

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
Trade Development and Timber Division

Palais des Nations, CH1211 Genève 10, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 917.13.66, Fax +41 22 917.00.37
E-mail: locode@unece.org

UN/LOCODE (CODE FOR TRADE AND TRANSPORT LOCATIONS)
Issue 2005-1

Note to the users of UN/LOCODE

1. The UN/ECE Secretariat has the pleasure to introduce herewith UN/LOCODE 2005-1.
2. UN/LOCODE is available on the Internet World Wide Web, on a site dedicated exclusively to the UN/LOCODE Manual with its code lists:

<http://www.unece.org/locode>

3. The full text of UNECE Recommendation No 16 on “Codes for Trade and Transport Locations” (formerly “Codes for Ports and Other Locations”), with the text part of the Manual, as revised in 1998, is available at the site dedicated to the UNECE trade facilitation activity in general:

<http://www.unece.org/trade/untdid/download/99trd227.pdf>

4. On request, UN/LOCODE 2005-1 can also be made available in a diskette or CD version.

CHANGES IN UN/LOCODE 2005-1

5. In 2001 a number of changes were made in the presentation of UN/LOCODE, some of which will call for changes in Recommendation 16 and the UN/LOCODE Manual. Pending a forthcoming revision of these documents, the following changes that were implemented in UN/LOCODE 2001-1 and later issues are maintained in UN/LOCODE 2005-1:

5.1 Double columns

As agreed at the time of the 1998 revision of Recommendation 16, the code list is now available in two versions, one which includes diacritic marks in place names and one from which these marks have been removed. The use of diacritic sign is explained in paragraphs 23 – 30.

5.2 Geographical coordinates

A column for geographical coordinates (lat/long) was introduced in UN/LOCODE 2002-1. Data is being added in this as it becomes available to the Secretariat. In order to avoid unnecessary use of non-standard characters and space, the following standard presentation is used:

ddmmN dddmmW, dddmmS dddmmE, etc,

where the two last digits refer to minutes and the two or three first digits indicate the degrees. Coordinates are stated for 18.000 locations in UN/LOCODE 2005-1.

5.3 Classifiers in the Change column

The classifiers in the Change column have been adjusted to reflect practice elsewhere in the UN/EDIFACT environment. This means that in UN/LOCODE 2005-1, the following classifiers are used:

Change	Description
X	Marked for deletion in the next issue
#	Change in the location name
!	Other change in the entry
+	Entry added to the current issue
=	Reference entry
!	Retained for certain entries in the USA code list (“controlled duplications”)

5.4 Alignment of function classifiers

5.4.1 In order to align the use of function classifiers in Recommendations 16 and 19, it had been agreed that the classifier “8” in Recommendation 16 would be reserved for inland waterway and lake ports, whereas the letter “B” would represent border crossings. However, as only 118 such inland waterway and lake ports had been notified to the secretariat in 2002, the UN/LOCODE Expert Group agreed to discontinue this use of classifier “8” and instead to use classifier “1” for all ports serving any kind of waterborne transport. (This agreement will be reflected in a revised Recommendation 16.)

5.4.2 Recommendation 16 includes a definition of “Inland Clearance Depot – ICD” (with synonyms “Dry Port”, “Inland Clearance Terminal”, etc) and the classifier “6” is reserved in the Recommendation for this type of function. Following a request from one country the UN/LOCODE Expert Group agreed to activate classifier “6” to ICDs in UN/LOCODE 2002-2.

5.4.3 There is also a provision in Recommendation 16 for the function “fixed transport functions (e.g. oil platform)”; the classifier “7” is reserved for this function. Noting that the description “oil pipeline terminal” would be more relevant, and could be extended to cover also electric power lines and ropeway terminals, the Expert Group agreed that the classifier “7” should be activated as from UN/LOCODE 2002-2.

5.5 Notes in the “Remarks” column

Each change affecting a location entry in UN/LOCODE will be indicated in the “Change” column, using the indicators specified in paragraph 5.3 above; the reasons for the change are explained in the

“Remarks” column. Remarks affecting the current issue of UN/LOCODE may be deleted from the next issue. To specify and aid in the removal of such temporary changes, the following “tags” will be used:

Tag	Description
@Coo	Change affecting or adding Coordinates (change indicator ‘ ’)
@Fun	Change affecting the Function (change indicator ‘ ’)
@Sta	Change of status (change indicator ‘ ’)
@Sub	Addition or change of subdivision code (change indicator ‘ ’)
@Nam	Change in the location name (change indicator ‘#’)
@Spe	Correction of spelling of name (change indicator ‘#’)

There may be more than one reason for the change. Remarks of permanent nature will not be preceded by a tag.

