## STATEMENT/INTERVENTION

Agenda Item Number: 5

Agenda Item Title: Cooperation and liaison with other organization

Title of paper/report: Recommendation from East Central and South-East Europe Division regarding Google

Statement/intervention provided by:

Ms Darina Porubčanová

## Statement/intervention:

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Mr/Madam Chair,

I would like to refer to the geographical names that are currently used by Google in their interactive maps Google Maps and Google Earth. After thorough investigation, we found that many geographical names in these interactive maps are incorrect, and thus they create confusion among users. We suggest to UNGEGN to discuss this issue and recommend to Google to use authoritative/official geographical names, as they are issued and maintained by the competent authorities of UN member states. Special emphasis should be given to country names, municipality, community names, city, village names, settlement names etc. Main benefits gained by using authoritative standardized geographical names include:

- 1. Technical, social, economic and cultural benefits.
- 2. Improved communication.
- 3. Cultural Heritage protection.
- 4. Increased operational efficiency.
- Precise identification of locations.
- 6. Elimination of confusion.
- 7. Provision of clarity.
- 8. Prevention of ambiguity.
- 9. etc

Submitted on: 4/29/2021