

17 January 2025

English

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

2025 session

New York, 28 April – 2 May 2025

Item 5(b) of the provisional agenda *

Technical expertise: Geographical names data management

Brazilian Geographical Names Database Portal

Summary **

In December 2024, the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) launched the new website of the Brazilian Geographical Names Database (Portal BNGB). The BNGB brings together geographical names in the categories of hydrography, relief, boundaries, and localities, primarily contained in IBGE's vector basemaps in different scales. The portal allows searches by name, category, municipality, cartographic scale, and other criteria, providing detailed information about each geographic name, including coordinates, type of feature, validation status, among others. Additionally, data can be downloaded in various formats.

During the development of the website, interactive prototypes were created to ensure a simple and accessible interface. An Application Programming Interface (API) was also developed to facilitate the use of the information by developers, enhancing BNGB's interoperability with other applications. Currently, the BNGB contains 150,813 geographical names, of which 48,263 have been validated. Validation is an ongoing and complex process due to Brazil's size and cultural diversity, and much remains to be done to incorporate historical and cultural aspects into the data.

* GEGN.2/2025/1.

** The full report was prepared by Graciosa Moreira, Leila Freitas, Rodrigo Rego, Taíssa Souza and Viviane Diniz, Brazil, Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics - IBGE. The report will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2025/104/CRP.104, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/