



## Economic and Social Council

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### 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)**

### **Report on the Tunisian activities on geographical names in 2011-2012\*\***

1. The romanization system used by the Centre:

The French system, the 1972 amended Beirut system. The Arab standardized system is not yet used and continues to be given consideration, with a view to taking into account certain particularities of concern to our country, including the use of the letter **ث**.

2. The establishment of a national committee for geographical names: the National Centre for Cartography and Remote Sensing has submitted a draft decree on the creation of a national committee for geographical names that is currently in the process of approval.

3. Tunisia has participated in the following relevant regional and international events:

- The twenty-sixth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, which was held in Vienna, 2-6 May 2011: Tunisia submitted two scientific papers.
- The seventeenth International Seminar on Sea Names, held in Vancouver, Canada, in August 2011: Tunisia submitted a scientific paper.
- A consultative workshop on establishing a road map for geographical names in the countries of Africa, held in Gaborone, Botswana, in November 2011.

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\* E/CONF.101/1.

\*\* The full report was prepared by Naima Friha, National Centre for Cartography and Remote Sensing, Tunisia, and is available in the languages of submission only from <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/ungegnConf10.html>.



- National workshop on geographical names in the countries of Africa, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, 12-14 April 2012.

4. Successes and studies:

Tunisia won first place in the contest on geographical names in Africa that was held at the twenty-sixth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, with a paper entitled “A place, a toponym, a cultural heritage: The legendary story of the founding of Carthage-Byrsa”, which was published in Arabic and French in United Nations Group of Experts *Bulletin* No. 41, and made available at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/default.html>.

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