Agenda Item Number: 4a and 4b

Agenda Item Title: Report

## *Title of paper/report:*

"Achievements of the National Committee on Geographical Names in The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for 2019-2020 contained in document :( GEGN.2/2021/CRP.100)"

Report of Arabic Division activities in the field of geographical names 2019-202 contained in document: (GEGN.2/2021/CRP.102).

## Statement/intervention provided by:

National Cartographic Center of the Islamic Republic of Iran

## Statement/intervention:

Click or tap here to enter text.

I would like to deliver the following in order to exercise my delegation's right of reply to use of fake names in the two reports presented in the meeting of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names in 2021, namely:

"Achievements of the National Committee on Geographical Names in The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for 2019-2020 contained in document :( GEGN.2/2021/CRP.100)" and

"Report of Arabic Division activities in the field of geographical names 2019-202 contained in document: (GEGN.2/2021/CRP.102).

Over the course of a number of years, the United Nations and the Member States have emphasized and advised countries on "The protection of Geographical Names as intangible heritage" in conferences, assemblies, and resolutions. However, some member states have not only adhered to the protection of geographical names but have also acted against the principle in their reports.

Regrettably, in the two abovementioned reports presented in the meeting of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names in 2021, that principle has not been observed wherein false names have been used several times in the texts and maps instead of the historical and documented name of the Persian Gulf.

While recalling the UN Secretariat document ST/CS/SER.A/29/Rev.1 dated 14 May 1999 regarding the legitimacy and accuracy of the documents of the historical name of the "Persian Gulf", everything is conspicuous, and the approach as well as action of the United Nations leave no doubt that the only true geographical designation for the body of water lying between the Iranian Plateau and Arabian Peninsula is the Persian Gulf.

The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly insists that the Board of Directors raise these items to correct the mistakes in the aforementioned reports. Also, we wish to request that the Secretariat reflect this statement in the reports of this meeting.



STATEMENT/INTERVENTION