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Briefing Note on the 2010 World programme of Population and Housing Censuses

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Programme on Population and Housing
Censuses**

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Briefing Note on the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses

1 Issue

- To provide an overview of the preparation of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses and the works of its expert group.
- To present a framework for discussions that may help the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), regional, sub-regional organizations, and stakeholders to be prepared to actively participate in the preparation and the implementation of the censuses programme.

2 Background

The United Nations Statistical Commission, at its last meeting in March 2005, approved the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses and established an Expert Group to take care of its implementation.

The Expert Group, in turn, proposed the formation of working groups and technical subgroups to carry out its mandate.

The main purpose the Expert Group is to carry out the revision and update of the global *United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*.

In this regard, the Expert group is expected to work in conjunction with the Regional Commissions and other relevant organizations in order to take into consideration processes already in place, to maximize the efficiency of the process, to avoid duplication of effort and to ensure coordination and harmonization of the results.

Three working groups and six technical subgroups are being proposed to carry out the work of the Expert Group. The working groups will be coordinated by a drafting group, while the United Nations Statistics Division will act as Secretariat to the programme and to the Expert Group.

The responsibilities of the working groups and technical subgroups are defined as follow:

- **The Drafting Group:** responsible for ensuring coordination and harmonization of activities among regional and subregional organizations/groups in the review and revision process of the United Nations *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* and also to make sure that regional recommendations are closely linked to the global version on the basic issues

1. **The Working Group on Standards, Frameworks and a Core Set of Outputs (WG 1):** This group deals with aspects related to: marital status, households, families and living arrangements; employment; education; mortality; human functioning and disability; internal and international migration statistics; housing; and coordination of a core set of census tabulations for international dissemination. It is subdivided into four technical sub-groups namely:
 - **Technical subgroup 1-1:** Internal and international migration
 - **Technical subgroup 1-2:** Human functioning and disability
 - **Technical subgroup 1-3:** Core set of outputs and tabulations for international dissemination
 - **Technical subgroup 1-4:** Housing census topics
2. **The Working Group on Census Planning and Management (WG 2):** This group is responsible for alternative designs; strategies of integrated data collection and dissemination; quality assurance; outsourcing and IT. It is divided into two technical sub-groups:
 - **Technical subgroup 2-1:** Integrated data collection and dissemination
 - **Technical subgroup 2-2:** Alternative designs
3. **Working Group on Promotion of Censuses (WG 3):** Makes Value Visible.

The membership of African countries, regional and sub regional organizations in the above groups appear in appendix 2. It is composed of ten (10) countries, three (3) sub regional organisations (Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Southern African Development Community (SADC), and The *Observatoire Économique et statistique d'Afrique Subsaharienne* (AFRISTAT)), three (3) United Nations Population Fund's Country Support Teams (UNFPA CSTs --Addis Ababa, Dakar, and Harare), and ECA.

At this point in the process of the preparation of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses, all regional organizations, with exception of ECA, have organized working groups, tasks forces and other meetings, with the collaboration of their member states, to assess their census experiences for the 2000 round as well as to have a regional position on the proposed recommendations with respect to the United Nations *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*.

3 Next Steps

- In its terms of reference, the Expert Group decided that it would submit the draft revised and updated *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* for approval by the Statistical Commission, at its 38th session (March 2007).
- The updating of the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* shall be finalized, in all United Nations languages, not later than 2008.
- Each of the working groups and technical subgroups is expected to submit, by 15 July 2005, short summaries stating their proposals for updating of the Principles and Recommendations.
- Thereafter, the draft will be revised to take into account the deliberations of the meeting and to reconcile it with regional recommendations during the August 22-26, 2005 Expert Group meeting.
- The revised draft will then be submitted for approval by the Statistical Commission in 2007, and then edited and translated for publication in 2008.

4 Issues to be Considered for Discussions

Subjects to be considered for discussions include:

- How to gather information on African countries' experiences with respect to census operations especially in the last round of censuses?
- How to organize observations and proposals for updating the Principles and Recommendations, based on national and regional experiences; and
- Possible working group to coordinate the work towards getting a regional position before the 22-26 August meeting of the Expert Group.

