

# **Economic and Social Council**

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

New York, 28 April–2 May 2025 Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda

# Annotations to the provisional agenda

# 1. Opening of the session

The provisional programme for the opening meeting will include an opening address by the Chair of the session, who will inform the Group of Experts of the activities of the Bureau during the intersessional period and provide the vision for the 2025 session. The address will be followed by welcome remarks by the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat. Additional speakers may be added to the programme for the opening meeting.

# 2. Organizational matters

### (a) Adoption of the agenda

On 5 May 2023, the Group of Experts approved the provisional agenda of the 2025 session (GEGN.2/2023/L.1), which was approved by the Council in its decision 2023/338.

### **Documentation**

Provisional agenda and annotations thereto (GEGN.2/2025/1 and GEGN.2/2025/1/Add.1/Rev.1)

# (b) Organization of work

The proposed organization of work and times for the 2025 session of the Group of Experts was prepared pursuant to relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Bureau of the Group of Experts to facilitate the consideration of agenda items within the time and services allocated to the Group. The proposed organization of work and documents of the session will continue to be updated in the course of the preparations for the session.

### **Documentation**

Organization of work (GEGN.2/2025/3/Rev.1)

\* GEGN.2/2025/1.





# 3. Reports of the Bureau and the Secretariat

The Chair of the Bureau and the representative of the Statistics Division will present reports on the activities undertaken during the intersessional period in accordance with decisions and resolutions, future plans and priorities of the Group of Experts.

### **Documentation**

- 1. Report of the Chair (GEGN.2/2025/4/CRP.4)
- 2. Report of the Secretariat (GEGN.2/2025/5/CRP.5)
- 3. Implementation of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names strategic plan and programme of work 2021–2029 during the period 2023–2025 (GEGN.2/2025/161/CRP.161)

# 4. Reports

# (a) Divisions of the Group of Experts

In accordance with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names strategic plan and programme of work 2021–2029, adopted by the Group of Experts at its 2021 session, and decision 3/2023/5, adopted at the 2023 session (see E/2023/84), the Group will have before it, for discussion and adoption, the report on division Chairs, the proposal to create a new Division of the Chinese Characters Cultural Sphere and the guidelines for establishing and dissolving a division. The Group will also have before it, for information, the reports submitted by its geographical and linguistic divisions. The Chair may request that a divisional report be brought forward for discussion should there be a matter of topical interest relating to the following: names standardization, divisional challenges and best practices, a division's structure and operations and the creation or dissolution of a division. The Group of Experts will be asked to review the proposal to create a new Division (see GEGN.2/2025/107) and adopt the guidelines on establishing and dissolving a division (see GEGN.2/2025/158/CRP.158).

#### **Documentation**

- 1. Report of the East Central and South-East Europe Division, 2023–2024 (GEGN.2/2025/20/CRP.20)
- 2. Report of the Baltic Division (GEGN.2/2025/28/CRP.28)
- 3. Report on the achievements of the Arabic Division, 2023–2024 (GEGN.2/2025/34/CRP.34)
- 4. Rapport de la Division Afrique centrale (GEGN.2/2025/38/CRP.38)
- 5. Report of the China Division (GEGN.2/2025/42/CRP.42)
- 6. Report of the Norden Division (GEGN.2/2025/57/CRP.57)
- 7. Report of the Romano-Hellenic Division (GEGN.2/2025/58/CRP.58)
- 8. Report of the Pacific South-West Division (GEGN.2/2025/61/CRP.61)
- 9. Report of the Asia South-East Division (GEGN.2/2025/73/CRP.73)
- 10. Report of the Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division (GEGN.2/2025/86/CRP.86)
- 11. Report of the United States of America-Canada Division (GEGN.2/2025/98/CRP.98)

