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**United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names****2021 session**

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Item 14 of the provisional agenda*

Toponymic data files and gazetteers**Experimental release of webmap: “Japan map in
multilingual notation”****Summary****

The Geospatial Information Authority of Japan made notation rules in English and new map symbols to create easy-to-understand maps for overseas visitors.

On 14 February 2020, the Authority released an online map with multilingual notations, adopting the abovementioned rules on an experimental basis in order to expand their use and find ways to improve maps for overseas visitors. The map was released in Chinese (both traditional and simplified), English, French, Korean and romanized Japanese. Notations other than English and parts of romanized Japanese were automatically generated based on simple conversion rules, although they may not be accurate.

Users can click the online map symbol on the map to display the types of symbol and their names. In addition, by clicking the geographical names annotation, users can hear the correct Japanese pronunciation of geographical names through a web-based voice-reading function.

The report provides information about the online map with multilingual notations, which will be useful, for example, for the non-Roman language zone and multilingual areas.

* [GEGN.2/2021/1](#).

** The full report was prepared by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan. It will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2021/40/CRP.40, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/2nd_session_2021/.

