

Distr.: General 18 June 2012

Original: English

## Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names New York, 31 July-9 August 2012 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)

## National activities on the standardization of geographical names in Malaysia

## Summary\*\*

The Malaysian National Committee on Geographical Names, established on 11 September 2002 by the Malaysian Cabinet, is responsible for coordinating geographical naming activities in Malaysia. The Committee is chaired by the Director General of Survey and Mapping, Malaysia, and its members include representatives from federal and state agencies. At its 17th meeting in Sydney, Australia, Malaysia was elected as the Chair of the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names for a period of five years, from August 2010 to August 2015.

Since the establishment of the Committee, various activities have been carried out with a view to coordinating tasks in relation to geographical names. The most significant are:

(a) In accordance with the 1987 resolution of the United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, Malaysia had formulated in 2005 a Malay language version of the guideline entitled "Geographic information: guidelines for the determination of geographical names (Malaysian standard 2256:2009). The English version was published in 2009 by the Technical Committee on Geographic Information/Geomatics, under the authority of the Industry Standards Committee on Information Technology, Telecommunication and Multimedia;

<sup>\*\*</sup> The full report was prepared by Abdul Kadir bin Taib, Chair of the Malaysian National Committee on Geographical Names, and is available in the language of submission only from http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/ungegnConf10.html.





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<sup>\*</sup> E/CONF.101/1.

(b) Establishing websites on geographical names activities in Malaysia;

(c) Developing a geographical names database and producing a web gazetteer;

(d) Publishing documentation on the names of islands and offshore geographical entities;

(e) Recording the pronunciation of geographical names in Malay and local dialects;

(f) Transliterating geographic names from the Malay language into Jawi script and from Jawi script into the Malay language;

(g) Holding seminars, workshops and briefings for training purposes.