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## Statistical Commission

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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Items for information: population and housing censuses**

## Population and housing censuses

### Report of the Secretary-General

#### *Summary*

The present report was prepared at the request of the Statistical Commission at its forty-first session (see E/2010/24, chap. I.A). As 2010 marks the mid-decade of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses, this report contains information on the activities completed since 2005 in respect of the implementation of the 2010 World Programme, including the preparation and dissemination of international census guidelines; conduct of training workshops; technical assistance; and development and maintenance of a website to serve as a census knowledge base. It also contains information on future activities related to the 2010 World Programme. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

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\* E/CN.3/2011/1.

## **I. Introduction**

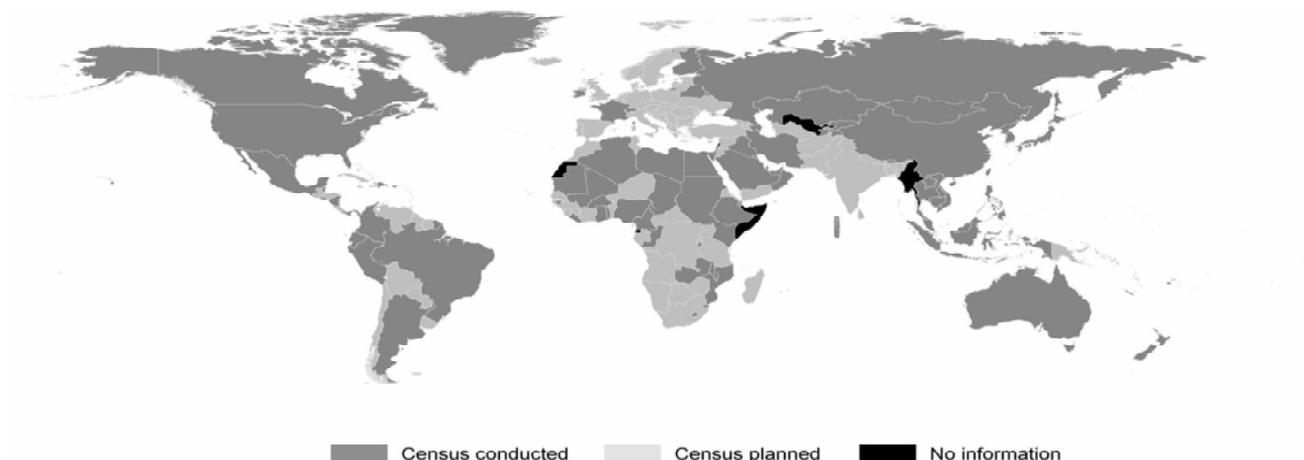
1. At its thirty-eighth session (see E/2007/24), the Statistical Commission requested the United Nations Statistics Division and other international agencies to increase their technical assistance to national statistical offices in order to strengthen national capacity for the implementation of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses. In addition, the Commission requested countries to begin implementation of the revised *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*.

## **II. National implementation of the 2010 round of population and housing censuses**

2. The 2010 round of population and housing censuses spans the period from 2005 to 2014. Throughout the census round, the Division closely monitors and regularly updates information on censuses already taken as well as on those that are planned and those that are postponed. According to the information available to the Division as at the end of 2010, which marks the mid-decade of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses, 121 countries or areas have already undertaken a census. These censuses have enumerated an estimated 58 per cent of the world's population. In 2010 alone, 43 countries or areas — consisting of 6 countries in Africa, 13 in Asia, 4 in Europe, 14 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2 in Northern America and 4 in Oceania — have conducted a census.

3. Since 2005, several countries have rescheduled their censuses at least once. For instance, over the past year, 17 countries or areas that had previously announced that they would conduct their national census in 2010 have deferred their census dates to 2011. Based on initial scheduling and reporting by countries, the year 2010 had been expected to be the peak census year for the 2010 census round. However, as a consequence of postponements, the peak census year has now shifted to 2011, where a census is scheduled to be held in 73 countries or areas. The reasons for the postponement of census dates include budgetary constraints, technical issues, lack of skilled staff and political reasons. In 2012, 17 countries or areas have scheduled to conduct a census. By the end of the census round, it is estimated that 98 per cent of the world's population will have been counted. Information on census dates is set out in annex I to the present report.

