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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 Eighth Conference

National report of Israel

Submitted by Israel**

Summary***

The proposed amendments in the romanization of Hebrew, reported on previously, have now been approved by the competent authority, as have the other three relevant methods of transliteration, that is to say, Hebrew into Arabic, Arabic into Hebrew and Arabic into Roman script. All are now in the early state of implementation by government road-sign, mapping and other institutions. The present paper reports on the work performed in producing digital maps, including nautical charts, based on the national geographic information system (GIS), in mono- and bilingual versions and on the trilingual digital toponymic database that is being developed. In this report, in contrast with the previous one, toponyms are involved only indirectly. Finally, education in toponymy is mentioned, including a workshop for representatives of the bodies involved in carrying out and applying the new transliteration systems.

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*** The full text of the paper is being issued in English only as document E/CONF.98/7/Add.1.

