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Collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, which will be available in the language of submission only from the relevant web page of the Committee of Experts (<http://ggim.un.org/meetings/ggim-committee/10th-session/>). The Committee is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on supporting the collaborative initiatives and efforts of the Group of Experts on the standardization of geographical names in Member States.

Summary of the report

At its ninth session, held in New York from 7 to 9 August 2019, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 9/114, in which it affirmed the importance of strengthened collaboration between the Committee and the Group of Experts and noted the special role that the Group had to play in the specialized areas of geographical names, including on romanization, linguistics, culture and history. The Committee also acknowledged the importance of regular communications between the Bureau of the Committee and the Bureau of the Group of Experts to support the development of their respective strategic plans and the creation of geographical names authorities where they do not presently exist. Furthermore, the Committee encouraged increased communication between geospatial information management authorities and geographical names authorities.

In the report, the Group of Experts presents its collaborative activities at the global, regional and national levels as part of its efforts to implement the decisions of the Committee of Experts at its ninth session. The report includes information on the meeting convened in August 2019 between the expanded Bureau of the Group of

* E/C.20/2020/20.



Experts and the expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts, and an overview of the Group's activities, including the development of a draft strategic plan and programme of work that is aligned with the larger policy framework of the United Nations. In the report, the Group also highlights the collaboration with the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas on the Caribbean geospatial initiative, which is aimed at encouraging the standardization of geographical names in participating countries.
