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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/9th-session/>). The Committee is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the collaborative efforts of the Group of Experts with regard to geospatial information management, including the standardization of geographical names.

Summary of the report

At its eighth session, held in New York from 1 to 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 8/114, in which it commended the efforts of the Group of Experts to develop a mutually beneficial relationship with the Committee and to identify items for collaborative work. The Committee also welcomed the proposal to create a liaison group tasked with defining operational working relations and coordinating future collaborative work. The Group was also commended for modernizing its operations in line with Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/2 on the future organization and methods of work of the Group, and the Committee suggested that the collocation of the Group's meetings be explored as a possible cost-saving and further integration measure.

In the report, the Group of Experts presents its activities at the global and national levels as part of its efforts to collaborate on and implement the decisions of the Committee of Experts at its eighth session. The report includes information on the meeting convened in August 2018 between the Bureau of the Group of Experts and the Bureau of the Committee of Experts, and an overview of the decisions of the

* E/C.20/2020/1.



Group at its first session, held from 29 April to 3 May 2019, of which the major decisions were to undertake the development of a draft strategic plan and programme of work, to review its procedures and timing for the preparation and submission of country reports and to review resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council for their relevance to the work of the Group. In the report, the Group also highlights the collaborative initiatives that it has launched with various intergovernmental bodies, including the Committee of Experts, and its plans for considering other possible methods of cooperation.