## Implementation of the 2010 round of population and housing censuses



### III. Activities of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses

4. In line with the mandate to assist countries to conduct a census during the 2010 census round, the Division carried out a variety of activities aimed at enhancing national implementation of the 2010 World Programme. Throughout the reporting period, the Division continued to develop international census guidelines, including handbooks and technical reports; developed the software package, CensusInfo, to help countries disseminate census data; organized training workshops on international guidelines for population and housing censuses, census management, cartography, data capture, analysis and dissemination of census data, and census evaluation; maintained a census resource centre; and published several issues of the web-based 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme Newsletter.

5. In the implementation of the 2010 World Programme, the Division continued to work closely with the World Bank as well as with the Government of Italy. The Division also closely collaborates with United Nations regional commissions and international agencies.

#### A. International census guidelines

6. The Division played a pivotal role in the development of international recommendations for the 2010 round of censuses. The Division has published technical guidelines, primarily, the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2* (2007) and its supplementary handbooks and technical reports focusing on specific census topics. Approved by the Statistical Commission at its thirty-eighth session, the second revision of the *Principles and Recommendations* presents international guidelines for use by countries in planning and conducting their censuses. The handbooks and technical reports issued by the Division to date are described below. The online version of each publication,

together with currently available translations into the other five official languages of the United Nations, is available on the Division's website from: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/census/census3.htm>.

7. The *Handbook on Population and Housing Census Editing, Revision 1* (2010) provides countries with a broad overview of census and survey data editing methodology and information on the use of various approaches to census editing. It also reviews the advantages and disadvantages of manual and computer-assisted editing. The Handbook is a reference for both subject-matter and data-processing specialists as they work as teams to develop editing specifications and programmes for censuses and surveys.

8. The technical report entitled "Post-enumeration surveys: operational guidelines" (2010) presents operational guidelines for the preparation and implementation of a post-enumeration survey. It provides census organizations with guidelines, methods and best practices for conducting census evaluation, which is important to provide users with a level of confidence when utilizing census data and to build public trust in the national statistical system. It defines and elaborates the objectives of a post-enumeration survey and covers the major elements involved in its design, planning and implementation, and presents the challenges associated with its successful implementation and how they can be mitigated.

9. The *Handbook on Geospatial Infrastructure in Support of Census Activities* (2009) provides census planners and related personnel with technical guidelines on contemporary methods, tools and best practices for application in census-mapping operations. It takes into account recent technological developments in the geographic information area with regard to geospatial technologies and to approaches in the use of geospatial applications for statistical purposes, including population and housing censuses.

10. The *Handbook on Measuring the Economically Active Population and Related Characteristics in Population Censuses* (2009) provides census planners with a variety of approaches to assess the questions and methods of collecting economic characteristics used in their national census. The Handbook provides suggestions on the implementation of guidelines on the measurement of economic characteristics in population censuses contained in the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2*.

11. The technical report entitled "Census data capture methodology" (2009) introduces various technical options available for data capture and explains how each method can be applied. The report was produced based on the information that was presented and collected during a series of workshops on census data processing conducted in 2008.

## **B. Training workshops**

12. In pursuance of its commitment to strengthen capacity for planning and carrying out population and housing censuses and in collaboration with regional commissions and subregional organizations, the Division has conducted 33 workshops, of which 25 were regional and 8 national, on major phases and aspects of a census operation for the period 2006-2010. About one thousand participants from over 140 countries and areas were trained in these workshops. The

workshops focused on international guidelines for population and housing censuses, census management, cartography, data capture and processing, data analysis, data evaluation and dissemination.