- 12. Informe de actividades de la División de América Latina (GEGN.2/2025/105/CRP.105)
- 13. Towards the establishment of a Division of the Chinese Characters Cultural Sphere (GEGN.2/2025/107)
- 14. Report of the Portuguese-speaking Division (GEGN.2/2025/118/CRP.118)
- 15. Status report on the divisions of the Group of Experts (GEGN.2/2025/158/CRP.158)

# (b) Governments on the situation in their countries and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names

The Group of Experts will have before it, for information and discussion, reports submitted by Member States. The reports contain information on the situation in their countries and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names. The agenda item will remain open until the 9th meeting of the session. The reports will be considered in the format of a national dialogue and specific topics will be addressed each day. The Chair or his designate will invite Member State representatives to present a topic from their report, followed by a moderated discussion, and will present a partial summary on the agenda item.

### **Documentation**

National reports are available from the following countries: 1

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

## (c) Activities on the standardization of geographical names in Africa

At its twenty-second session, held in 2004, the Group of Experts established the Task Team for Africa, to encourage and strengthen the standardization of geographical names across the continent.

To facilitate needed discussion under the agenda item, the status, issues and work on geographical names standardization highlighted in the national reports submitted by Member States and geographical and linguistic divisions within the African continent will be addressed.

#### **Documentation**

Initial steps made in the standardization and creation of a uniform system of administering geographical names in Zambia (GEGN.2/2025/119/CRP.119)

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Available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th\_session\_2025/.

# (d) National and international meetings and conferences

In accordance with resolution II/19 of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, the Conference recommended that each division prepare a programme of meetings to be submitted to the United Nations.

The Group of Experts will have before it, for information and discussion, reports from Member States and from the divisions, working groups and liaison bodies of the Group of Experts, detailing the convening and outputs of meetings, conferences, symposiums and workshops held in support of sharing knowledge, experiences and thoughts on the standardization of geographical names.

### **Documentation**

- 1. Tenth Arab Forum on Geographical Names (GEGN.2/2025/45/CRP.45)
- 2. International Seminar on Sea Names, 2023–2024 (GEGN.2/2025/163/CRP.163)

# 5. Technical expertise

# (a) Names collection, office treatment, features beyond a single sovereignty and international cooperation

Presentations and discussion will focus on best practices, new approaches, problems faced and possible solutions with regard to achieving national standardization of geographical names. The topic is broad in scope and includes: methods of names collection (field collection, archival sourcing, crowdsourcing, postal surveys, submissions from the general public, etc.); treatment of names in the office (approaches to resolving duplication, name changes, merging of administrative units, commemorative naming, multiple naming and diverse languages and populations, street naming, etc.); legislation, policies and guidelines for names authorities (laws, board structures, principles, programme planning, extent of mandates, relationships of various naming bodies, etc.); names for particular purposes (hydrology, mountain areas, etc.) or standardization requirements of particular user groups (education, emergency operations, different levels of government, etc.). In addition, names of features beyond a single sovereignty are included, as well as items relating to international cooperation on geographical names standardization.

# **Documentation**

- 1. Role of artificial intelligence in evidence-based geographical names management (GEGN.2/2025/6/CRP.6)
- 2. Dynamic interplay of use, meaning and origin in geographical names standardization (GEGN.2/2025/7/CRP.7)
- 3. Collecting and documenting geographical names in the Empty Quarter desert in Saudi Arabia (GEGN.2/2025/49/CRP.49)
- 4. Collection of geographical names aimed at preserving cultural heritage (GEGN.2/2025/53/CRP.53)
- 5. Documentary evidence in geographical names management: pitfalls of circular reference and institutional self-documentation (GEGN.2/2025/60/CRP.60)
- 6. Utilization of artificial intelligence for geographical name data web scraping (GEGN.2/2025/126/CRP.126)
- 7. Managing geographical names of administrative regions: coding system of Indonesia based on Minister of Home Affairs Regulation No. 58 of 2021 (GEGN.2/2025/129/CRP.129)