Major changes in UN/LOCODE 2005-1

6. A thorough scrutiny of the code list for Latvia (LV), carried out by the Secretariat, resulted in the upgrading of practically all previous entries. Moreover, the applicable subdivision is now stated for all places in such country. In consequence, the subdivision code list from ISO 3166-2 is now included in Part 3 of the UN/LOCODE Manual.

7. The addition of subdivision codes for Latvia, also justifies the addition of the subdivision code list for those countries.

Problems of off-shore installations and terminals

8. At the fifth meeting of the UN/LOCODE Expert Group it was reported that requests had been received for allocation of code entries for oil platforms and similar installations located in coastal or international waters. In many cases national sovereignty over such installations could not be determined.

9. Pending a more profound study of the problem it was agreed to use the provision in clause 3.1.4 in the UN/LOCODE Manual, which refers to installations in international waters or international co-operation zones, for which the country code element “XZ” is available. Agreeing that most of these cases reflected bona fide needs that should be honoured the Expert Group agreed to use the code “XZ” to identify offshore installations.

10. Since that decision was taken an increasing number of requests have been received for entries of this kind. Many of them do not refer to named facilities, but give a rather vague description, supported by coordinates. This creates a difficulty for the Secretariat to create a meaningful “name” for the entry – often the description uses terms as “off” a place or a geographical feature. Recommendation 16 defines a location as a “named geographical place” and the majority of requests do not qualify for inclusion in UN/LOCODE under that criterion.

11. A similar problem exists in regard to land-based terminals which often do not refer to a geographical location but are named after a company, person or activity.

12. Under the circumstances, the Secretariat is unable to honour a certain number of requests, pending a further study of the problem and consideration within the UN/LOCODE Expert Group. All requests concerned will, however, be registered and temporary solutions sought in consultation with the parties concerned.

UN/LOCODE in figures

13. UN/LOCODE 2005-1 main code list has now 50.000 entries and the database contains a total of over 75.000 records. The updating exercise for UN/LOCODE 2005-1 included change requests which caused action as specified in the table below:

Count of Requests	
Final Status	Total
Approved	2.549
Postponed	88
Rejected	9
Withdrawn (Duplications or already processed)	180
Grand Total	2.826

14. Changes and new entries to UN/LOCODE Code List were processed as specified in the table below: (The types of maintenance changes for each country concerned are shown in Annex 2.).

Change		Total
#	Spelling and other changes in location names	46
	Other changes	196
+	Additions to the 2005-1 issue	2.291
X	Entries marked for deletion in the next issue	16
Grand Total		2.549

15. The Universal Postal Union has adopted the UN/LOCODE as a basis for location codes used for “International Mail Processing Centres” (IMPC), at present nearly 1.400 such entries exist. The Statistical Office of the European Union (EUROSTAT) is using the UN/LOCODE for certain statistical reporting related to nearly 1600 port functions. In both cases, the UPU and EUROSTAT databases are incorporated in the UN/LOCODE database. In the UPU case code extensions are used, as envisaged in paragraph 4.1 of the UN/LOCODE Manual, Part 1. It is recalled that UN/LOCODE database also includes similar databases from IATA (11.000 locations), ECLAC (450 records) and Lloyds Register (18.000 records).

USA country revision

16. After a major revision in 2001 of the code list for USA, still, 4.980 entries remain with “RQ” status, not having been verified since 1993. These will be reviewed with a view to establishing their correct status.

17. There still remain about 97 cases in the US code list where the 3-letter part of code duplicates IATA airport identifiers. These mainly refer to military installations and minor facilities which are of little relevance for UN/LOCODE users. The entries concerned have been marked with an exclamation mark (!). In application of paragraph 3.1.4 of the UN/LOCODE Manual, these duplications should not cause any problems for users.

Application of inclusion criteria

18. The adoption in 2000 of new inclusion criteria enabled the Secretariat to review a large number of outstanding requests for inclusion of place names; over 32.500 entries now have been given one of the "approved" status indicators. The status classifier "RQ" (Request under consideration) is now used only in cases where it has not been possible to verify the existence of a location. However, some 8.000 entries with "RQ" status remain to be examined with a view to upgrading.

