Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names
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Item 9 (c) of the provisional agenda*
National standardization: Treatment of names in multilingual areas

Place-naming conventions in the Australian Capital Territory and Canberra, the national capital of Australia

Submitted by Australia**

Summary***

The present paper was written to explain how place-naming is undertaken in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and Canberra, the national capital of Australia. Canberra has a unique naming system, which dates back to its beginnings and provides an insight into Australia’s history, and into the things that are dear to the hearts of Australians.

This paper:
• Explains how the naming method in Canberra turns the capital city into a memorial to Australia’s heritage
• Discusses how place names are administered in the Australian Capital Territory
• Provides an overview of the history behind the place-naming convention of the Australian Capital Territory
• Explains the unique practices and guidelines of the Australian Capital Territory in relation to place-naming
• Outlines the legislative processes of the Australian Capital Territory
• Highlights the educational benefits and aspects of place-naming in the Australian Capital Territory

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* E/CONF.98/1.
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*** The full text of the paper is being issued in English only as document E/CONF.98/10/Add.1.