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REFERENCE: EC/DESD/GEGN(20)

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 Twentieth Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. This session will take place at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, from 17 to 28 January 2000.

This invitation is in pursuance of ECOSOC resolution 1999/9 adopted on 26 July 1999. 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 12 November 1999, two copies of any documents, in one of the working languages, that may have been 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. In addition, the text of the documents should be made available in digital form.

If His/Her Excellency's Government has already appointed experts to serve on this panel and as these experts have attended previous sessions of the Group of Experts, the Secretary-General would be very grateful if the same experts could be made available for the forthcoming twentieth 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 in his/her country, who were appointed by the Government to serve at previous sessions.

28 September 1999

S. B.

Annexes enclosed