Handling of IATA codes

19. The fact that some IATA 3-letter codes differ from existing codes for the same places in UN/LOCODE has caused problems for users. In order to resolve this problem, the UN/LOCODE Expert Group agreed to introduce a separate column, to be used only in cases where the IATA code deviates from UN/LOCODE. In all other cases, the presence of an airport function code would mean that the code elements are identical. In UN/LOCODE 2005-1, this rule has now been applied for all countries; the result is that the "IATA column" contains 705 differing IATA codes.

Request procedure

20. Para 6.2.1 of the UN/LOCODE Manual stipulates that requests for inclusion of additional locations should preferably be transmitted electronic medium or diskette. In connection with the publication of UN/LOCODE 2001-1, an electronic form for submitting requests was introduced on the UN/LOCODE website, enabling requestors to put forward any requests for new code entries directly by entering the data specified on the form. (See Annex 3).

21. The electronic Request form should preferably be used. However, for occasional proposals of a limited number, not exceeding 10 entries, hard copy, e-mail or fax transmission is still acceptable. Moreover, for more extensive lists of requests, these can also be submitted as an MS Excel file. In both cases, the condition is that all required information is provided. The file formats, which are acceptable for request submissions, are specified in Section 6.4. These include

Microsoft ACCESS, version 97 or newer

Microsoft EXCEL, version 5.0/95 or newer

22. It is also possible to use a character separated ASCII file or a table ASCII file for request submissions, as described in section 6.4.3 of the Manual.

Use of diacritic signs in UN/LOCODE

23. Place names in UN/LOCODE are given in their national language versions as expressed in the Roman alphabet using the 26 characters of the character set adopted for international trade data interchange, with diacritic signs, when practicable (cf. Paragraph 3.2.2 of the UN/LOCODE Manual). International ISO Standard character sets are laid down in ISO 8859-1 (1987) and ISO10646-1 (1993). (The standard United States character set (437), which conforms to these ISO standards, is also widely used in trade data interchange).

24. Several countries use national alphabets based on the 26 character set referred to above, but with the addition of diacritical signs which may affect the pronunciation of the names concerned, their place in the alphabetical order and sometimes their meaning. With the increasing use of UN/LOCODE also in national and regional trade, the absence of diacritic signs caused serious disadvantages and problems for users.

25. For these reasons it was agreed in 1995 to introduce in the data base such characters which consist of a basic letter of the 26 character set but with an added diacritic sign (examples are â, å, ä, é, è, ö, ô, ø, ü), and to produce print-out on paper and Web pages showing these characters. (The Danish and Norwegian character “æ” had to be replaced by a single “a”).

26. However, where UN/LOCODE is distributed on diskettes in ASCII format, certain types of software (DOS Editor, Windows Write, etc) will show these diacritics as different graphic signs. If newer software is used (Word Perfect, MS Word and others) the proper diacritic characters will appear.

27. The introduction of diacritic signs as from the 1995 UN/LOCODE therefore had some undesirable effects for certain users importing or printing out data from the UN/LOCODE ASCII file. Diacritic characters in some cases were represented by other characters or graphic signs and thus became meaningless. The reason is that, although international standards exist for character sets including accents and diacritic characters, industry standards do not always allow their use.

28. To aid users with such problems, as from the 2001 version of UN/LOCODE, two columns are provided for place names, one reflecting national name versions, with diacritic signs, and one in which diacritic signs have been removed from the names. Countries for which diacritic signs are used in UN/LOCODE include: AT, BO, BR, CH, CL, CR, DE, DK, FI, FO, FR, HU, IS, MX, NO, PA, PE, PT, SE, SJ, TR and VN among others.

29. The following list shows those roman characters with accents and diacritic marks which are used in location names in UN/LOCODE. If they cannot be read or produced with available equipment, they should be substituted as set out in the second column of the list.

30. If characters are irrelevant or not recognizable, examples of actual names are given in Annex 1 which may help users to identify and substitute basic Roman characters in such names.

DIACRITIC	CONVERSION
À, Á, Â, Ã, Ä, Å, Æ	A
Ç	C
È, É, Ê, Ë	E
Ì, Í, Î, Ï	I
Ñ	N
Ò, Ó, Ô, Õ, Ø, Æ	O
Ù, Ú, Û, Ü	U
Ý	Y
à, á, â, ã, ä, å, æ	a
ç	c
è, é, ê, ë	e
ì, í, î, ï	i
ñ	n
ò, ó, ô, õ, ø, æ	o
ù, ú, û, ü	u
ý, ÿ	y

Sorting order

31. Another problem is caused by the fact that alphabetical sorting conventions vary among countries using diacritic characters, and between computer software specifications. As the UN/LOCODE 2003-1 is produced mainly using the United States character set 437, the sorting order follows the one specified for that character set.

