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**United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names****2021 session**

Virtual, 3–7 May 2021

Item 10 of the provisional agenda*

Toponymic education**Streamed audiovisual lectures on toponymy****Summary****

The educational support that the Working Group on Training Courses in Toponymy of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names has provided over the years for member countries has consisted of contact courses, an online course for self-study by the Group of Experts and the International Cartographic Association and the toponymy training manual. Now, just as the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has forced many universities to offer their lecture programme online as audiovisual courses, the Working Group is considering doing the same. In order to verify the feasibility of extending the teaching material of the Group of Experts, the technical possibilities would need to be investigated, the United Nations would need to be able to facilitate the streaming of audiovisual lectures and Member States would need to indicate the themes or subject matters of interest to them.

Depending on the subject matter required, the Working Group would also need to find suitable lecturers. A chosen technical platform, such as Microsoft PowerPoint with sound recording, would need to be accessible to the potential lecturers and suitable for the United Nations infrastructure to disseminate. Although ambitious, the ability to submit questions to lecturers would also be included. But the first action would be to ascertain whether such an extension of the teaching material is indeed advisable and desirable.

The full paper aims to determine a list of possible subjects or themes for such audiovisual lectures, to give Member States an idea of the possibilities and to channel their requirements.

* [GEGN.2/2021/1](#).

** The full report was prepared by Ferjan Ormeling of Utrecht University. It will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2021/66/CRP.66, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/2nd_session_2021/.