- 8. Contribution of Indonesia to undersea feature naming: cultural heritage and maritime implications (GEGN.2/2025/135/CRP.135)
- 9. Report of India (GEGN.2/2025/138/CRP.138)

# (b) Geographical names data management

Under the agenda item, the following will be addressed: issues related to the structure and content of toponymic data files and the creation, maintenance and output of databases and gazetteers. The focus may be on technical topics, such as data collection supported by information technology, data categorization and data modelling and database (web) applications, and more strategic topics, such as the promotion of better integration of geographical names information within national and international spatial data infrastructures and linked data in relation to geographical names standardization. The Working Group on Geographical Names Data Management will provide an overview of the tasks being undertaken to implement strategy 1, on technical expertise – which is focused on the first findings, the challenges faced and the obstacles encountered – and an outlook for the upcoming activities in the period 2025–2027. The Group of Experts is asked to approve and provide guidance on the proposed future work of the Working Group.

### **Documentation**

- 1. Stadnamnportalen, the Norwegian geographical names portal (GEGN.2/2025/8/CRP.8)
- 2. World Geographical Names database (GEGN.2/2025/21/CRP.21)
- 3. Standardization of kanji characters used in the geographical names database (GEGN.2/2025/22/CRP.22)
- 4. Geographical names data management at the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (GEGN.2/2025/33)
- 5. Establishment of digital geographical name signage in China (GEGN.2/2025/43/CRP.43)
- 6. Integration of modern technologies to activate geographical names (GEGN.2/2025/50/CRP.50)
- 7. New developments in geographical names management and standardization in Saudi Arabia: the geographical names portal (GEGN.2/2025/51/CRP.51)
- 8. Role of geospatial metadata in improving geographical name retrieval from the National Center for Archives and Records in Saudi Arabia (GEGN.2/2025/52/CRP.52)
- 9. GeoDatabases (Geoportal) (GEGN.2/2025/56/CRP.56)
- 10. Report of the Working Group on Geographical Names Data Management for 2023–2024 (GEGN.2/2025/82/CRP.82)
- 11. Open Gazetteer for Europe: progress and further development (GEGN.2/2025/83/CRP.83)
- 12. Concept of a globally unique identifier for cities (GEGN.2/2025/84/CRP.84)
- 13. Updating the International Organization for Standardization 639 standard to record the language of origin for Indigenous geographical names in Canada (GEGN.2/2025/96/CRP.96)
- 14. Geographical names for providing weather forecast information in Canada (GEGN.2/2025/99/CRP.99)

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- 15. Greenland report (GEGN.2/2025/102/CRP.102)
- 16. Brazilian geographical names database portal (GEGN.2/2025/104/CRP.104)
- 17. Place names database of Latvia (GEGN.2/2025/113/CRP.113)
- 18. Volunteered geographic information and linked open data in national geographical names standardization (GEGN.2/2025/115/CRP.115)
- Gazetteer Creator QGIS plug-in: a tool for automating PDF gazetteer creation (GEGN.2/2025/123/CRP.123)
- 20. Utilization of deep learning and computer vision technology in geographical names management (GEGN.2/2025/130/CRP.130)

# (c) Writing systems and pronunciation

The Group of Experts will have before it, for discussion, the report prepared by the Working Group on Romanization Systems, in which it details the monitoring of the status of various romanization systems either being developed in countries using non-Roman script or the status of United Nations-approved systems being implemented in the countries concerned. Similarly, countries participating in the session may report on their progress in developing and implementing romanization systems for geographical names.

### **Documentation**

- Report of the Working Group on Romanization Systems: current status of United Nations romanization systems for geographical names (GEGN.2/2025/26/CRP.26)
- 2. Romanization of Arabic geographical names: towards a single and unified Arabic romanization system (GEGN.2/2025/48/CRP.48)
- 3. Audio pronunciation functionality in the *New Zealand Gazetteer* for Māori geographical names (GEGN.2/2025/63/CRP.63)
- 4. Addressing inconsistencies in romanization: towards an integrated programme for the Unified Arabic System for the Romanization of Names (GEGN.2/2025/142)
- 5. Romanization of Ukrainian Cyrillic for German-speaking areas (GEGN.2/2025/146/CRP.146)

### (d) Toponymic terminology

The Working Group on Toponymic Terminology is responsible for preparing a glossary of toponymic terminology, reviewing updates to the glossary and establishing a functioning terminology database.

