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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 of Suriname

Summary**

The report provides an overview of the procedure that Suriname will follow in order to standardize geographical names, in accordance with the *Manual for the National Standardization of Geographical Names* and the *Technical Reference Manual for the Standardization of Geographical Names* of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Geographical names of Suriname are references which are used primarily to represent national and international spatial phenomena across the Earth's surface. The use of geographical names is vital for economic, geographical, educational and administrative systems and for sustainable planning strategies at the local, national, regional and global levels.

Suriname has actively participated in sessions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names since 2009 with the aim of standardizing geographical names and establishing consistent written forms of toponyms and their applications throughout the world. The world is rapidly changing into a global village in which Suriname plays an important role in respect of digitalization, political mapping, information and communications technology and the Geographic Information System (GIS). In this respect, as a State member of the Group of Experts on Geographical Names, Suriname is classified in the Dutch- and German-speaking division and should comply with United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names resolutions I/17 (of 1967) and V/15 (of 1987) to establish a national geographical name authority for the standardization of geographical names.

* E/CONF.101/1.

** The full report was prepared by Hein Raghoobar (Suriname) and is available in the language of submission only from <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/ungegnConf10.html>.

