Report of the UN/LOCODE Task Force Sub-Group 3

UN/LOCODE Advisory Group Meeting, April 16-17, 2024

Wenfeng Sun, CNIS sunwf@cnis.ac.cn



- I.A summary of the work
- 2.Agreed Principles
- 3.The focus: A draft definition of sub-location
- 4. How is the problem created?
- 5. How to select out these locations

1.A summary of work

Three meetings: On Nov.2 2023, Dec.19 2023, Feb.2

- Discussions initially based on "establishing an UN/LOCODE official child code" presentation last year.
- Other Topics:
 - What is a sub-location?
 - The name of the concept and its definition
 - The title for the code list of the sub-locations
 - Multi-Levels of sub-locations
 - Real examples of how the codes for sub-locations were created
 - Possible new columns to the code list
- Nearly all members participated.

2.Agreed Principles

- Legacy codes shall not be deleted
- No assignment of new codes to sub-locations shall be allowed.
- For the first step, the nature of work is to "mark" the existing entries for the sub-locations, instead of any other operations.
- Any formal revision to the Recommendation 16 is not feasible right now, e.g., the adding of columns.

In R.16, a location is:

- An administrative or economic area, relevant to international trade and transport, as defined by the competent national authority in each country. These areas are understood in the sense of a city, a town, etc.
 - Exceptions handled by the competent national authority and/or the UNECE Secretariat.
- Examples given in R.16: ports, airports, inland clearance depots and freight terminals, and places of receipt and delivery.

A sub-location is exactly the same type of location.

 If not, it should be considered as mistakes in the code list and shall not be considered in the study of the white paper.
For example, two codes for the same city.

 A sub-location is an UN/LOCODE location that is fully conformant to the definition of location in Recommendation 16, but also is co-existing in the UN/LOCODE code list with another location that it is physically or administratively within.

- There might be other types of "within", which is not physically or administratively within
 - Airport in another city.
 - Some port of Canada far from the city identified by the code.
 - Lack of more examples and can not be enumerated.
 - Should not be the focus of SG3.

An illustrative example:

Location (City A)

sub-location (A Smaller City B, also the administrative center of A)

sub-location (A Smaller City C, remote area of city A)

4. How is the problem created

- Occasion 1: Officially assigned before the R.16 revision
- Occasion 2: Mistakenly assigned
- Occasion 3: It is possible that a sub-location code be created during the maintenance process.
 - If the administrative center of the parent "city" and the subordinate "city" is far from each other.
 - It is even more possible when there are more administrative levels



5. How to select out these sub-locations

- Occasion 1:
 - SQL:
 - SELECT * FROM [2023-1 UNLOCODE CodeList] where Not (function like '1*'or function like '*8*') and (Name like '*/*' or Name like '*,*')
 - Excluding ports (1) and inland port (8)
 - 1351 result
 - SELECT * FROM [2023-1 UNLOCODE CodeList] where Name like '*/*' or Name like '*,*'
 - 2398 result

5. How to select out these sub-locations

- Occasion 2: Mistakenly created duplicates
 - Be solved gradually in the maintenance work
- Occasion 3: Inexplicit duplicated codes for the same location
 - It's hard to know how many of the problems exists.
 - Call for examples.
 - More advanced IT tools is needed.

Thank you!