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DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL STATISTICS

The 1990 and 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programmes

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The present report outlines proposed activities for the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme to be carried out during the decade 1995-2004. Section I provides an overview of the 1990 World Population and Housing Census Programme which was implemented by 202 countries or areas during the decade 1985-1994 pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/8 on this subject. In light of the 1990 census experience of countries, the emerging issues and challenges facing future censuses are also highlighted so that they may be taken into account in the preparations for the 2000 Census Programme (paras. 19-29). Furthermore, attention is drawn to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics adopted recently by the Statistical Commission. 1/

The proposed activities include, <u>inter alia</u>, an Expert Group meeting (paras. 34-35) to review and update existing principles and recommendations concerning particularly (a) housing censuses, (b) household and family classifications and (c) databases and tabulations. This report also deals with technical support and training needs for the effective implementation of the 2000 round of population and housing censuses (paras. 36-39). Information is provided on proposed census work of the regional commissions (paras. 40-45) and census dates of countries (annex). Points for discussion by the Commission are included as well (para. 46).

* E/CN.3/1995/1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The present report, submitted in response to the request made by the Statistical Commission at its twenty-seventh session, outlines the preparations for the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme to be carried out during 1995-2004. The report also includes an overview of the 1990 World Population and Housing Census Programme and related activities undertaken to assist countries for effective implementation of their censuses during the decade 1985-1994. Where required, comparisons with previous census decades are also made. Furthermore, important developments and emerging challenges in census-taking and their implications for the 2000 round of censuses are briefly discussed in this report.

I. THE 1990 WORLD POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS PROGRAMME: AN OVERVIEW

A. Global implementation

- 2. Pursuant to the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1985/8 entitled "1990 World Population and Housing Census Programme", 2/202 countries or areas implemented a census during the 1990 census decade lasting from 1985 to 1994. Ninety-five per cent of the world's estimated population was enumerated during this period. As for comparisons with previous decades, the percentage of the population covered in the 1990 decade was the same as in the 1980 decade but larger than in earlier ones. The 1950 round covered about 80 per cent of the population, the 1960 round covered about 94 per cent and the 1970 round covered only 71 per cent, since China and Nigeria did not take a census in the 1970 decade.
- 3. However, countries that took a census in the 1990 round numbered less than in the 1980 round. Based on information available to the Statistical Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat (UNSTAT), 35 countries or areas did not report a census in the 1990 round. Three of these countries had made all the necessary preparations, but for various reasons cancelled or postponed the census to a later date. Ten countries did not take a census but relied on their population registers and/or other data systems to obtain population information. The other 22 countries or areas provided no information about their census plans. In contrast, 32 countries or areas took two or more censuses. As a result, by the end of the 1990 census decade there will have been a total of 237 population and housing censuses conducted, compared with 242 in the 1980 decade and 261 in the 1970 decade.
- 4. The implementation of 1990 censuses by region is shown in the table. In Africa, a census was taken in 48 out of 57 countries or areas. Nigeria, which accounts for about one fifth of the population of Africa, took a census in 1991. Namibia, which attained its independence in 1990, conducted its first census in 1991. Chad carried out a population census for the first time in April 1993.

Population and housing censuses reported in the 1990 census decade, 1985-1994

| | Americas | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|----------|-----------|-----------|--------|---------|
| | World | Africa | North | South | Asia | Europe | Oceania |
| | A. <u>To</u> | tal numbe | r of cou | ntries or | areas | | |
| End 1994 | 237 | 57 | 37 | 14 | 50 | 48 | 31 |
| Having censuses | 202 | 48 | 34 | 13 | 42 | 40 | 25 |
| Of which | | | | | | | |
| One only | 170 | 45 | 33 | 11 | 35 | 34 | 12 |
| Two or more | 32 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 13 |
| | В | . <u>Total</u> | number o | f censuse | <u>es</u> | | |
| In this decade | 237 | 51 | 35 | 15 | 52 | 46 | 38 |
| 1985 | 18 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 2 |
| 1986 | 27 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 14 |
| 1987 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1988 | 12 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 1989 | 23 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 8 | 3 |
| 1990 | 46 | 6 | 13 | 3 | 10 | 7 | 7 |
| 1991 | 62 | 9 | 12 | 4 | 9 | 20 | 8 |
| 1992 | 15 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 1993 | 13 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 1994 | 13 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |

Source: Country census files maintained at UNSTAT.

^{5.} In North America, 34 countries or areas participated in the 1990 census round. Three did not take a census. All countries or areas in South America, except one, conducted a census in this decade.