32. For some countries a national sorting order exists; this is indicated under the country name, e.g. for Sweden: "Sorting order a - z, å, ä, ö"

33. It should be noted that the sorting order in the list without diacritic signs may differ from the one that contains such signs. The secretariat would be grateful to be informed about practical experiences among users. Solutions of any remaining technical problems will then be sought before the next issue of UN/LOCODE.

ANNEX 1.

If characters produced are irrelevant or not recognisable, the following examples of actual names may enable users to identify and substitute basic Roman characters in such names:

FR MAC	Mâcon: Substitute second character with “a”
SE VAJ	Våja: Substitute second character with “a”
CL KNA	Viña del Mar: Substitute third character with “n”
SE ALM	Älmhult: Substitute first character with “A”
SE AMA	Åmål: Substitute first character “A” and third character with “a”
DK AAR	Århus: Substitute first character with “A”
DK AGP	Agerbæk: Substitute sixth character with “a”
DK ARK	Ærøskøbing: Substitute first character with “A” Substitute third and sixth characters with “o”
DE OKB	Østbirk: Substitute first character with “O”
SE GOT	Göteborg: Substitute second character with “o”
SE ORB	Örebro: Substitute first character with “O”
DE LBC	Lübeck: Substitute second character with “u”
DE UER	Ürzig: Substitute first character with “U”
FR BET	Béthune: Substitute second character with “e”
FR CMP	Compiègne: Substitute sixth character with “e”

ANNEX 2. TYPE OF MAINTENANCE BY COUNTRY

Country	#	!	+	=	X	Total Changes
AL			1			1
AQ			3			3
AT	1	1	11			13
AU	1		21			22
BA			9			9
BE	1		3			4
BG	5		1		1	7
BI			5			5
BO			1			1
BR			12			12
BY			1			1
CA	4	77	22			103
CC		1				1
CH			42			42
CL	3	39	259		1	302
CN		3	11			14
CO			1			1
CR			7			7
CS			11			11
CU	1			1		2
CZ	1		29			30
DE		7	105			112
DK			2			2
DZ			1			1
EC		1	11	1		13
EE			2			2
ES	7	3	41		2	53
FI			16			16
FO			1			1
FR	3	6	951		1	961
GB	1	27	28			56
GF			1			1
GR	1	1	10			12
GT	1		7			8
HN			2			2
HR			13			13
HU			7			7
ID	1		4			5
IE			2			2
IN		14	9		1	24
IR	1		3			4
IT			38			38
JP	1	1	7			9
KH		1		1	1	3
KR			3		1	4
KZ			3			3
LI			1			1
LK			2			2
LT			2		2	4
LU			2			2

LV		1	7			8
MA			1			1
MD		1			1	2
MN			2			2
MX	2		7			9
MY	1		1			2
NI			2			2
NL		3	270			273
NO			6			6
NZ		1	7			8
PA	1		5			6
PE			3			3
PK			2			2
PL			19			19
PR			2			2
PT	1		3			4
QA	1				1	2
RO			30			30
RU	1		28			29
SA			1		1	2
SE			9			9
SI			3			3
SK			5			5
TH	1		5			6
TJ			1			1
TM	1		22			23
TR		1	2			3
UA	1		4		1	6
US	2	6	99		2	109
UZ	1		3			4
VN		1	1			2
XZ			4			4
ZA			10			10
Total	46	196	2,288	3	16	2,549

ANNEX 3.

UN/LOCODE Request Form

Requests for additions to UN/LOCODE should preferably be made using the Request Form shown below.

UN/LOCODE REQUEST FORM

Request for addition or modification:

Date of request: Format: dd/mm/yy

Requestor:

*Company Name*¹:

Postal Address:

*E-mail Address*¹: Phone N^o: Fax N^o:

*Contact Person*¹:

COUNTRY:

AFGHANISTAN AF Choose two-letter country code from the dropdown list

Information on Locations Requested

Location Data:													
Country ¹ code	Code	Location Name ¹	Subdiv.	Function ¹								Coordinates	Remarks
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	B		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Function Specifications:
 1-Mantime; 2-Rail; 3-Road; 4-Air; 5-Mail processing centre; 6-Multimodal; 7-Fixed Transport; B-Border crossing point.