

Twenty-sixth session  
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Item 17 of the Provisional Agenda

Geographical names and cultural heritage

## Geographical Names as cultural heritage\*

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## **Resolution VII 9: Geographical Names as cultural heritage**

### **South Africa: National Hearings on Geographical Names**

During the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of UNGEGN held in Nairobi, Kenya South African delegation reported that on the they were going to have national hearings on geographical names in all nine provinces of the country as per Cabinet instruction in an attempt to foster social cohesion around issues of geographical names.

On 30 May 2008 in the project was launched in Cape Town the then Minister of Arts and Culture and the South African Geographical Names Council (SAGNC) launched an implementation of special social cohesion campaign focusing on geographical names.

Since then the campaign has been held in all nine provinces: Mpumalanga Province (16 -17 October 2008), Eastern Cape Province (30 -31 October 2008), Free State Province (13 February 2009), North West Province (26 - 27 March 2009), KwaZulu Natal (31 March 2009), Limpopo Province (11 February 2010), Western Cape (04 March 2010) and Gauteng Province (24 March 2010). The hearings were concluded on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2010 in Kimberly (Northern Cape Province).

It is envisaged that the national summit to include all provinces will be held to consolidate the outcomes of all provincial hearings.