### **Census evaluation**

13. The Division conducted five regional workshops on census evaluation in 2009 and 2010. A total of 124 participants from 85 countries were trained in these workshops. The purpose of the workshops was to present an overview of the various methods of evaluating censuses with a focus on the post-enumeration survey methodology. The workshops also offered an opportunity for the participants to present and discuss the experience of their countries on different aspects of census evaluation and the post-enumeration survey. The workshops were held in: (a) Amman, from 21 to 24 November 2010, for Arabic speaking countries; (b) Bangkok, from 10 to 14 May 2010, for Asian countries; (c) Tunis, from 7 to 11 December 2009, for French-speaking African countries; (d) Addis Ababa, from 14 to 18 September 2009, for English-speaking African countries; and (e) Asunción, from 3 to 7 August 2009, for Latin American countries.

### **Census data dissemination**

14. Two regional seminars were organized in 2010 on strategies and technologies for census data dissemination. The seminars were attended by 71 participants from 49 countries. The seminars were organized with the aim of providing a forum for sharing national practices and experiences in the dissemination and use of census data. The seminars reviewed emerging trends, innovative approaches and technological tools employed in the dissemination of census data. The seminars were held in Nairobi, from 14 to 17 September 2010, for both English- and French-speaking African countries; and in Bangkok, from 5 to 8 October 2010, for Asian countries.

15. The Division also organized regional as well as national training workshops on CensusInfo, a free software package for disseminating census data on CD-ROM and on the Internet developed by the Division, in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The workshops offered hands-on experience on the software. The three regional workshops, which trained 69 census data managers from 56 countries, were held in: (a) Georgetown, from 12 to 15 October 2009, for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries; (b) Maputo, from 10 to 13 November 2009, for English-speaking African countries; and (c) Bamako, from 30 November to 4 December 2009, for French-speaking African countries. The Division also conducted the following national in-house training sessions in four countries on the implementation of the CensusInfo software: (a) Liberia, from 26 to 30 October 2009, for 11 staff of the Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geo-Information Services; (b) Mozambique, from 16 to 20 November 2009, for 14 staff of the Instituto Nacional de Estatística; (c) Egypt, from 2 to 6 May 2010, 20 to 23 September 2010 and 11 to 13 October 2010, for 49 participants from the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics; and (d) Malawi, from 29 November to 3 December 2010, for 10 staff of the National Statistical Office of Malawi. Egypt, Liberia and the Occupied Palestinian Territory have successfully adapted CensusInfo for disseminating data from their most recent population and housing censuses. A CensusInfo adaptation for Malawi is presently under development.

**Census data analysis**

16. The Division conducted two in-house seminars to strengthen national capacity to analyse, present and disseminate census data for evidence-based policymaking. The seminars were held in: (a) Blantyre, Malawi, from 19 to 22 July 2010, for 19 staff of the National Statistical Office of Malawi; and (b) Cairo, from 17 to 19 May 2010, for 49 staff of the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics. The main objective of the seminars was to facilitate a deeper exploration of census data to produce analytical and thematic reports. The Malawi seminar had a focus on the analysis of fertility data and on the development of nuptiality and fertility indices, while that of Egypt centred on methods for population projection, gender analyses and constructing composite indices, including a wealth index. The Division is working with the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia to assess its needs and identify priority areas of in-depth analysis of its 2007 population and housing census data.

**Census data capture and data editing**

17. In 2010, with the support of the Division, a regional workshop on census data editing was organized by the CARICOM secretariat in Saint John's from 6 to 11 December 2010. The purpose of the workshop was to develop the capacity of the staff of the national statistical offices of the CARICOM member countries with the techniques and procedures used in editing census data. The workshop was attended by more than 40 participants from 15 countries. In 2008, four regional workshops were organized by the Division on census data processing, focusing on contemporary technologies for data capture and the methodology and practice of data editing. The objective of the workshops was to highlight the capabilities of contemporary technologies and their use for census data capture and editing and to facilitate the exchange of national experiences. The workshops, which trained 136 census practitioners from 68 countries, were held in: (a) Bamako, from 3 to 7 November 2008, for French-speaking African countries; (b) Bangkok, from 15 to 19 September 2008, for Asian countries; (c) Dar-es-Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, from 9 to 13 June 2008, for English-speaking African countries; (d) Doha, from 18 to 22 May 2008, for the countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia region.

