Agenda Item Number: Agenda item #4

Agenda Item Title: 4a National Reports

*Title of paper/report:* Report of the Republic of Turkey

Statement/intervention provided by:

Turkey

## Statement/intervention:

Mr./Mrs. Chairperson,

I would like to express my sincere congratulations for such a successful event during such unprecedented times. Turkey believes that the Group of Experts on Geographical Names is carrying out a very important task.

Let me briefly touch upon the tasks Turkey undertook during the intersessional period regarding standardization of geographical names. In accordance with the latest changes and interagency consultations, the "List of Countries and their Capitals" was updated in November 2020 and published on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in English and Turkish. The "Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names" of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names was also translated in Turkish recently. Settlements Database of Turkey, launched by the General Directorate of Mapping, is being regularly updated once a settlement's name/feature changes or a new settlement is established.

We plan to submit the "Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names" in near future. Relevant national institutions on the standardization of geographical names in Turkey are planning to carry out a project on a national toponomy list. Services that enable viewing and downloading of feature information of data via web and GIS applications will be made available to users free of charge and published within the scope of Turkey Geographic Information System (TUCBS). A draft of marine geographical names and undersea feature names have been completed and will be further developed.

In addition, I would like to bring to your kind attention that the country name used for the Island of Cyprus in the documents pertaining to this Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, specifically in document GEGN.2/2021/9/CRP.9, should in no way be construed as a single authority representing the Island as a whole. On that account, Turkey declares that the approval of this and other documents in the meeting neither constitutes recognition of the Greek Cypriot Administration nor prejudices Turkey's rights and obligations emanating from the Treaty of Guarantee, the Treaty of Alliance, and the Treaty of Establishment of 1960.

Submitted on: 4/23/2021

## STATEMENT/INTERVENTION