

7 February 2023

Original: English

**United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names****2023 session**

New York, 1–5 May 2023

Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda*

**National and international standardization of geographical
names: names collection, office treatment, national
authorities, features beyond a single sovereignty and
international cooperation****Naming process of new provinces in Papua
Region, Indonesia****Summary****

Four new provinces were established in the Papua region of Indonesia in 2022, as the result of a proliferation process affecting the Papua and West Papua provinces. The four new provinces are Papua Selatan (South Papua), Papua Tengah (Central Papua), Papua Pegunungan (Mountains Papua) and Papua Barat Daya (South-West Papua). The proliferation is the result of the aspiration of the locals to provide equitable development across the Papua region. The naming process of the new administrative areas in Papua Region involved several rounds of coordination with related stakeholders and local governments. The naming of the new administrative areas in Papua was determined by the geographical location or features of each province. The names of South Papua, Central Papua and Southwest Papua are based on geographical location, while the name of Papua Pegunungan reflects the geographical features of the area. The report will explain the process of naming new administrative areas in accordance with the existing principles and mechanism for standardizing geographical names.

* [GEGN.2/2023/1](#).

** The full report was prepared by Safrizal Za of the Ministry of Home Affairs of Indonesia. It will be available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd_session_2023/, in the language of submission only, as document GEGN.2/2023/50/CRP.50.