**Census management and cartography**

18. The Division organized seven regional workshops on census management and cartography in 2007 and 2008. Organized in collaboration with relevant regional and subregional organizations, the workshops trained 224 staff from 104 countries across the world. The main purpose of the workshops was to emphasize the importance of good census management and to highlight the evolving capabilities of geographic information systems and other geospatial technologies that could be used in censuses. The workshops covered such census activities as delineation of enumeration areas, data collection, and analysis and dissemination of census information. The workshops were held in: (a) Zambia, from 8 to 12 October 2007, for English-speaking African countries; (b) Thailand, from 15 to 19 October 2007, for Asian countries; (c) Trinidad and Tobago, from 22 to 26 October 2007, for Caribbean countries; (d) Morocco, from 12 to 16 November 2007, for French-speaking African countries; (e) New Caledonia, from 4 to 8 February 2008, for

countries of the Pacific region;<sup>1</sup> (f) Chile, from 24 to 27 November 2008, for Latin American countries; and (g) Belarus, from 8 to 12 December 2008, for the member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.<sup>2</sup>

### **International guidelines**

19. The Division organized three regional workshops to introduce the revised international guidelines contained in the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2*. The workshops informed the participants of the process of selection of census topics, relevant questions and required outputs. They also discussed national preparations with a view to identifying components of the population and housing censuses that are most vulnerable and in need of strengthening. The workshops also provided an opportunity to address ways of instituting and fostering regional cooperation in conducting population and housing censuses. The workshops, attended by 188 participants from 64 countries, were held in: (a) Mali, from 6 to 9 November 2006, for French-speaking African countries; (b) Mozambique, from 30 October to 2 November 2006, for English-speaking African countries; and (c) Cambodia, from 31 July to 2 August 2006, for Association of Southeast Asian Nations countries.

## **C. Technical assistance**

20. The Division provides, upon request, technical support to developing countries for strengthening national capacity for census-taking. In 2010, the Division directly provided or sponsored the following technical assistance: (a) undertook an advisory mission to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics to provide support for the preparatory activities for the 2011 census, in particular, to review and assess the questionnaire design, the training materials and manuals and the plans for data processing, and to evaluate the objectives and procedures of the planned post-enumeration survey; (b) arranged a study visit for the staff of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics to learn from the experiences of the Office for National Statistics of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on census evaluation, focusing on the various aspects of the post-enumeration survey, including design, implementation, automated matching system and calculation of the estimates of coverage rates; (c) provided expert support to the Central Statistics Office of Mauritius as it prepared to undertake its 2011 population and housing census in the area of data capturing and processing using scanning devices and with respect to improvements to be made to office and field operations, including a tracking system for questionnaires; and (d) provided expert support to the Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Informática of Peru by assessing its 2005 census plans in order to establish a continuous survey thereafter.

21. The Director of the Division co-chairs the Iraq Census International Technical Advisory Board. The mandate of the Advisory Board is to provide expertise of nationally and internationally recognized experts to assist the Iraqi Government in its endeavour to conduct a population and housing census in compliance with international standards.

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<sup>1</sup> Additionally, the workshop covered the topics of international guidelines for conducting population and housing censuses, regional cooperation and technologies for data capture.

<sup>2</sup> The workshop also covered the topic of census data capture.

#### **D. 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme website**

22. Since the beginning of the 2010 census round, the Division has maintained the website of the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm>). This website presents updated information available on census-related activities across the world: news about country activities related to census-taking; information on the progress of implementation of the 2010 census round, including through a “census clock” that tallies the total number of countries or areas that have conducted a census and the proportion of the estimated world’s population enumerated by a census in the 2010 round; announcements on the release of census-related publications and organization of meetings and workshops by the Division and other organizations of the United Nations system. The website offers access to questionnaires and publicity materials used in national censuses. It also provides regularly updated information on the actual and expected dates for the 2010 round of censuses in every country or area.

23. One of the important features of the website is the Census Knowledge Base, which serves as a repository of census methodology guidelines and documents pertaining to country best practices in census-taking. To date, the Census Knowledge Base contains more than 387 documents.

24. As part of its effort to promote the exchange of information on census activities, the Division publishes the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme Newsletter, which is available at the website. The periodic newsletter provides a synopsis of recent developments, events and census-taking activities related to the 2010 census round.

