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Reports: Divisions of the Group of Experts

Report of the Africa Central Division

Summary**

In its report, the Africa Central Division highlights the activities carried out in four countries – Burundi, Cameroon, Chad and the Democratic Republic of the Congo – for the period 2023–2024. The Central African Republic did not provide information for reasons mentioned in the 2023 report ([GEGN.2/2023/15](#)). The primary activities were:

- Burundi, in 2020 and 2021, established a national authority for the management of place names. The country has since stepped up initiatives to standardize place names, including the implementation of the recommendations resulting from its participation in the 2023 session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
- In Cameroon, a book on toponymy inspired by the 30 dissertations of the sixty-third class of student geography teachers graduating from the Higher Teacher Training College of the University of Yaoundé I, is being prepared.
- In Chad, the political transition from April 2021 to May 2023 has resulted in the freezing of many scientific and administrative activities, including the production of toponymic data to be used for the third general population and housing census.
- In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, toponymic activities are focused mainly on the preparation of a second general population and housing census.

Overall, given the particularly persistent economic recession that the countries are experiencing, few activities relating to toponymy have been conducted. That situation also explains the low level of scientific exchanges between the countries.

* [GEGN.2/2025/1](#).

** The full report was prepared by Michel Simeu Kamdem, Research Director, President of the Africa Central Division and professor at the Department of Geography of the University of Yaoundé I. The report will be available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/, in the language of submission only, as document GEGN.2/2025/38/CRP.38.

