

17 January 2025

English

**United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names
2025 session**

New York, 28 April – 2 May 2025

Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda *

**Reports: Governments on the situation in their countries and on the progress made in the
standardization of geographical names**

Report of the United States Board on Geographic Names

Summary **

In 2024, the United States Board on Geographic Names (BGN) held several meetings across the Full Board, Subcommittees, Special Committees, and Advisory Committees. The BGN continued to strengthen collaboration with foreign, domestic, and tribal partners through participation in numerous conferences, meetings, engagements, and focus groups. The full report details such efforts, including the reinitiation of the Foreign Names Committee (FNC), engagement with the United Kingdom's Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (PCGN), culminating with an in-person meeting on a diverse array of names standardization topics, romanization issues, and technical matters. Furthermore, the FNC's Geographic Names Server (GNS) dissemination site became fully operational after a 5-year effort. The Domestic Names Committee (DNC) began collaboration with the Council on Geographic Naming Authorities (CoGNA) on a revised proposal form aimed at streamlining processes for domestic place names, and building the framework for future revisions to the *Principles, Policies, and Procedure* document.

* GEGN.2/2025/1.

** The full report was prepared by Executive Secretary of the United States Board on Geographic Names, Shellie Zahniser and Derek Hoffman, USA, USGS/NGA. The report will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2025/100/CRP.100, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/