^{6.} In Asia, 42 out of 50 countries or areas carried out a population and/or housing census in the 1990 decade. Six countries also carried out their regular quinquennial censuses. It may be noted that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Oman conducted their very first census in February 1994 and in

December 1993 respectively. Two countries have postponed their censuses to 1995 or later.

- 7. In Europe, censuses of population and/or housing were conducted in 40 out of 48 countries or areas. Those that did not conduct a census relied on population registers or other administrative records for population information.
- 8. Twenty-five out of 31 countries or areas in Oceania took a census in the 1990 round. One census was taken in 12 countries or areas and two or more censuses were carried out in another 13 countries or areas. In five small islands, population data were compiled from administrative records.
- 9. In the 1990 census round, there has been a striking increase in the number of countries that carried out a housing census in conjunction with a population census. However, it appears that the results of housing censuses are sometimes only partially processed and not fully utilized.

B. <u>Important achievements and initiatives</u>

- 10. The rapid development in electronic computer technology has continued to influence the processing of the 1990 population and housing census data. Decentralized data entry and processing systems have been used widely in developing countries. As a result, the time-lag between the census enumeration and the release of census results has been considerably reduced in the 1990 round as compared with the previous rounds. Preliminary census results were released in less than nine months by 145 of the 170 censuses for which documents/publications had been received at UNSTAT and final tables in less than three years. While in the 1980 census round the use of microcomputers was limited primarily to data entry, in the 1990 round microcomputers played a significant role in all aspects of census activities. In a number of countries, microcomputer systems played an important role in census planning, managing of field operations, data entry, data processing, tabulation, census publication and data dissemination.
- 11. Some developing countries used optical mark reader (OMR) technology for the first time in the 1990 censuses. OMR technology requires redesigning questionnaires. It also requires very-high-quality paper and precision printing of the questionnaires. These strict requirements could not be easily met in many developing countries. The fact that special paper and equipment had to be imported from abroad increased census costs. However, the advantage of OMR, namely, that reading by the machines is faster than data entry by the operators keying in the data, should be weighed by countries in planning future censuses.
- 12. As reported in paragraph 14 of document E/CN.3/1993/12, another achievement in the 1990 census was related to the content and type of census questionnaires used. In the 1990 decade, countries have used two types of questionnaires, which are normally referred to as the "long" and "short" census forms. The short census forms included basic census questions only. The long forms included a wide range of specific questions on demographic, social and economic characteristics or on special groups of the population (for example, persons with a disability) or were utilized to meet the specific requirements of users.

In a number of countries, sample surveys using long census forms were carried out as part of the general population and housing census.

- 13. In the 1990 round, national statistical offices found that there were user requests for a wide range of census products. Therefore, the dissemination of census results in other than printed tables has been on the rise in the 1990 round. For example, one country issued a videotape providing the main results of the 1991 general census of population and housing. Some countries published census tables using computer-readable media (magnetic tapes, diskettes, and so on). Some developed countries have used compact disk read only memory (CD-ROM) for disseminating their census results.
- 14. In the 1990 decade, more countries have used computer software for census mapping to produce maps used not only for enumeration but also for census planning and data presentation. A few countries have used software developed for the Geographical Information System (GIS) for census work. A GIS is a repository of geo-referenced data which can be retrieved and analysed to extract relevant information for planning and decision-making. Judging from the replies of 101 countries or areas to a survey conducted by UNSTAT, the introduction of GIS into population census work is a recent initiative. The number of countries that have begun to use GIS and mapping software increased dramatically from 5 in 1985 to 44 in 1993. It is anticipated that GIS will be used more widely in the 2000 Census Programme.

C. Training and other technical cooperation activities undertaken in support of the 1990 Census Programme

- 15. In connection with the 1990 Census Programme, a large census training programme for the sub-Saharan African region was supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The immediate objectives of the training programme were to train census personnel of countries in sub-Saharan Africa in various census activities and to strengthen the capacity of national census departments or offices with respect to human resources and census methodologies. To this end, the programme included three components: (a) international fellowships in universities and other advanced research institutions; (b) national training courses in census-taking and data processing including the preparation of training documents; and (c) subregional training workshops in census cartography and data analysis. The training programme, which was carried out by UNSTAT and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) during the period 1987-1992, trained approximately 750 census personnel from about 35 countries of the region.
- 16. Between 1989 and 1991, five regional or subregional specialized training workshops on economic topics and classifications in population and housing censuses were conducted by UNSTAT, in cooperation with the regional commissions and the International Labour Office. These training workshops were held to apprise countries of the International Labour Conference resolution concerning the new recommendations on economic activity and the revisions adopted in the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC), $\underline{3}$ / the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO) $\underline{4}$ / and the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE). The

workshops were held in Addis Ababa (December 1989), Benin (December 1991), Bangkok (May 1990), Grenada (October 1990) and Moscow (November 1990).