The Group of Experts will have before it the report of the Working Group. In its report, the Working Group highlights its work in reviewing updates to the toponymic terminology glossary and establishing a functioning terminology database. The Group of Experts will also have before it relevant reports prepared by experts from across the divisions of the Group of Experts. The Group of Experts is invited to provide guidance on the next phase of the Working Group's work.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Working Group on Toponymic Terminology, 2023–2025 (GEGN.2/2025/37/CRP.37)

### (e) Country names

The Group of Experts will have before it, for information, an updated list of country names. Updates to the list are prepared by the work item coordinator, on the basis of information collected from various sources. The list is intended to serve as a general reference document and to facilitate the exchange of information within the Group of Experts.

#### **Documentation**

Updated world country names: short and formal names (GEGN.2/2025/122/CRP.122)

# 6. Relationships, links and connections

This agenda item features the work done to advance strategy 2 of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names strategic plan and programme of work 2021–2029. The Group of Experts has initiated and maintained, to varying degrees, links with United Nations departments and agencies and non-United Nations scientific and technical organizations and groups, with either formal or informal liaison structures. Liaison with many groups has been active and effective, leading to the provision of advice on the appropriate use of geographical names.

The Group of Experts will also have before it relevant reports prepared by experts from its liaison members, international organizations, academia and other United Nations intergovernmental bodies and entities within the United Nations system. The Group of Experts is invited to discuss the points raised and provide guidance on strengthening existing collaborative activities and creating new partnerships.

### (a) Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

In accordance with the recommendations of the Council with respect to collaboration among functional commissions and expert bodies, the Group of Experts continued to strengthen its cooperation with the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management. It had designed and proposed to the latter a collaborative project to develop a compendium of institutional arrangements and operational good practices among national mapping and geospatial agencies and national geographical names authorities.

# **Documentation**

- 1. Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (GEGN.2/2025/140/CRP.140)
- 2. Progress report on the Group of Experts and Committee of Experts collaborative project on shared good practices between national mapping agencies and national names authorities (GEGN.2/2025/143/CRP.143)

## (b) Economic Commission for Africa

As at the deadline for the submission of full reports and technical papers (see GEGN.2/2025/2), no papers had been received under the agenda item.

# (c) International organizations, including academia

The Group of Experts maintains liaison with scientific and academic international organizations such as the International Cartographic Association and Technical Committee 211 of the International Organization for Standardization. The appointed liaison officers of the Group of Experts will report on their interaction since 2023 with those international groups as well as with the following: Internet Corporation

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for Assigned Names and Numbers, International Council of Onomastic Sciences, International Council on Indigenous Place Names, International Hydrographic Organization, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History, Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research and Unicode Consortium. The Group of Experts will open discussions for suggested improvements in cooperation and liaison activity with those groups.

#### **Documentation**

- 1. Report of the Liaison Officer with the International Council of Onomastic Sciences (GEGN.2/2025/18/CRP.18)
- 2. Report of the Joint International Cartographic Association/International Geographical Union Commission on Toponymy (GEGN.2/2025/150/CRP.150)
- 3. Pan American Institute of Geography and History activities report (GEGN.2/2025/156/CRP.156)
- 4. Report of the International Hydrographic Organization (GEGN.2/2025/157/CRP.157)

### 7. Effective work programmes

# (a) Measures taken and proposed for the implementation of resolutions and recommendations

The Group of Experts will address the implementation of tasks assigned pursuant to the resolutions adopted by the former United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names and by the recommendations and decisions of the current Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Under the agenda item, presentations and discussions will focus on measures to implement the resolutions, as well as experiences in implementing them, within the context of the Group of Experts or at the country level. Discussion will also be held with regard to the functioning and efficacy of the Group, including to look at the need for developing countries to achieve national standardization of their geographical names and to increase the effectiveness of meetings and subsidiary bodies of the Group.

