



## STATEMENT/INTERVENTION

<b><i>Agenda Item Number: 3</i></b>	
<b><i>Agenda Item Title: Reports of the Chair and the Secretariat</i></b>	
<b><i>Title of paper/report: Report of the Secretariat</i></b>	
<b><i>Statement/intervention provided by:</i></b> CANADA	
<b><i>Statement/intervention:</i></b>	
<p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Canada would like to thank the Director of UNSD and the Secretariat for their continued valuable and unfaltering support to UNGEGN, particularly during the difficult times and restrictions faced in the past year due to the global pandemic.</p> <p>In particular Canada would like to comment on the resuscitation of UNGEGN's multi-scriptual multilingual World Geographical Names Database available online. This most useful resource was initiated by the Secretariat and UNGEGN in 2004 to assist in responding to public enquiries and in disseminating nationally authorized names for countries, capitals and major cities/towns, together with the pronunciation sound files. For the benefit of all, the Secretariat now has in hand the process of having the difficulties resolved and once again making this a valuable resource for world-wide consultation. We urge the Secretariat to retain the spirit of the original project and trust the remaining difficulties will be solved as soon as possible.</p> <p>Canada fully supports this initiative to have an open downloadable worldwide database and offers its assistance as needed.</p> <p><b><i>Recommendation for inclusion in the UNGEGN Decisions:</i></b></p> <p>The work of the Secretariat is appreciated in reviving UNGEGN's online World Geographical Names Database; the completion of these modifications to the database and to web access as soon as possible will again make this useful resource widely available. At the same time, Member States are encouraged to supply their authorized data and sound files, to complete the world view, or to update their existing information.</p>	
Submitted on:	4/23/2021