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English

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

2023 session

New York, 1 – 5 May 2023

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
names from 2021 – 2023**

Submitted by Oman **

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 Sultanate of 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.

Sultanate of Oman continued its activity in the field of geographical names during the period from 2021 to 2023, 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.

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The activities of the Sultanate of Oman in the field of Geographical Place Names from 2021-2023

Geographic Place names had a special status in the Sultanate of Oman since ever. It is as old as the oman's thousands of years history. This is reflected clearly from preserving the old geographic place names and among them is "oman", the country's old and up to now names fields and activities diversified as historical, geographical, cultural and political. The latest activities and achievements of the Sultanate of Oman in this field is its hosting of the Ninth Conference of Arab Experts in Geographical Names during the period from 5 to 7 December 2022

In this paper, a summary of the Sultanate of Oman's activities in the field of geographic place names will be presented

1. The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the National Survey Authority, hosted during the period from December 5-7, 2022 in the capital, Muscat, the Ninth conference of Arab experts in geographical names, entitled Geographical Integration, Enacting the Name and Location: (Importance and Impact), in cooperation with the Arab Division of Geographical Names and the Royal Jordanian Geographical Center. The conference was attended by more than 120 experts representing 16 Arab countries. The conference, in which more than 40 scientific working papers were presented, dealt with many topics related to geographical names and Arab cooperation in this field. The Sultanate of Oman presented 6 working papers. The table below shows their details:

SN	Title	Date	Presentation
1	The achievements of the Sultanate of Oman in the field of geographical names	5 December 2022	Yousuf bin Harith Al Nabhani
2	Encyclopedia of the Land of Oman	5 December 2022	Yousuf bin Harith Al Nabhani
3	A suggested conception of a dictionary of Arab geographical features: a study An analysis of the scientific heritage of the Omani navigator Ahmed bin Majid	6 December 2022	Dr Hamid bin Saif Al-Nawfali Ministry of Education
4	A project to update maps of 1:50,000 geographical names of submerged marine features	6 December 2022	Fatima bint Mubarak Al-Dairi Omani National Hydrographic Office
5	geographical names that have been going on since ancient times,	6 December 2022	Prof. Dr. Nael Hanoun / Al-Khalil bin Ahmed Al-Farahidi Center for Studies Arabic and Humanities University of Nizwa
6	The feasibility of benefiting from the application of addressing systems and their impact on a city	7 December 2022	Eng. Yaqoob Al-Hendassi

	Suhar		Suhar Municipality
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2. During the Ninth conference of Arab experts on geographical names, the Sultanate of Oman, represented by the National Survey Authority, was elected as the first vice president of the Arab Division of Geographical Names, where Colonel Yusuf bin Harith al-Nabhani was chosen for this position.
 3. Participation in the eighth meeting of the Arab Committee of United Nations experts for managing geospatial information on February 23, 2021 in virtual reality.
 4. The National Survey Authority continued to produce 1:10,000 topographic maps.
 5. The National Survey Authority has started a project to produce maps of the 11 governorates of the Sultanate of Oman, which is expected to be completed in the middle of the current year 2023.
 6. The National Survey Authority launched the geospatial portal during the opening of the Ninth Conference of Arab Experts on Geographical Names on December 5, 2022 AD. The link below shows the address of the portal: www.nsaomangeoportal.govom/ar
7. The National Survey Authority has produced a map of the Sultanate of Oman (administrative domain), which shows the administrative borders of the 11 governorates of the Sultanate of Oman, after the issuance of Royal Decree No. (114/2011) issued on October 26, 2011 regarding the administrative division of the Sultanate of Oman.