#### **E. Assessment of census methodology used by countries**

25. The Division launched an initiative to collect information on methodologies used by countries at each phase of their 2010 round census. The major objectives of the initiative were: (a) to assess the requirements of countries in terms of new technologies and the expertise required from external sources; (b) to identify those countries that can provide technical support to others and, in particular, to foster South-South cooperation; and (c) to collect information that can provide a basis for better serving the needs of countries intending to conduct a census in the remaining period of the 2010 round. More specifically, the Division requested from national statistical offices information on completed and planned census activities over the years of the round, focusing on methodologies used by countries during the 2010 census round, including on cartography, method of enumeration, data processing, evaluation, dissemination, and technical assistance needs and offerings. One hundred and thirty-eight countries completed the questionnaire. On the basis of the information collected, a report has been prepared to serve as a background document of the Statistical Commission. It will also be posted on the website of the Census Knowledge Base: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm>. The highlights of the analysis are given in annex II to the present report.

## IV. Future activities

26. The major goal of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses is to ensure that all countries and areas conduct a population and housing census at least once in the decade 2005-2014. By the end of 2010, 121 countries or areas would have already undertaken a census (see annex I). The focus of many of these countries as well as those that are about to conduct a census has shifted to census data analysis, dissemination and archiving. This was confirmed by the questionnaire sent by the Division to countries in 2009 (see paragraph 25). For 2011 and later years, the Division envisages a range of census-related activities, including those listed below.

### **Monitoring and documenting country activities related to censuses**

27. As part of the activities related to the 2010 World Programme, the Division will continue to monitor the progress of countries in conducting their censuses in 2011 and beyond. One of the tools used for this purpose is the “census clock”, which can be accessed at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm>. The primary function of monitoring national census activities is to set up an alert system to assess the status of census-taking throughout the world, and also to identify countries that are postponing their census-taking so that there could be follow-up to investigate the cause(s) of the postponement. Also, information on census activities posted on the 2010 World Programme website will be continuously updated for the remainder of the census round, and additional documents added to the Census Knowledge Base. Active participation of countries in providing documents and information for inclusion on the website is vital to the success of this activity.

28. The traditional census is still the most popular methodology used in many countries; however, some countries are adopting or planning new approaches in census-taking, including the rolling census and the register-based census. The Division will monitor these new developments and methodologies for elaboration and dissemination on the Division’s website. Emphasis will be placed on discussing the preconditions necessary for such methodologies to yield reliable data and the prospects for their easy transferability and adoptability by other countries.

### **Technical guidelines**

29. The Division will continue to develop technical materials pertaining to the different census phases. Work will continue in the preparation of reference and training materials on topics critical to the 2010 World Programme. The strategy is to focus the yearly activities of the Division on each successive stage of the census process, thereby enabling the Division to update and/or develop guidelines and best practices in a rational way. Materials used in workshops will be refined and adapted to online training materials for use by a wider audience. In the coming years possible areas for technical reports could be guidelines on archiving census data and administrative/methodological reports.

### **Expert group meeting**

30. As the 2010 World Programme passes its mid-point period, the Division will start examining lessons learned from the 2010 round and new developments in census-taking, particularly in terms of changes in topics covered, methodologies and techniques newly introduced. An experts meeting will be organized in 2011 to look

into these and new approaches in census-taking that could be useful for the second half of the 2010 World Programme and prepare the way for possible revision of the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2* in light of lessons learned since 2005.

### **Training workshops**

31. In 2011, the Division's training activities will focus on the following:

(a) **Regional and national seminars on census data dissemination and analysis.** Realizing the challenges faced by many developing countries in ensuring the effective analysis and dissemination of their census data, the Division, in collaboration with other relevant stakeholders, will continue to organize seminars in regions not covered so far under the 2010 World Programme to discuss and share information on national practices on census data analysis and strategies and technologies for data dissemination;

(b) **Regional seminars on archiving census data.** Census data constitute valuable and irreplaceable assets of a country that should be managed in a way that secures their archiving and encourages their widest possible use and reuse. Documenting and archiving data is especially important for comparative temporal analysis. National statistical offices need to develop or improve in-house data archiving capability. However, many developing countries not only lack the capacity for archiving but also do not consider this to be a key issue in the census life cycle. The regional seminars will address the major issues in documenting and archiving census data and facilitate the exchange of good practices;

(c) **Training workshops on the implementation of CensusInfo.** The CensusInfo software has been further fine-tuned in 2010 based mainly on the experience of the regional and national workshops conducted by the Division. Also, more advocacy materials to promote its use have been finalized in 2010. The CensusInfo training workshops planned for 2011 will enable countries to develop capacity to create national adaptations of the software for disseminating census data.

