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 ﻓ.

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.

* 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/UNEGGN/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/UNEGGN/default.html.