- 17. In addition, UNSTAT conducted three Interregional Workshops on Population Databases and Related Topics with the support of UNFPA. The first Workshop, in which 12 developing countries or areas participated, was conducted in Voorburg, Netherlands, in November 1989. The second Workshop, in which 19 developing countries or areas participated, was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, in January 1991. The third Workshop, in which 12 countries or areas participated, was held in Harare, Zimbabwe, in December 1991. The Workshops noted that the dissemination of census results had been weak and that national statistical offices had failed to give the issue sufficient attention, had not been adequate in terms of their awareness of users' requirements, or had continued to use only traditional methods in situations where newer technology could have been effective. The Workshops concluded that population databases in various forms could make a major contribution to solving the problems of data storage, retrieval, dissemination, utilization and analysis. Reports of all Workshops have been issued.
- 18. In the 1990 census decade, about 100 countries or areas in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Oceania, received technical support from the United Nations in various aspects of planning and carrying out population and housing censuses. The technical cooperation activities carried out were as follows: provision of technical advisory services through country, regional or interregional advisers; provision of training by means of workshops, fellowships and study tours; and provision of funds to purchase equipment and to meet selected local costs. These types of direct technical cooperation activities were supported primarily by UNFPA and other donors.

II. EMERGING NEEDS AND CHALLENGES IN THE CENSUS FIELD

19. The 1990 censuses were implemented on the basis of the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses 5/ coupled later with the Supplementary Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses. 6/ Regional variants of the recommendations adopted by the regional commissions were also introduced. In the light of recent developments including increased international attention to population and development, and shelter and human settlements, as well as questions relating to migrants, refugees, youth, ageing, disabled persons, minorities, women and the family, a large demand for new and enhanced databases is seen emerging around the world. These developments will pose a challenge to population and housing censuses in the year 2000 in terms of their attempts to find ways and methods for meeting users' requirements for more data.

A. <u>Developments and socio-economic data needs</u>

20. An important and recent development was the adoption of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics by the Statistical Commission at its special session held in April 1994. $\underline{1}/$ The Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics state, $\underline{\text{inter alia}}$, that (a) public information should be available to

users on an impartial basis; (b) methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of data should follow strictly scientific principles and codes of professional ethics; and (c) information is to be strictly confidential and should be used exclusively for statistical purposes. Furthermore, the Principles state that the use of international concepts, classifications and methods promotes consistency and efficiency in statistical systems, and bilateral and multilateral cooperation in statistics contributes to the improvement of systems of official statistics in all countries. Application of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in future censuses would be important in further ensuring public confidence and cooperation in data collection.

- 21. Among the various data needs, statistics on the ageing of populations and the situation of elderly persons have assumed particular importance. $\overline{2}$ / As more and more countries experience a decline in fertility and an improvement in life expectancy, the number of people and the percentage of the population at the older ages will steadily increase. A review of existing statistics on population ageing points to many gaps and new requirements.
- 22. Many cross-tabulations on relationships among household members, economic activity and dependency and living conditions of elderly persons could be prepared from population and housing censuses. However, in order to enhance socio-economic data on the elderly population, further breakdown of the age group 60 and over is needed when census information is coded and cross-classified by age and sex. Classification of data by age in five-year age groups up to ages 85 and over for men and women separately is necessary to develop appropriate cross-tabulations. Moreover, new classifications of households and families may be needed in future population and housing censuses.

B. Challenges facing future censuses

1. Economic data and classifications

23. In the 1990 round, countries hardly had any lead-time to test and adopt the latest ILO standards concerning the measurement of employment and unemployment and the revisions in ISIC, ISCO and ICSE. It is important that revised and/or updated industrial and occupational classifications are applied in the 2000 series of population and housing censuses because of the significant economic changes and the appearance of new industries and occupations over the past decades. This is a daunting challenge facing national statistical authorities because, as stated above, the revisions require a long lead-time as well as substantial resources for their implementation.

2. Households and families

24. Since the 1970s, census recommendations on households and families have remained the same, whereas the family structure has since changed dramatically. Migration has separated family members while declines in mortality and fertility have affected the number of children and elderly persons in households and families.

25. For the International Year of the Family, UNSTAT prepared the Statistical Chart on World Families. 8/ During its preparation, it became clear that many countries had reported, and/or had, little in the way of family statistics beyond the number and size of households. Since detailed household and family statistics are in great demand, the review of current census recommendations for family/household characteristics is critical. It is also important to identify and link appropriate housing census data with household/family statistics from population censuses. A draft report dealing with national practices on household and family statistics will be prepared for discussion by the Expert Group on the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme to be convened in 1995 (see paras. 34-35 below).

