim Editor: [Jim Courson](#), IMB (jcourson@imb.org)

Overview

The function of the Registry of Geography (ROG) is to document the standardized codes used for identifying geopolitical areas. Previously this registry referenced codes for Countries, Dependencies, Areas of Special Sovereignty, and Their Principal Administrative Divisions, as detailed in the Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 10-4, used by the U.S. Government. The FIPS 10-4 standard was withdrawn as a Federal Information Processing Standard in 2008. The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency continued to maintain FIPS 10-4 through 31 December 2014, at which point it was officially retired.

The recommended replacement for FIPS 10-4 is the Geopolitical Entities, Names, and Codes (GENC) Standard. GENC specifies a profile of ISO 3166 Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions. Although ISO 3166 supports both two- and three-character codes, there are conflicts between the FIPS 10-4 two-character codes and the ISO 3166-1 twocharacter codes that prohibit an easy transition. For that reason, the U.S. Government is moving to three-character codes. Changing from two to three characters, especially in legacy systems, requires a significant transition period and not all historical data can be moved into a new paradigm.

Downloads

The latest approved version of the GENC standard can be downloaded from the Geopolitical Entities, Names, and Codes page of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence website.