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

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Item (8a) of the provisional agenda*

Culture, heritage and language recognition**Cultural Dimensions of Geographical Names of National Parks
in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia****Summary****

Parks are an important and attractive space for recreational human activity and environmental practices that enhance the sustainable development of local communities. Asir National Park was designated as the first national park in the Kingdom in 1976 AD, and the number of national parks in the Kingdom exceeds 450 national parks with a total area exceeding (5,690,535,851,070) square meters. The national parks in the Kingdom are characterized by the diversity of their land cover, ecosystem and vegetation, and can be classified according to their multiple environmental types:

- Vast sandy deserts with plants and animals adapted to drought
- Plains and plateaus interspersed with seasonal valleys in the center of the Kingdom
- Mountainous heights, some of which have a dense forest character
- Coasts and water bodies

The geographical names of these parks are based on historical events, a natural description, a cultural feature, and inherited human practices. This study aims to identify, report, classify, and analyze the geographical names of the national parks in the Kingdom and their cultural dimensions that support sustainable development.

* GEGN.2/2025/1.

** The full report was prepared by Ali A. Aldosari, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information. . The report will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2025/159/CRP.159, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/