### **Documentation**

- 1. Recommendations for constructing an inclusive and sustainable geographical names authority (GEGN.2/2025/11/CRP.11)
- 2. Implementation by New Zealand of relevant resolutions, recommendations and strategic intentions (GEGN.2/2025/64/CRP.64)

# (b) Evaluation of the work of the Group of Experts

The objectives of the strategic plan are to guide the work of the Expert Group, provide a forward and focused vision, direct the prioritization of activities, allow for more effective communication within the Group and across its stakeholders, strengthen the Group's accountability and deepen the impact of its work. Under the agenda item, the Group will examine the work undertaken during the intersessional period to implement the strategic plan and programme of work, discuss the progress made and decide on future actions. The Group is invited to adopt the report on the strategic plan and programme of work and to provide guidance on future areas of work.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Co-Coordinators for Evaluation and Implementation and Publicity (GEGN.2/2025/36/CRP.36)

# (c) Social and economic benefits of supporting sustainable development

The discussions on implementing the resolutions and recommendations are expected to lead to further developments by creating social and economic benefits and supporting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### **Documentation**

- 1. The Rural Place-Name Rectification Initiative, supporting comprehensive rural revitalization (GEGN.2/2025/44/CRP.44)
- 2. Advancing geographical names standardization for sustainable development in Saudi Arabia (GEGN.2/2025/46)
- 3. Linking Australian geographical names to the Sustainable Development Goals utilizing artificial intelligence (GEGN.2/2025/70/CRP.70)

# (d) Toponymic guidelines for international use by map and other editors

In accordance with resolution IV/4 of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, the Conference recommended that countries should be encouraged to publish and keep up-to-date toponymic guidelines for map and other editors. The Group of Experts will have before it reports prepared by the Coordinator for Toponymic Guidelines and Member States, which serve to outline the status of updated and new toponymic guidelines and to describe efforts to disseminate the guidelines and make them available.

### **Documentation**

- 1. Updated toponymic guidelines: Norway, 2025 (GEGN.2/2025/12/CRP.12)
- 2. Fifth edition of the toponymic guidelines of Poland (GEGN.2/2025/30/CRP.30)
- 3. Update of toponymic guidelines: Finland (GEGN.2/2025/81/CRP.81)
- 4. United States toponymic guidelines (GEGN.2/2025/101)
- 5. Toponymic guidelines Estonia (5th edition, 2025) (GEGN.2/2025/110/CRP.110)
- 6. Report of the Coordinator for Toponymic Guidelines (GEGN.2/2025/116/CRP.116)
- 7. Toponymic guidelines Czechia (4th edition, 2024) (GEGN.2/2025/152/CRP.152)
- 8. Eighth edition of the toponymic guidelines of Austria (GEGN.2/2025/155/CRP.155)

### 8. Culture, heritage and language recognition

# (a) Geographical names as culture, heritage and identity

The Working Group on Geographical Names as Cultural Heritage was established in response to resolution VIII/1 of the Eighth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held in Berlin in 2002. It was formerly known as the Working Group on the Promotion of Indigenous and Minority Group Place Names. The Working Group and its focus groups, aside from the Focus Group on Indigenous Geographical Names, have become inactive, and action items of the Group of Experts programme of work have been suspended. The Bureau of the Group of Experts has created a small incubator group to work on the revitalization of this

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Working Group, which will present to the Group of Experts the activities undertaken and to seek its guidance on progressing this work item.

