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English

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

2023 Session

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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda *

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

Saudi Arabia report

Summary **

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia pays attention to geographical names, as geographical names are considered one of the main components of geospatial information that supports and enables many different sectors. In view of the multiplicity of government agencies concerned with place names in the Kingdom, in addition to the presence of a number of researchers and those interested in geographical names, it was important to unite the efforts between these agencies, ministries and other relevant agencies.

Accordingly, the National Committee for Geographical Names was established in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, where the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information assumes the tasks of supervising the National Committee for Geographical Names by virtue of specialization and shall regulate the sector of survey, geospatial information, and imaging in the Kingdom. Where this committee aims to unify efforts related to geographical names in the Kingdom in terms of writing, control, spelling, and everything related to the national standard for it, and preparing its database.

The National Committee for Geographical Names includes in its membership 21 government agencies, responsible for standardizing geographical names in the Kingdom, collecting and publishing geographical names, preparing a database for them, and preparing a national indexed dictionary. The National Committee for Geographical Names represents the Kingdom in local and international conferences and meetings regarding geographical names.

The National Committee for Geographical Names in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia seeks to strengthen its relations with international organizations, committees and technical teams to ensure the achievement of common strategic goals, which in turn are reflected in the achievement of sustainable development goals. The report will include the actions taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the matter of standardizing geographical names and the actions taken to support the implementation of the strategic plan of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and the work program 2021-2029.

* GEGN.2/2023/1

** The full report was prepared by the Secretariat of the National Committee for Geographical Names, the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information. The report will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2023/103/CRP.103, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd_session_2023/.

