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

New York, 1–5 May 2023

Item 5 (c) of the provisional agenda*

**Cooperation and liaison with other organizations: Committee
of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management****Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial
Information Management****Summary****

The report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management covers its activities that are relevant to the work of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. The Group of Experts is invited to review the report and express its views on the efforts to strengthen collaboration in furthering the standardization of geographical names.

At its eleventh and twelfth sessions, held virtually on 23, 24 and 27 August 2021 and from 3 to 5 August 2022, respectively, the Committee of Experts welcomed the reports of the Group of Experts (see [E/C.20/2021/15](#) and [E/C.20/2022/18](#)). In 2021, the Committee supported efforts and actions for strengthening interaction and collaboration between the Bureaux of the Committee of Experts and the Group of Experts, including opportunities for partnership such as sharing technical expertise and geographical names data, pursuing joint capacity-building initiatives, raising awareness of the importance of toponymy, sharing guidelines, methods and practices for the standardization of geographical names and the preservation of native place names derived from Indigenous languages. In addition, the Committee encouraged Member States to improve communication, coordination and cooperation between geospatial information management authorities and geographical names authorities at the national and regional levels, including across thematic areas.

In 2022, the Committee noted the importance of standardized geographical names and toponymic guidelines, as an important element of a country's Indigenous languages and linguistic and cultural heritage, and urged Member States and their national mapping and geospatial agencies to develop and adopt toponymic guidelines in collaboration with their national geographical names authorities. In addition, the Committee supported the collaborative project proposal to develop a compendium of

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

** The full report was prepared by the Secretariat. The report will be available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd_session_2023/, in the language of submission only, as document GEGN.2/2023/51/CRP.51.



institutional arrangements on shared good practices for geographical names standardization between national mapping and geospatial agencies and national names authorities, to increase cooperation, create synergies and share knowledge and good practices for the standardization of geographical names.

The report provides a summary of relevant activities since the eleventh session of the Committee of Experts, in particular the work being done to implement the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework; the efforts to strengthen global geospatial information arrangements, including the establishment of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in Deqing, China, and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence in Bonn, Germany; and an overview of relevant highlights of the second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress, held in Hyderabad, India, from 10 to 14 October 2022.