Appendix 1: 2005 Proposed work programme of Working Groups and Technical Subgroups of the United Nations Expert Group on the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses

Drafting Group, Working Groups and Technical Subgroups		Section(s) in the Principles and Recommendations	Meetings
Drafting Group			22 August 2005 – UN Expert Group Meeting on the 2010 World Programme
WG 1	Working group on standards and frameworks and a core set of outputs	paras. 2.1 – 2.277	22-26 August 2005 – UN Expert Group Meeting on the 2010 World Programme
Technical subgroup 1-1	Internal and international migration	paras. 2.18 – 2.59 and 2.248 – 2.257	(1) May 2005 – UN Seminar on international migration (2) Group will be represented and their work discussed at 22-26 August 2005 – UN Expert Group Meeting
Technical subgroup 1-2	Human functioning and disability	paras. 2.258 – 2.277	(1) Group will be represented and their work discussed at 22-26 August 2005 – UN Expert Group Meeting (2) September 21-23, 2005, – Meeting of the Washington Group
Technical subgroup 1-3	Core set of outputs and tabulations for international dissemination	pages 139 – 249	Group will be represented and their work discussed at 22-26 August 2005 – UN Expert Group Meeting
Technical subgroup 1-4	Housing census topics	paras. 2.278 – 2.432	Group will be represented and their work discussed at 22-26 August 2005 – UN Expert Group Meeting
WG 2	Census planning and management	paras. 1.11 – 1.16, 1.50 – 1.284	22-26 August 2005 – UN Expert Group Meeting on the 2010 World Programme
Technical subgroup 2-1	Integrated data collection and dissemination	paras. 1.28 – 1.49, 1.318 – 1.350	Group will be represented and their work discussed at 22-26 August 2005 – UN Expert Group Meeting
Technical subgroup 2-2	Alternative designs	paras. 1.1 – 1.10, 1.28 – 1.49, 1.285 – 1.317, 1.318 – 1.350	Group will be represented and their work discussed at 22-26 August 2005 – UN Expert Group Meeting
WG 3	Promotion of censuses: Making value visible	paras. 1.20 – 1.27, 1.129 – 1.132, 1.236 – 1.256, 3.1 – 3.91	22-26 August 2005 – UN Expert Group Meeting on the 2010 World Programme

SOURCE: UN Statistical Commission

Appendix 2: Membership of African Countries, regional and subregional organizations in working groups and technical subgroups of the expert group

COUNTRY/ORG.	DRAFTING GROUP	WG 1	TECHNICAL SUBGROUPS				WG 2	TECHNICAL SUBGROUPS		
			1-1	1-2	1-3	1-4		2-1	2-2	WG 3
COUNTRIES										
EGYPT			X					X		
ETHIOPIA							X			
KENYA						X	X			
MAURITIUS					X					
SENEGAL		X								
SOUTH AFRICA	X		X*				X			
UGANDA		X						X		
TANZANIA									X	
ZAMBIA							X	X		
ZIMBABWE								X		
ORGANIZATIONS										
ECA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
UNFPA CST ADDIS ABABA			X		X			X	X	X
UNFPA CST DAKAR		X								X
UNFPA CST HARARE										X
AFRISTAT		X								
ECOWAS	X									
SADC	X							X		X

***CHAIR**

Source : UN Statistical Commission

Appendix 3: African membership of the drafting group, working groups and technical subgroups of the expert group on the 2010 world programme of population and housing censuses

DRAFTING GROUP

Name	Country	E-mail for DGROUP
Pali Lehohla	South Africa	palil@statssa.gov.za
Rosaline Hirschowitz	South Africa	rosh@statssa.gov.za
Calvin Molongoana	South Africa	Calvinm@statssa.gov.za
Dimitri Sanga	UN ECA	sanga@un.org
Akou Adjogou	ECOWAS	aadjogou@ecowasmail.net adjogouakou@hotmail.com
Arthur Nemalekonde	SADC	ANamakonde@sadc.int