### **Technical assistance**

32. Technical assistance missions will be undertaken to provide country-specific support, upon request. The aim of the missions will be to strengthen the capacity of developing countries in implementing censuses.

### **Support for the 2010 World Programme**

33. Recognizing that international, regional, subregional and national organizations and other entities are stakeholders in the 2010 World Programme, the Division will continue to enhance the communication networks needed to support the Programme. The support of stakeholders has been instrumental to achieving the goals of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses. The importance of ensuring that this support is continued throughout the duration of the 2010 round of censuses cannot be overemphasized, especially when taking into consideration the host of continuing activities related to the Programme.

34. **The Commission is invited to take note of the present report, and support the activities that the Division undertook to enhance national implementation of the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme.**

## Annex I

### Census dates for 2010 round of population and housing censuses

<i>Country or area</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>
<b>Africa</b>										
Algeria				X						
Angola									XX	
Benin								XX		
Botswana							XX			
Burkina Faso		X								
Burundi				X						
Cameroon	X									
Cape Verde						X				
Central African Republic									XX	
Chad					X					
Comoros									XX	
Congo			X							
Côte d'Ivoire							XX			
Democratic Republic of the Congo							XX			
Djibouti					X					
Egypt		X								
Equatorial Guinea										
Eritrea							XX			
Ethiopia			X							
Gabon									XX	
Gambia									XX	
Ghana						X				
Guinea							XX			
Guinea-Bissau					X					
Kenya					X					

<i>Country or area</i>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Lesotho		X								
Liberia				X						
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		X								
Madagascar							XX			
Malawi				X						
Mali					X					
Mauritania						XX				
Mauritius							XX			
Mayotte			X							
Morocco										XX
Mozambique			X							
Namibia							XX			
Niger							XX			
Nigeria		X								
Réunion		X								
Rwanda								XX		
Saint Helena				X						
Sao Tome and Principe							XX			
Senegal							XX			
Seychelles						X				
Sierra Leone										XX
Somalia										
South Africa							XX			
Sudan				X						
Swaziland			X							
Togo						X				
Tunisia										XX
Uganda								XX		
United Republic of Tanzania								XX		

<i>Country or area</i>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Western Sahara										
Zambia						X				
Zimbabwe								XX		
<b>Asia</b>										
Afghanistan										
Armenia							XX			
Azerbaijan					X					
Bahrain						X				
Bangladesh							XX			
Bhutan	X									
Brunei Darussalam							XX			
Cambodia				X						
China						X				
China, Hong Kong SAR		X					XX			
China, Macao SAR		X					XX			
Cyprus							XX			
Democratic People's Republic of Korea				X						
Georgia								XX		
India							XX			
Indonesia						X				
Iran (Islamic Republic of)		X					XX			
Iraq						XX				
Israel				X						
Japan	X					X				
Jordan										XX
Kazakhstan					X					
Kuwait	X					X				
Kyrgyzstan					X					

<i>Country or area</i>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Lao People's Democratic Republic	X									
Lebanon										
Malaysia						X				
Maldives		X					XX			
Mongolia						X				
Myanmar										
Nepal							XX			
Occupied Palestinian Territory			X							
Oman						XX				
Pakistan							XX			
Philippines			X			X				
Qatar						X				
Republic of Korea	X					X				
Saudi Arabia						X				
Singapore						X				
Sri Lanka							XX			
Syrian Arab Republic										XX
Tajikistan						X				
Thailand						X				
Timor-Leste						X				
Turkey							XX			
Turkmenistan								XX		
United Arab Emirates	X					X				
Uzbekistan										
Viet Nam					X					
Yemen										XX
<b>Europe</b>										
Albania							XX			

