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**United Nations Group of Experts on  
Geographical Names****2023 session**

New York, 1–5 May 2023

Item 14 of the provisional agenda\*

**Geographical names data management****Report of the Working Group on Geographical Names Data  
Management for 2021 and 2022****Summary\*\***

To respond to United Nations data needs, the Working Group on Geographical Names Data Management of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names addresses issues relating to the processing of geographical names data, including the creation, maintenance and outputs of geographical names data files and gazetteers, as well as aspects of geographical names data exchange formats and standards. The strategic plan and programme of work adopted at the 2021 session of the Group of Experts was intended to guide the work of the Group of Experts to achieve several aims.

Experts of the Working Group have collaborated to prepare the present report, which covers the activities conducted by the Working Group in 2021 and 2022.

The report provides an overview of the tasks being performed to implement strategy 1 (technical expertise) and is focused on the first findings, the challenges faced and the obstacles encountered. It includes: (a) the delivery of technical expertise and advice to national authorities regarding geographical names standardization (including romanization); and (b) the activities carried out to promote efficient and effective geographical names data and gazetteer management, as well as interoperability.

The technical development and sharing of good data management practices, comprising the identification of trends in development and future direction for geographical names data management, are crucial.

The report will be concluded with an outlook and some requests for upcoming activities in the period from 2023 to 2025.

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\* [GEGN.2/2023/1](#).

\*\* The full report was prepared by Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu (Germany) on behalf of the Working Group on Geographical Names Data Management. It will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2023/73/CRP.73, in the language of submission only, at [https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd\\_session\\_2023/](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd_session_2023/).