3. Housing censuses

- 26. Basic housing census topics recommended by the United Nations in the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses have not been revised or updated since the beginning of the 1970s. The publication Housing in the World: Graphical Presentation of Statistical Data, 9/ prepared in 1993, presented data on various housing topics collected in the 1980 and 1990 rounds and noted that housing census methodology had varied among countries. Also, the scope of housing topics has become much broader over these decades and some important topics have not been dealt with in the United Nations recommendations (for example, that of persons living in non-traditional and/or marginal settlements).
- 27. In this context, and noting increased implementation of housing censuses in the 1990 round, a review of the current recommendations on housing censuses becomes important. Therefore, as mentioned above, a draft report covering national practices and topics included in housing censuses and the revisions needed therein will be prepared for the Expert Group meeting on the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme to be convened in 1995 (see paras. 34-35 below).

III. PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2000 WORLD POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS PROGRAMME

- 28. For decades, the United Nations Secretariat has played a lead role with respect to providing substantive and technical support to countries carrying out periodic censuses. Upon the recommendation of the Statistical Commission, the Economic and Social Council, on the eve of each census decade, adopted a resolution in which it urged countries to carry out a population and housing census and requested the Secretary-General to undertake the necessary preparations for the successful implementation of a world population and housing census programme. In response, with the support of UNFPA, UNSTAT and the regional commissions have carried out varied activities in connection with each world census programme. Some of these activities are briefly described in paras. 15-18 above.
- 29. Similar activities are vital in the context of the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme as well in order to implement cost-effective and

quality censuses. Some of those activities are set out below for consideration by the Commission.

A. Methodological studies and reports

- 30. As part of its continuing work on population and housing census methods, UNSTAT carries out methodological surveys and publishes a series of census handbooks, manuals and other technical reports. These publications in all the official languages of the United Nations provide technical information and present state-of-the-art developments in the census field to Governments and other organizations for use in the planning and execution of censuses. These reports also provide new international standards and recommendations for adoption in population and housing censuses to improve the quality and comparability of census results and contribute to increased effectiveness and efficiency in the conducting of censuses.
- 31. The series of census handbooks that have been updated and issued for use in the 2000 Census Programme include the <u>Handbook of Population and Housing Censuses</u>, part I, <u>Planning</u>, <u>Organization and Administration of Population and Housing Censuses 10</u>/ and part II, <u>Demographic and Social Characteristics</u>. <u>11</u>/ The other parts of the <u>Handbook</u>, namely, part III on migration characteristics, part IV on the measurement of economic activities of the population, and part V on the economic characteristics of the active population have been largely drafted and are expected to be published in the biennium 1996-1997. Part VI of the <u>Handbook</u> on housing and household characteristics is also in preparation and the draft is expected to be completed in 1996.
- 32. In March 1994, UNSTAT, as part of its substantive preparations for the 2000 census round, sent out a Questionnaire on Population and Housing Censuses to all national statistical offices. The Questionnaire was intended to collect better and more up-to-date knowledge of national practices and developments in the 1990 round of censuses. It requested information on various aspects of census methodology and organization, and on plans for post-census activities and for the next population and/or housing census. A census information database is being constructed to include replies received and other particulars available so far for 114 countries or areas. It is planned to analyse the national responses to the Questionnaire and during 1995-1996 to prepare a number of technical papers on questionnaire design, field operation, evaluation of census results, and data processing and dissemination, with a view to furnishing aid in the planning and execution of the 2000 round of censuses. The anticipated dates for the next round of population and/or housing censuses, as indicated by countries in the above-mentioned Questionnaire, are shown in the annex to this report.
- 33. Furthermore, UNSTAT has undertaken a methodological study, with financial support from UNFPA, on the application of GIS in censuses. A questionnaire had been sent to national statistical offices in early 1994 and replies from 101 countries or areas were received. The survey shows that by 1993, 37 of the 101 countries or areas were using a GIS programme in census work. Twenty of these countries have just begun to introduce GIS into statistical work. However, only five countries had been using any automated mapping programme in 1985 and only 15 had been using these programmes in 1990. A report on the

survey results entitled "Application of GIS for population statistics: an international overview" is being prepared and will examine the advantages and disadvantages of selected GIS packages for census work and other population statistics. Another study on the usefulness of some GIS packages including MAP INFO, ATLAS GIS and PC ARC/INFO for population censuses and other statistical work is also being planned. Both studies are expected to be completed in June 1995.