WORKING GROUP 1: STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORKS AND A CORE SET OF OUTPUTS

Name	Country	E-mail for WG 1
Sogue Diarisso	Senegal	DPS@dps.minfinances.gouv.sn
J.B. Male-Mukasa	Uganda	john.malemukasa@ubos.org
Dimitri Sanga	UN ECA	sanga@un.org
R. Martin Balepa	AFRISTAT	Martin.Balepa@afriostat.org
Boubacar Sow	UNFPA CST DK*	bsow@unfpa.org

TECHNICAL SUBGROUP 1-1: INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Name	Country	E-mail for TSG 1-1
Pali Lehohla	South Africa	palil@statssa.gov.za
Rosaline Hirschowitz	South Africa	rosh@statssa.gov.za
Calvin Molongoana	South Africa	Calvinm@statssa.gov.za
Dimitri Sanga	UN ECA	sanga@un.org
Benoit Kalasa	UNFPA CST ABB*	kalasa@unfpa.org

TECHNICAL SUBGROUP 1-2: HUMAN FUNCTIONING AND DISABILITY

Name	Country	E-mail for TSG 1-2
Dimitri Sanga	UN ECA	sanga@un.org

TECHNICAL SUBGROUP 1-3: CORE SET OF OUTPUTS

Name	Country	E-mail for TSG 1-3
H. Bundhoo	Mauritius	cso@intnet.mu
Dimitri Sanga	UN ECA	sanga@un.org
Benson C. Morah	UNFPA CST ABB*	morah@unfpa.org

TECHNICAL SUBGROUP 1-4: HOUSING CENSUS TOPICS

Name	Country	E-mail for TSG 1-4
A.K.M. Kilele	Kenya	director@cbs.go.ke
Francis Muusyoka Munene	Kenya	fmmunene@cbs.go.ke
Dimitri Sanga	UN ECA	sanga@un.org

WORKING GROUP 2: CENSUS PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Name	Country	E-mail for WG2
A.K.M. Kilele	Kenya	director@cbs.go.ke
Francis Muusyoka Munene	Kenya	fmmunene@cbs.go.ke
Pali Lehohla	South Africa	palil@statssa.gov.za
Rosaline Hirschowitz	South Africa	rosh@statssa.gov.za
Calvin Molongoana	South Africa	Calvinm@statssa.gov.za
Buleti Nsemukila	Zambia	bnsemukila@zamstats.gov.zm
Dimitri Sanga	UN ECA	sanga@un.org

TECHNICAL SUBGROUP 2-1: INTEGRATED DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Name	Country	E-mail for TSG 2-1
J.B. Male-Mukasa	Uganda	john.malemukasa@ubos.org
Buleti Nsemukila	Zambia	bnsemukila@zamstats.gov.zm
M.L. Machirovi	Zimbabwe	lmachirovi@cso.zarnet.ac.zw
Dimitri Sanga	UN ECA	sanga@un.org
Arthur Nemaconde	SADC*	ANamakonde@sadc.int
Jean-Marc Hie	UNFPA CST ABB*	hie@unfpa.org
UNSD	UNSD	

TECHNICAL SUBGROUP 2-2: ALTERNATIVE DESIGNS

Name	Country	E-mail for TSG 2-2
Cletus P.B. Mkai	Tanzania	nbs.dg@raha.com
Dimitri Sanga	UN ECA	sanga@un.org
Jason Onsembe	UNFPA CST ABB*	onsembe@unfpa.org

WORKING GROUP 3: PROMOTION OF CENSUSES: MAKING VALUE VISIBLE

Name	Country	E-mail for WG 3
Dimitri Sanga	UN ECA	sanga@un.org
Arthur Nemaconde	SADC*	ANamakonde@sadc.int
Soulimane Baro	UNFPA CST DK*	baro@unfpa.org
Barnabas Yisa	UNFPA CST ABB*	yisa@unfpa.org
Richard Dackam-Ngatchou	UNFPA CST DK*	dackam@unfpa.org
Mandy Biaye	UNFPA CST HR*	biaye@unfpa.org