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REFERENCE: EC/DDSMS/GEGN(18)

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representative of ... to the United Nations and has the honour to invite his/her Government to designate an expert in the field of cartography/linguistics to the Eighteenth Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. This session will take place at the United Nations Office at Geneva, from 12 to 23 August 1996.

In accordance with resolution 1314 (XLIV) of its 1529th plenary meeting, the Economic and Social Council recognized the need for a body such as the Group of Experts on Geographical Names, and invited the Group to provide the necessary coordination in the standardization of geographical names. The Council also took note that such experts should be made available at their Government's expense.

The official languages of the session are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. English, French and Spanish shall be the working languages of the session. Since the facilities for reproduction of documents at the site of the session will be limited, His/Her Excellency's Government is asked to forward to the United Nations Secretariat at its earliest convenience, but not later than 1 July 1996, two copies of any documents, in one of the working languages, that they may have prepared in support of items on the provisional agenda for the session. It is essential that the documents be kept to a reasonable length; in no case should they exceed 10 pages.

If His/Her Excellency's Government has already appointed experts to serve on this panel and as these experts have attended previous session of the Group of Experts, the Secretary-General would be very grateful if the same experts could be made available for the forthcoming eighteenth session to provide continuity in the work of the Group.

Enclosed for His/Her Excellency's convenience and information is the provisional agenda for the forthcoming session, and the list of experts, who were appointed by the Governments to serve the previous session(s).

27 December 1995

S. B.

Annexes enclosed

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