United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
2021 session
Virtual, 3–7 May 2021
Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Cooperation and liaison with other organizations:
Economic Commission for Africa and Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Summary**

The secretariat of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names has the honour of bringing to the attention of the Group of Experts the report prepared by the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its activities relevant to the work of the Group of Experts. The Group of Experts is invited to review the report and express its views on the efforts to strengthen collaboration on furthering the standardization of geographical names.

At its ninth and tenth sessions, held from 7 to 9 August 2019, and on 26 and 27 August and 4 September 2020, respectively, the Committee of Experts welcomed the report of the Group of Experts (see E/C.20/2020/17/Add.1 and E/C.20/2020/34/Add.1). In 2019, the Committee affirmed the importance of strengthened collaboration between it and the Group of Experts, and suggested for consideration supporting the development of relevant strategic pathways of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, capacity-building, and education and research initiatives, including with the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Academic Network. In 2020, the Committee congratulated the Group of Experts on its efforts to develop a strategic plan and programme of work in a transparent manner and aligned to the priorities of Member States as well as the broader United Nations development agenda. In addition, the Committee supported the establishment of a liaison group between it and the Group of Experts to act as a guiding mechanism to manage the flow of information between the two bodies and to continue to identify areas of joint work, and welcomed the proposal to convene a joint meeting of the Bureaux of the Committee and the Group of Experts early in 2021.

* GEGN.2/2021/1.

** The full report was prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. It will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2021/13/CRP.1, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/2nd_session_2021/.
The full report provides a summary of relevant activities since the ninth session of the Committee of Experts, in particular the work being done with regard to the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework; an overview of activities of its regional committees and expert and working groups that are relevant to the standardization of geographical names; and an overview of relevant highlights of the virtual High-Level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management, held in May and June 2020.