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Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

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Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda*

Reports by Governments on the situation in their countries and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names since the Ninth Conference (for distribution only).

Report of Russian Federation

Submitted by Russian Federation**

Summary***

Legislative base for naming and renaming of geographical objects as well as for standardization, usage, registration, and storage of geographical names as a part of historical and cultural heritage was set by the Federal Law 152 ‘On names of geographical objects’ passed on December 18, 1997 (hereinafter the Federal Law). In 2008, the Federal law ‘On ratifying amendments to the Federal Law ‘On names of geographical objects’ was adopted. The amendments were introduced to detail the original law basic notions and purviews as well as to bring some of its assets into line with the legislation of the Russian Federation in force.

As a result of reorganization of the federal executive authorities, functions to develop the state policy and normative and legislative regulations for geodesy, cartography and geographical names were delegated to the Ministry of Economic Development. The Federal Service of State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography (Rosreestr) was imposed with a responsibility to develop and maintain the State Catalogue (database) of Geographical Names, to standardize names of geographical objects in Russian, to examine proposals on naming and renaming of geographical objects, to provide international cooperation in the standardization of geographical names.

The report describes some trends in the national standardization of geographical names and progress achieved, mentions main map products issued in the period of report and gives some information on the use of GOST83 Romanization system approved by the Fifth UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names for maps and atlases published for international circulation.

* E/CONF.101/1.

** Prepared by the Russian Federal Service of State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography (Rosreestr)

*** The full text of the report is being issued in English only as document E/CONF.101/41

Some international meetings and projects devoted to geographical names attended by the Russian experts between 2007 and 2012 are listed.

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