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English

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

**2021 session**

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**Item 4(a) of the provisional agenda \***

**Reports: Governments on the situation in their countries and on the progress made in  
the standardization of geographical names**

**The Activities of the Sultanate of Oman in the Field of Geographical  
Place Names From 2019- 2021**

Submitted by Oman\*\*

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**Summary:**

There were major changes in Oman during the period mentioned, most notably the death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Saeed on January 10th, 2020, who ruled Oman for 50 years, during which the country witnessed a major development renaissance in various fields, and was taken over by Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, who pledged to continue the march of his predecessor Sultan Qaboos in improvement and development.

Oman continued its activity in the field of geographical names during the period from 2019 to 2021, and despite the health pandemic that hit the whole world, which was known as Covid19 and led to the cessation of some activities and paralysis in some of them, especially the economic aspect and the side of conferences, meetings and meetings, many events and activities related to this aspect continued with the taking of health precautions, some of which were carried out through virtual reality.

**The Activities Of The Sultanate Of Oman In The Field Of Geographical Place Names From 2019-2021**

Geographical names are of great importance in human life, and they have been linked to history and geography and have become part of his identity, and in the Sultanate of Oman, geographical names have been closely linked to the Omani citizen and have preserved and adhered to them throughout the history of Oman that struck deep in history for thousands of years, and the following report reviews the Sultanate's activity in The field of geographical names during the period from 2019 to 2021

1. The completion of the project of collecting geographical names to update the topographic maps scale 1: 50,000 and the number 498 covering the Sultanate, and was able to collect nearly 7,000 geographical names for the Sultanate, this project required a great effort due to the diversity of the Sultanate's topography, including mountains, plains and islands, and the end of this project The authority, with its existing geographical names base and quality, will add another wealth of Omani place names, and this will enable decision-makers to benefit from this important data.
2. Participation in the first session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names UNGEGN during the period from April 29 to May 3, 2019 in New York City, USA.
3. The Sultanate participated in the Eighth Arab Conference of Arab Experts in Geographical Names (Judaizing geographical names in Jerusalem) from October 1-3, 2019 in the Jordanian capital Amman, where the Commission was represented in the conference by 5 experts on geographical names in the Authority, and the Sultanate participated in it with four working papers It bore the following titles:

SN	Title	Date	Presentation
1	Sultanate of Oman's Geographic Names Achievements	1 <sup>st</sup> October Day 1	Lt. Col. Yousuf Harith Nasser Al-Nabhani
2	The Arab Standardized System for transfer of names	2 <sup>nd</sup> October Day 2	Civilian Officer/ Mohammad Ali Al Rawahi
3	Non-Written Languages in the Sultanate of Oman	2 <sup>nd</sup> October Day 2	Lt. Col. Yousuf Harith Nasser Al-Nabhani
4	1:50000 scale Map update Project	2 <sup>nd</sup> October Day 2	Lt. Col. Yousuf Harith Nasser Al-Nabhani

4. The Sultanate's selection in the Eighth Conference of Arab Experts on Geographical Names for the position of one of the vice-presidents of the Arab Division for Geographical Names, represented by Lieutenant Colonel Yousuf bin Harith bin Nasser al-Nabhani.

5. The Sultanate participated in the workshop organized by both the Jordanian and Saudi Geographical Society, in which working papers were presented in the field of geographical names and geospatial data, which were conducted through virtual reality (remotely)

6. The National Survey Authority and the Ministry of Education implemented a project aimed at publishing the Sultanate's map and geographical place names in all curricula of the Ministry of Education for grades (1-12) in addition to printing more than 31,000 thousand wall maps of the Sultanate that are placed in all classrooms.

7. Participation in the tenth meeting of the United Nations Committee of Experts for the Management of Geospatial Information during the period from August 26-27 and September 4, 2020.

8. Producing a map of the Sultanate of Oman at scale 1: 1,500,000 and distributing it to all official and educational institutions and individuals on the occasion of the 50th National Day.

9. Print the second edition of the Roads Atlas of the Sultanate of Oman 2020, including the geographical place names

10. Producing a book on the occasion of the 50th National Day entitled (Oman A journey Down The Memory Lane) that includes old and modern aerial photos of the Sultanate of Oman with a time difference of more than 50 years with mention of the names of the governorates and states of the Sultanate

11. Participation in the eighth meeting of the Arab Committee of United Nations experts for managing geospatial information on February 23, 2021 in virtual reality

12. The inauguration of the Encyclopedia of Oman Mountains, which is 3 parts and contained 1,700 pages. The role of the National Survey Authority in this project is in providing basic geospatial data and information such as maps of all kinds and scales, in addition to aerial photos and satellite images of the places covered by the project. It also provided a list of Omani mountain data and information. This list contained the names of the mountains approved by the competent authorities with transferring them to the English language using the Arabic system for transliteration from Arabic to Latin (English), in addition to their spatial coordinates, height and administrative subordination, the name and number of the map located in it and the product. In the National Survey Authority, in addition to the above, the Commission reviewed and approved the project maps for publication in the encyclopedia with transferring them to the English language using the Arabic system for transliteration from Arabic to Latin (English), in addition to their spatial coordinates, height, administrative subordination, and the name and number of the map located in it. The product is in the National Survey Authority.

13. Begin to produce topographic maps at a scale of 1: 10,000

14. Preparing to host the 9th conference of the Arab Division for Geographical Names 202.