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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)

National report of Indonesia

Summary**

The report provides a summary of activities by Indonesia during the period since the Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.

Pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the Conference, Indonesia established a national geographic names authority in 2006.

A current priority for Indonesia, as an archipelagic State, is to name its islands. According to the Ministry for Home Affairs, some 46.7 per cent of the islands are currently nameless.

Indonesia has focused on training and empowering local authorities to deal with naming issues, including verification and validation of names. It has participated in an international training session on toponyms in cooperation with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, and has worked to elaborate standardization guidelines.

A project undertaken by the Asia South-East and Pacific South-West Division to prepare a regional gazetteer and map concluded during the period under review. Subsequently, Indonesia proposed two activities, the first of which related to the collection of generic terms across languages in the region, as a tribute to Jacob Rais, who contributed to toponymy development in Indonesia. The second activity proposed was the launch of a Division newsletter and website, to be managed by the Geospatial Information Agency.

* E/CONF.101/1.

** The full report was prepared by the secretariat of the national team for the standardization of geographical names and is available in the language of submission only from <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/ungegnConf10.html>.