B. <u>Meeting of an Expert Group on the 2000 World Population</u> and Housing Census Programme

- 34. As in previous World Population and Housing Census Programmes, UNSTAT is planning an Expert Group meeting on the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme at United Nations Headquarters (during the fourth quarter of 1995). Under the guidance of the Statistical Commission, the Expert Group is expected to examine various problems and challenges that have emerged in the 1990 census decade and other issues facing the 2000 census round (see sect. II of this report).
- 35. Some of the topics identified for consideration by the Expert Group include (a) emerging issues and growing user requirements; (b) review of the existing United Nations principles and recommendations for population and housing censuses relating particularly to housing characteristics, family and household classifications, census tabulations and databases, GIS, and so on; and (c) training needs and technical support to countries. Furthermore, at the request of the Statistical Commission at its twenty-seventh session, the current recommendations on international migration statistics are being reviewed by UNSTAT and the Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT) in collaboration with the regional commissions and other interested organizations (see E/CN.3/1995/21, sect. II). The outcome of this review, including possibly a draft of revised recommendations on international migration statistics, will be presented to the Expert Group for consideration with regard to its implications for the 2000 round of censuses. In addition, new technology and state-of-the-art developments such as GIS, computer-assisted coding of occupational data and so on will be considered by the Expert Group for application in the forthcoming censuses.

C. <u>Technical support and training needs for the 2000 Census Programme</u>

- 36. The technical cooperation activities including census training discussed briefly in paragraphs 15-18 contributed significantly to the success of the 1990 round of population and housing censuses. Technical support will also be needed for the successful implementation of the 2000 Census Programme taking into account new developments in the census field and user needs.
- 37. The countries in transition need a comprehensive programme for the purpose of training a cadre of census staff and demographers to carry out what in a sense may be their very first population and housing census to provide the foundation for their emerging national statistical systems.

- 38. Two categories of technical cooperation needs are highlighted for consideration by the Commission. The first category of support includes international or regional conferences/symposia for senior officials responsible for census-taking. Topics of discussion in these conferences/symposia should include, among other issues, emerging data requirements within the context of social and environmental developments, modern technology in census planning and execution, cost-effective methods of census-taking and increased utilization of census results for various traditional and new uses. These meetings are also essential for the following reason: senior officials are often new to their jobs, as many countries do not have a permanent census organization or, where such offices do exist, there is a high turnover of senior staff resulting in a weak national census capability.
- 39. The second category of technical cooperation needs include a series of specialized and technical workshops on, inter alia, topics considered by the Expert Group including census cartography and GIS, household and family statistics from censuses, advanced technology and methods of census-taking, and housing censuses. It is important that some of the initiatives introduced in the 1990 censuses, and emerging challenges, be addressed in these workshops. For instance, as pointed out in paragraph 16 above, the revised international and/or updated national industrial and occupational classifications should be implemented in the forthcoming censuses. To this end, UNSTAT and ILO should consider holding joint regional training workshops whenever feasible.

IV. CENSUS ACTIVITIES AND PLANS OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

40. The regional commissions have also begun to make plans for the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme. Some census developments in the regions of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) are presented briefly below. The regional commissions will report directly to the Statistical Commission on their planned census activities.

A. Economic Commission for Europe

41. ECE plans in 1994-1995 and 1995-1996 to review the experiences of its member countries in attempting to comply with the ECE regional variants and recommendations for the 1990 round of censuses, and to identify the portions of the recommendations that are considered to be in need of revision. It will prepare a set of regional recommendations for the 2000 round of population and housing censuses. In 1994-1995, the work session on population censuses of the Conference of European Statisticians will consider those issues related to the recommendations on population censuses and in 1995-1996, the work session on housing censuses (jointly with the Commission on Human Settlements) will consider those issues related to the recommendations on housing censuses. A meeting on population and housing censuses (to be held jointly with the Commission on Human Settlements) will take place in 1996-1997 to consider the recommendations for the 2000 census round.

B. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

- 42. In the ESCAP region, population and housing censuses are conducted decennially or quinquennially by almost all countries. On the whole, the region has made noteworthy progress in the conduct and processing of population and housing censuses, but improvements in the analysis and utilization of census data have been rather slow.
- 43. A number of countries of the ESCAP region are at various stages of planning their 1995-1996 population censuses, while several others will soon be taking steps towards designing strategies for their first census of the next century. Country experience in the region suggests that one major factor contributing to the effective designing of a population census and utilization of its data is the active communication of producers of statistics with existing and potential users. Other important factors are research and field experimentation, which should be carried out on a continuing basis to improve data collection in future censuses. Non-response and enumeration problems arising from the high mobility of the population and other factors, are an issue that requires particular attention. Census cartography is another important area that has failed to receive adequate attention in the region.
- 44. The planning of future censuses should also include a more comprehensive treatment of data dissemination, analysis and utilization. The future censuses must take into account the developments that are taking place in the field of GIS. These developments have important implications for the capture, storage, management, retrieval, analysis, display and interpretation of census data.

C. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

45. Most ESCWA member States conducted population and housing censuses during the 1990 census decade. In 1993, Oman conducted its very first population and housing census. The major difficulties encountered in the census work of most countries were the lack of resources and the high cost of census-taking as well as the absence of permanent census offices resulting in a discontinuation of census work. The availability of microcomputers in data processing has facilitated the processing and dissemination of census results; however, there is a lack of qualified personnel and that has been the major problem encountered in this area. In this respect, the Statistics Division of ESCWA is planning to conduct a workshop for the purpose of discussing the issues relating to the 1990 census decade and to study ways of using the latest technology in this area in the forthcoming population and housing censuses.

V. POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

- 46. The Commission may wish to:
- (a) Review the emerging data requirements and challenges for future population and housing censuses;
- (b) Endorse with the necessary changes, the proposed preparations (sect. III) relating to the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme;
- (c) Discuss the technical cooperation needs related to the World Census Programme;
- (d) Provide guidance on priority issues and topics for consideration by the Expert Group on the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme.

Notes

- 1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 9 (E/1994/29), paras. 58-59.
- $\underline{2}/$ The adoption of Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/8 was originally recommended to the Council by the Statistical Commission. See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1985, Supplement No. 6 (E/1985/26), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II.
- $\underline{3}$ / Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 4, Rev.3 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XVII.11).
 - $\underline{4}$ / Geneva, International Labour Organization, 1990.
- $\underline{5}/$ Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 67 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.VII.8).
- $\underline{6}$ / Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 67/Add.1 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XVII.9).
- 7/ See Demographic Yearbook. Spacial Issue: Population Ageing and the Situation of Elderly Persons (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.XIII.9).
 - 8/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.XVII.9.
- $\underline{9}$ / Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 63 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.XVII.10).
- $\underline{10}$ / Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 54 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.XVII.8).
- $\underline{11}$ / Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 54 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.XVII.9).

Annex

DATES OF POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES, 1990 ROUND AND 2000 ROUND,
BY COUNTRY AND AREA

| | 1990 rc | ound | 2000 round | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Dates (day-month- | Type of | | Type of |
| Country or area | year) | census* | Year | census* |
| <u>Africa</u> | | | | |
| Algeria | 20-3-1987 | PH | 1997 | PH |
| Benin | 15-2-1992 | PH | 2002 | PH |
| Botswana | 21-8-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| Burkina Faso | 10-12-1985 | P | 1995 | PH |
| Burundi | 16-8-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Cameroon | 10-4-1987 | PH | | |
| Cape Verde | 23-6-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Central African Republic | 8-12-1988 | PH | 1998 | PH |
| Chad | 8-4-1993 | PH | | |
| Comoros | 15-9-1991 | PH | | |
| Congo | 20-11-1994 | PH | | |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 1-3-1988 | PH | 1998 | PH |
| Egypt | 18-11-1986 | PH | 1996 | PH |
| Equatorial Guinea | 4-7-1994 | PH | | |
| Eritrea | 1993 | PH | | |
| Ethiopia | 11-10-1994 | PH | | |
| Gabon | 31-7-1993 | P | | |
| Gambia | 10-4-1993 | P | 2003 | PH |
| Ghana | 3-1994 | P | | |
| Guinea-Bissau | 1-12-1991 | PH | | PH |
| Kenya | 24-8-1989 | P | 1999 | PH |
| Lesotho | 12-4-1986 | P | | |
| Liberia | 1994 | P | | |
| Madagascar | 19-8-1993 | PH | 2003 | PH |
| Malawi | 1-9-1987 | PH | 1997 | PH |
| Mali | 1-4-1987 | PH | 1997 | PH |
| Mauritania | 5-4-1988 | PH | 1998 | PH |
| Mauritius | 1-7-1990 | P | 2000 | PH |
| | 2-1990 | Н | | |
| Morocco | 2-9-1994 | PH | | |
| Namibia | 21-10-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| Niger | 20-5-1988 | PH | | |
| Nigeria | 26-11-1991 | P | | |
| Réunion | 15-3-1990 | PH | 1997 | PH |
| Rwanda | 15-8-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |

