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Item 9 (a) of the provisional agenda*

**Promotion and capacity-building: strengthening
publicity and increasing awareness of the
importance of standardized geographical names**

Advancing geographical name standardization in Armenia to support sustainable development

Summary**

Geographical name standardization is a vital tool in preserving cultural heritage, fostering effective communication, enhancing global cooperation and ensuring the sustainable development of countries. In that connection, Armenia has made significant strides in advancing the standardization of geographical names, recognizing the value of doing so in supporting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The standardization was based on linguistic, cultural and historical characteristics.

The report provides an outline of the efforts undertaken by Armenia to standardize geographical names, focusing on the developments in 2024. Those efforts are aligned with the strategic vision of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names of advancing sustainable, inclusive and science- and evidence-based solutions for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The standardization of Armenian geographical names could contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal targets related to quality education (Goal 4), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9), peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16) and partnerships for the Goals (Goal 17).

In 2024, there were significant developments in the efforts undertaken by Armenia to standardize geographical names. The Special Commission on Geographical Names of Armenia, originally established in 2000, was restructured to include representatives from relevant government bodies and organizations. The restructuring was aimed at enhancing the Commission's capacity to evaluate and approve geographical names in accordance with the cultural and linguistic diversity

* [GEGN.2/2025/1](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/).

** The full report was prepared by the Cadastre Committee of Armenia. 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.2/2025/75/CRP.75.



of Armenia, while ensuring alignment with national and international standards. The Commission regularly organizes sessions to discuss ongoing issues and address requests from communities regarding geographical names within its mandate. Following mutual agreement, proposals for renaming certain settlements are submitted to regional governors with the appropriate justifications.

In addition, work is under way to create a “passport” for each geographical object in the State geographical names registry. Efforts to create more than 2,000 such passports have already been completed. The passports will include photographs and brief descriptions of each geographical object. Comprehensive information about the objects will become publicly accessible, offering reliable data for maps, guides and educational materials. The initiative is expected to contribute significantly to the promotion of tourism in Armenia. The passports for each object will be made available through the national geoportal, ensuring public access to accurate and up-to-date geographical information.

In conclusion, the efforts by Armenia to standardize geographical names reflect a strong commitment to sustainable development, cultural preservation and international collaboration, positioning geographical name management as a vital tool for strengthening national identity, fostering inclusivity and promoting long-term growth.