### **Documentation**

- 1. Addressing culturally and socially sensitive geographical names: a framework for standardization (GEGN.2/2025/13/CRP.13)
- 2. Report of the Working Group on Geographical Names as Cultural Heritage (GEGN.2/2025/31/CRP.31)
- 3. Role of geographical names in safeguarding cultural heritage in Saudi Arabia (GEGN.2/2025/47/CRP.47)
- 4. A place called Quitungo (GEGN.2/2025/54/CRP.54)
- 5. Tangata Whenua Place Names maps of New Zealand challenges and lessons learned (GEGN.2/2025/65/CRP.65)
- 6. Special New Zealand presentation on Ngāi Tahu's online cultural heritage atlas, Kā Huru Manu (GEGN.2/2025/66)
- 7. A changing Australian landscape enhancing diverse communities through geographical names (GEGN.2/2025/68/CRP.68)
- 8. Mapping changes to geographical names over time in Canada (GEGN.2/2025/95/CRP.95)
- 9. Generic terms of island features in local languages of Indonesia (GEGN.2/2025/132) (withdrawn)
- Urgency of developing a representative toponymy model in the Nusantara Capital City as a reflection of cultural and national identity (GEGN.2/2025/133/CRP.133)
- 11. Cultural dimensions of geographical names of national parks in Saudi Arabia (GEGN.2/2025/159/CRP.159)
- 12. Guidelines for geographical names as cultural heritage: a framework for experts and researchers on geographical names (GEGN.2/2025/164/CRP.164)
- 13. Exploration and research for the standardization of marine geographical names as cultural heritage of the Republic of Korea (GEGN.2/2025/165/CRP.165)

## (b) Indigenous, minority and regional languages and multilingual issues

The aim of the Working Group on Geographical Names as Cultural Heritage is to oversee activities relating to the promotion of Indigenous and minority geographical names to pursue the retention and/or revitalization of minority and Indigenous group culture. The Working Group serves to bring a focus to the relationship between place names and cultural heritage and to assist countries in developing appropriate processes to ensure that the relationship is maintained. The Group of Experts will also have before it relevant reports prepared by experts from across the divisions of the Group of Experts related to the topic. The Group of Experts is invited to provide guidance on the operations and work programme of the Working Group.

### **Documentation**

- 1. Amplifying First Nations languages in Australia (GEGN.2/2025/69/CRP.69)
- 2. Focus Group on Indigenous Geographical Names (GEGN.2/2025/94/CRP.94)

- 3. Identification and mapping of customary law communities in coastal areas and small islands of Indonesia (GEGN.2/2025/136) (withdrawn)
- 4. Notation and standardization of Slovenian geographical names in Carinthia and Styria (GEGN.2/2025/147/CRP.147)

### (c) Exonyms

The Working Group on Exonyms was formed in 2002, pursuant to resolution VIII/4 of the Eighth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. The Group of Experts will have before it papers submitted by experts detailing the current trends in exonym use (pursuant to resolution III/18 of the Third United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names). The Working Group will also present to the Group of Experts, for discussion, the draft resolution on the use and safeguarding of exonyms. The Group of Experts is invited to review and provide feedback on the draft resolution and guidance on the future work of the Working Group.

#### **Documentation**

- 1. Polish exonyms of buildings and other urban objects (GEGN.2/2025/10/CRP.10)
- 2. Excessive use of exonyms by Google (GEGN.2/2025/17/CRP.17)
- 3. Visualizing place-name qualities on maps and in texts (GEGN.2/2025/19/CRP.19)
- 4. Report of the Working Group on Exonyms (GEGN.2/2025/71/CRP.71)
- 5. Proposal for a resolution on exonyms and cultural heritage (GEGN.2/2025/72/CRP.72)
- 6. Foreign names in Estonian (GEGN.2/2025/108/CRP.108)
- 7. German exonyms for geographical features in Slovakia (GEGN.2/2025/148/CRP.148)

### 9. Promotion and capacity-building

The Group of Experts will have before it the report prepared by the Working Group on Funding and Training Courses in Toponymy, in which it describes ongoing work in capacity development. The papers presented are intended to facilitate the exchange of information on capacity-development methodologies and approaches by Member States and efforts to create funding streams to support the implementation of the Working Group's workplan.