<i>Country or area</i>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Andorra <sup>a</sup>										
Austria <sup>b</sup>							XX			
Belarus					X					
Belgium <sup>b</sup>							XX			
Bosnia and Herzegovina							XX			
Bulgaria							XX			
Channel Islands — Guernsey							XX			
Channel Islands — Jersey							XX			
Croatia							XX			
Czech Republic							XX			
Denmark <sup>a</sup>							XX			
Estonia							XX			
Faroe Islands <sup>a</sup>							XX			
Finland <sup>a</sup>						XX				
France		X								
Germany							XX			
Gibraltar									XX	
Greece							XX			
Holy See <sup>a</sup>					X					
Hungary							XX			
Iceland <sup>a</sup>							XX			
Ireland		X					XX			
Isle of Man		X								
Italy							XX			
Latvia <sup>b</sup>							XX			
Liechtenstein <sup>b</sup>						XX				
Lithuania							XX			
Luxembourg							XX			
Malta	X						XX			

<i>Country or area</i>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Monaco <sup>a</sup>				X						
Montenegro							XX			
Netherlands <sup>a</sup>							XX			
Norway <sup>a</sup>							XX			
Poland							XX			
Portugal							XX			
Republic of Moldova								XX		
Romania							XX			
Russian Federation						X				
San Marino <sup>a</sup>										
Serbia							XX			
Slovakia							XX			
Slovenia <sup>b</sup>							XX			
Spain							XX			
Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands <sup>a</sup>							XX			
Sweden <sup>a</sup>							XX			
Switzerland <sup>b</sup>						XX				
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia							XX			
Ukraine							XX			
United Kingdom							XX			
– England and Wales							XX			
– Scotland							XX			
– Northern Ireland							XX			
<b>Northern America</b>										
Bermuda						X				
Canada		X					XX			
Greenland <sup>a</sup>						XX				
St. Pierre and Miquelon		X								

<i>Country or area</i>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
United States of America						X				
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b>										
Anguilla							XX			
Antigua and Barbuda							XX			
Argentina						X				
Aruba						X				
Bahamas						X				
Barbados						X				
Belize						X				
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)									XX	
Brazil						X				
British Virgin Islands						X				
Cayman Islands						X				
Chile								XX		
Colombia	X									XX
Costa Rica							XX			
Cuba								XX		
Dominica							XX			
Dominican Republic						X				
Ecuador						X				
El Salvador			X							
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)		X								
French Guiana		X								
Grenada							XX			
Guadeloupe		X								
Guatemala								XX		
Guyana								XX		
Haiti									XX	

<i>Country or area</i>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Honduras								XX		
Jamaica							XX			
Martinique		X								
Mexico	X					X				
Montserrat							XX			
Netherlands Antilles							XX			
Nicaragua	X									
Panama						X				
Paraguay								XX		
Peru			X							
Puerto Rico						X				
Saint Kitts and Nevis							XX			
Saint Lucia						X				
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines							XX			
Suriname							XX			
Trinidad and Tobago							XX			
Turks and Caicos Islands							XX			
United States Virgin Islands						X				
Uruguay							XX			
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)							XX			
<b>Oceania</b>										
American Samoa						X				
Australia		X					XX			
Cook Islands		X					XX			
Fiji			X							
French Polynesia			X							
Guam						X				
Kiribati	X					X				

<i>Country or area</i>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Marshall Islands							XX			
Micronesia (Federated States of)						X				
Nauru								XX		
New Caledonia					X					
New Zealand		X					XX			
Niue		X					XX			
Norfolk Island		X					XX			
Northern Mariana Islands						X				
Palau	X					X				
Papua New Guinea							XX			
Pitcairn	X									
Samoa		X					XX			
Solomon Islands					X					
Tokelau		X					XX			
Tonga		X								
Tuvalu								XX		
Vanuatu					X					
Wallis and Futuna Islands				X						

X: census already taken

XX: census scheduled

Note: For an update on information presented in this table, see <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm>.

<sup>a</sup> Population figures compiled from population registers.