# (a) Strengthening publicity and increasing awareness of the importance of standardized geographical names

### **Documentation**

- 1. Advancing geographical name standardization in Armenia to support sustainable development (GEGN.2/2025/75/CRP.75)
- 2. Public engagement with geographical names in Iceland in social media contexts (GEGN.2/2025/93)
- 3. Fostering public participation by conducting competition to uphold and protect geographical names (GEGN.2/2025/125/CRP.125)
- 4. Role of the Saudipedia encyclopedia in documenting and updating geographical names in Saudi Arabia (GEGN.2/2025/160/CRP.160)

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5. Bringing place names to the public: creating promotional videos and infographics in the Republic of Korea (GEGN.2/2025/166/CRP.166)

# (b) Toponymic training and education

### **Documentation**

- 1. Report of the Working Group on Funding and Training Courses in Toponymy (GEGN.2/2025/14/CRP.14)
- 2. Online manual on name planning (GEGN.2/2025/80/CRP.80)
- 3. Fostering synergy between universities and government agencies for effective geographical names standardization (GEGN.2/2025/128/CRP.128)
- 4. Training needs assessment for geographical names management: survey results report (GEGN.2/2025/153/CRP.153)

### (c) Funding of capacity-building initiatives

As at the deadline for the submission of full reports and technical papers (see GEGN.2/2025/2), no papers had been received under the agenda item.

# 10. Other geographical names issues

It is recognized that Member States, divisions and working groups of the Group of Experts will submit technical papers that do not logically fit under working group subjects related to the agenda items. With regard to the agenda item, the Group will have before it papers that are not relevant to other agenda items.

# **Documentation**

- 1. Example laws on geographical names standardization and cultural heritage protection (GEGN.2/2025/9/CRP.9)
- 2. Enhancing the implementation of geographical names in Indonesia through strategic monitoring and evaluation (GEGN.2/2025/124/CRP.124)
- 3. Standard operating procedures testing for geographical names standardization in Indonesia (GEGN.2/2025/127/CRP.127)
- 4. Utilization of geographical names data for identifying village potential: a case study of Batu City in 2023 (GEGN.2/2025/131) (withdrawn)
- Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi Awards: an effective evaluation mechanism for geographical names standardization in Indonesia (GEGN.2/2025/139/CRP.139)
- 6. 100th anniversary of the Federal Office of Metrology and Surveying and its cartographic activities (GEGN.2/2025/149/CRP.149)

### 11. Procedural matters

### (a) Presentation and adoption of decisions

All proposals for consideration by the Group of Experts will be presented under the agenda item. The Group will have before it an informal paper containing the draft resolutions, recommendations and decisions submitted by the Rapporteurs and is invited to adopt the draft decisions of the 2025 session.

# **Documentation**

Informal paper with draft recommendations and decisions

# (b) Adoption of the report on the 2025 session

The Group of Experts will have before it the report on the 2025 session covering organizational matters relating to its work. The Group is invited to adopt the report on the 2025 session and to entrust the Rapporteurs with streamlining and finalizing it for submission to the Council.

### **Documentation**

Draft report of the Group of Experts on its 2025 session

# (c) Arrangements for the 2027 session of the Group of Experts

In accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure of the Group of Experts, as set out in Council decision 2018/264, the Group will consider the provisional agenda and proposed dates of the 2027 session. Representatives participating in the session may propose items for inclusion in, or amendments to, the provisional agenda.

### **Documentation**

Provisional agenda of the 2027 session

### 12. Other business

Member State and division representatives may wish to bring other matters to the attention of the Group of Experts.

### **Documentation**

No request for advance documentation.

# 13. Closing of the session

In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the Group of Experts, the Chair will declare the closing of each plenary meeting of the Group.

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