<sup>b</sup> Population figures compiled from traditional censuses and population registers.

## Annex II

### **Highlight of the findings of the assessment of census methodology used by countries**

As mentioned in paragraph 25, the Division gathered information on methodologies used by countries for the 2010 census round through a questionnaire sent to national statistical offices in 2009. One hundred and thirty-eight countries completed the questionnaire, which focused on methodologies used by countries during the 2010 census round with regard to cartography, method of enumeration, data processing, evaluation and dissemination. The questionnaire also included a section on technical external assistance needs and areas where countries could offer assistance to others. A summary of the main highlights of the analysis is given below:

#### **Cartography**

- More than half of responding countries or areas in Africa and Asia still use paper-based enumeration maps. However, digitized maps are increasingly used in most of the regions (globally about 80 per cent).
- More than 90 countries or areas are using the Global Positioning System (GPS) with Geographic Information System (GIS) technology for the development of census maps, and in some cases for monitoring census operations. Furthermore, GIS is used for the dissemination of census results.
- Few countries indicated that they are undertaking spatial analysis.

#### **Mode of enumeration**

- Face-to-face interviews remain the most common approach for conducting censuses in the 2010 round. Of the responding countries, about 85 per cent are using this mode of enumeration for their censuses.
- There has been an increase in the number of countries that are using non-traditional modes of enumeration, including use of the Internet and registers.
- A substantial number of countries use more than one mode of enumeration, although enumeration through face-to-face interviews is still the most common one used.
- More countries or areas in Europe, compared with other regions, are relying on alternative methods for conducting censuses. For example, of the 39 responding countries or areas in Europe, 12 are using administrative registers in the place of the traditional census.

#### **Data processing**

- As a result of rapid changes in new technologies, most of the countries or areas (54 per cent) are using a combination of methods to capture census data, e.g., manual data entry with use of the Internet and/or optical data capture.

- Between the 2000 and 2010 census rounds there has been an increase in the use of the Internet as a method of census data capture, although it is usually used as a secondary method.
- Use of personal digital assistant (PDA) technology for data capture in censuses in all regions is worth noting, with about 9 per cent (13 countries) of the responding countries using this technology, generally in combination with other methods.
- More than 70 per cent of the countries use or plan to use a combination of manual and automated editing while the remaining countries use or plan to use either only manual editing or only automated editing. Among the countries with editing systems, 18 countries (8 in Asia, 6 in Europe, 3 in Africa and 1 in North America) do not apply imputation for any type of missing data.

### **Census evaluation**

- Most countries or areas evaluate their censuses with more undertaking a post-enumeration survey than those that use demographic methods. About one third of those that evaluate their censuses use a combination of a post-enumeration survey and demographic analysis.
- The post-enumeration survey is generally used to evaluate coverage of the census and to a lesser extent, to assess content error.
- About 80 per cent of countries or areas will publish census evaluation reports to provide users with information to assess the quality of census results for the 2010 round of censuses.

### **Dissemination**

- Print publications, despite their cost of production, remain the principal tool of census data dissemination in all regions of the world. However, some more developed countries are ceasing dissemination through print publications and are relying primarily on electronic media.
- Despite the potential of online census databases to provide users with a rich and relatively inexpensive source of information, the extent of dissemination through online databases lags behind that through print and other electronic media.
- About 82 per cent of countries or areas have an archiving system for storing and maintaining census data, although many countries or areas in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and Oceania lack a proper archiving system for census data management.

### **Challenges**

- Demonstrating the extent of unmet need for external assistance, 86 of the 138 countries that responded to the questionnaire stated that they required external assistance in at least one aspect of the census operation.
- Among the countries that completed the questionnaire, over 60 per cent in each region, except in Northern America and Europe, require(d) assistance to conduct their censuses in the 2010 round, mostly with new technologies,

cartography, quality assurance, analysis and dissemination, followed by requests for assistance with data processing, funding sources, data capture, publicity and communication strategies.

- Assistance was required by many countries with new technologies for scanning, GPS/GIS, online mapping tools, using personal digital assistants, hand-held mobile technology, using phones for monitoring and control, and e-census.

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