| | 1990 rd | 2000 round | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|------|---------|
| | Dates | | | |
| | (day-month- | Type of | | Type of |
| Country or area | year) | census* | Year | census* |
| Sao Tome and Principe | 4-8-1991 | PH | | PH |
| Senegal | 20-5-1988 | PH | 1998 | PH |
| Seychelles | 17-8-1987 | P | | |
| | 26-8-1994 | PH | | |
| Sierra Leone | 15-12-1985 | PH | 1995 | PH |
| Somalia | 12-11-1986 | PH | | |
| South Africa | 5-3-1985 | PH | | |
| | 7-3-1991 | PH | | |
| St. Helena | 22-2-1987 | PH | 1997 | PH |
| Sudan | 15-4-1993 | P | | |
| Swaziland | 25-8-1986 | PH | 1996 | PH |
| Togo | 11-1993 | PH | | |
| Uganda | 12-1-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 28-8-1988 | PH | | |
| Zambia | 20-8-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Zimbabwe | 17-8-1992 | PH | 2002 | P |
| America, North | | | | |
| Anguilla | 1994 | P | | |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 28-5-1991 | P | 2001 | PH |
| Aruba | 6-10-1991 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Bahamas | 1-5-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Barbados | 5-5-1990 | PH | | |
| Belize | 12-5-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| Bermuda | 20-5-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| British Virgin Islands | 12-5-1991 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Canada | 4-6-1986 | PH | | |
| | 3-6-1991 | PH | 1996 | PH |
| Cayman Islands | 15-10-1989 | PH | | |
| Costa Rica | 1992 | P | | |
| Dominica | 12-5-1991 | PH | | |
| Dominican Republic | 1992 | PH | | |
| El Salvador | 27-9-1992 | PH | | |
| Grenada | 12-5-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| Guadeloupe | 15-3-1990 | PH | 1997 | PH |
| Guatemala | 17-4-1994 | PH | | |
| Honduras | 5-1988 | PH | | |
| Jamaica | 7-4-1991 | PH | 2000 | P |
| Martinique | 15-3-1990 | PH | 1997 | PH |
| Mexico | 12-3-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Montserrat | 12-5-1991 | PH | | |

| | 1990 rd | 1990 round | | 2000 round | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|------------|------|------------|--|
| | Dates | | | | |
| | (day-month- | Type of | | Type of | |
| Country or area | year) | census* | Year | census* | |
| Netherlands Antilles | 27-1-1992 | PH | | | |
| Nicaragua | 6-1994 | PH | | | |
| Panama | 13-5-1990 | PH | | | |
| Puerto Rico | 1-4-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH | |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis | 2-5-1990 | PH | | | |
| Saint Lucia | 12-5-1991 | PH | 2000 | PH | |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | 12-5-1991 | PH | | | |
| St. Pierre and Miquelon | 15-3-1990 | PH | 1997 | PH | |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 12-5-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH | |
| Turks and Caicos Islands | 2-5-1990 | PH | | | |
| United States of America | 1-4-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH | |
| United States Virgin Islands | 1-4-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH | |
| America, South | | | | | |
| Argentina | 15-5-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH | |
| Bolivia | 3-6-1992 | PH | 2000 | PH | |
| Brazil | 1-9-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH | |
| Chile | 22-4-1992 | PH | 2000 | PH | |
| Colombia | 15-10-1985 | PH | | | |
| | 24-10-1993 | PH | | | |
| Ecuador | 25-11-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH | |
| Falkland Islands | 16-11-1986 | PH | | | |
| | 5-3-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH | |
| French Guiana | 15-3-1990 | PH | 1997 | PH | |
| Guyana | 12-5-1991 | PH | | | |
| Paraguay | 26-8-1992 | PH | 2002 | PH | |
| Peru | 11-7-1993 | PH | | | |
| Uruguay | 23-10-1985 | PH | 1995 | PH | |
| Venezuela | 21-10-1990 | PH | | | |
| Asia | | | | | |
| Armenia | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH | |
| Azerbaijan | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH | |
| Bahrain | 16-11-1991 | PH | | | |
| Bangladesh | 12-3-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH | |
| Brunei Darussalam | 7-8-1991 | PH | | | |
| China | 1-7-1990 | P | | | |
| Cyprus | 1-10-1992 | PH | 2002 | PH | |
| East Timor | 31-10-1990 | P | | | |
| Georgia | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH | |

| | 1990 re | ound | 2000 | round |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------|------|---------|
| | Dates | _ | | |
| | (day-month- | Type of | | Type of |
| Country or area | year) | census* | Year | census* |
| Hong Kong | 11-3-1986 | PH | 1996 | PH |
| 5 | 15-3-1991 | PH | | |
| India | 1-3-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| Indonesia | 31-10-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 22-9-1986 | PH | | |
| <u>-</u> | 10-1991 | P | | |
| Iraq | 17-10-1987 | PH | | |
| - Japan | 1-10-1985 | P | | |
| - | 1-10-1990 | P | 1995 | P |
| | 1-10-1988 | Н | | |
| | 1-10-1993 | Н | 1998 | Н |
| Jordan | 11-1994 | P | | |
| Kazakhstan | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| Korea, Democratic People's | | | | |
| Republic of | 31-12-1993 | P | | |
| Korea, Republic of | 1-11-1985 | PH | | |
| , - | 1-11-1990 | PH | 1995 | PH |
| Kuwait | 20-4-1985 | PH | 1995 | PH |
| Kyrgyzstan | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | 1-3-1985 | P | | |
| Macau | 30-8-1991 | PH | | |
| Malaysia | 14-8-1991 | PH | | |
| Maldives | 25-3-1985 | PH | 1995 | PH |
| | 15-3-1990 | PH | | |
| Mongolia | 5-1-1989 | PH | | |
| Myanmar | 1993 | PH | | |
| Nepal | 22-6-1991 | P | | |
| Oman | 1-12-1993 | PH | | |
| Pakistan | | | 1995 | PH |
| Philippines | 1-5-1990 | PH | 1995 | P |
| Qatar | 16-3-1986 | PH | 1996 | PH |
| Saudi Arabia | 27-9-1992 | PH | | |
| Singapore | 30-6-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 9-1994 | PH | 2000 | |
| Tajikistan | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| Thailand | 1-4-1990 | PH | | |
| Turkey | 20-10-1985 | PH | | |
| | 21-10-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Turkmenistan | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| United Arab Emirates | 17-12-1985 | PH | | |
| Uzbekistan | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| Viet Nam | 1-4-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| A TCC TACH | 1 1 1 2 0 0 7 | T 11 | エノノノ | PH |

| | 1990 rd | 2000 round | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|------|---------|
| Country or area | Dates (day-month- year) | Type of census* | Year | Type of |
| Yemen | 1-2-1986 | PH <u>a</u> / | | |
| | 29-3-1988 | PH <u>b</u> / | | |
| | 1994 | PH <u>c</u> / | | |
| Europe | | | | |
| Albania | 2-4-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| Austria | 15-5-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| Belarus | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | P |
| Belgium | 1-3-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 31-3-1991 | PH | | |
| Bulgaria | 4-12-1985 | PH | | |
| | 4-12-1992 | PH | | |
| Channel Islands (Guernsey) | 23-3-1986 | P | | |
| | 21-4-1991 | PH | 1996 | PH |
| Channel Islands (Jersey) | 10-3-1991 | PH | 1996 | PH |
| Croatia | 3-3-1991 | PH | | |
| Czech Republic | 3-3-1991 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Denmark | 1-1-1991 | PH | | |
| Estonia | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| Finland | 17-11-1985 | PH | | |
| | 31-12-1990 | PH | 1995 | PH |
| France | 5-3-1990 | PH | 1997 | PH |
| Germany | 25-5-1987 | PH <u>d</u> / | | |
| Gibraltar | 14-10-1991 | PH | | |
| Greece | 17-3-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| Hungary | 1-1-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Ireland | 13-4-1986 | PH | | |
| | 21-4-1991 | PH | 1996 | P |
| Isle of Man | 6-4-1986 | PH | | |
| | 14-4-1991 | PH | 1996 | PH |
| Italy | 20-10-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| Latvia | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| Liechtenstein | 12-1990 | PH | | |
| Lithuania | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| Luxembourg | 1-3-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH |
| Macedonia, former Yugoslav | | | | |
| Republic of | 3-3-1991 | PH | | |
| Malta | 16-11-1985 | PH | 1995 | PH |
| Moldova, Republic of | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |
| Norway | 3-11-1990 | PH | 2000 | PH |
| Poland | 6-12-1988 | PH | 2000 | PH |

| | 1990 ro | ound | 2000 | round | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|---------|---------|--|
| | Dates | | | | |
| | (day-month- | Type of | | Type of | |
| Country or area | year) | census* | Year | census* | |
| Portugal | 15-4-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH | |
| Romania | 6-1-1992 | PH | 2000 | PH | |
| Russian Federation | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH | |
| Slovakia | 3-3-1991 | PH | 2000 | PH | |
| Slovenia | 31-3-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH | |
| Spain | 1-3-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH | |
| Sweden | 1-11-1985 | PH | | | |
| | 1-11-1990 | PH | 1995 | PH | |
| Switzerland | 4-12-1990 | PH | | | |
| Ukraine | 12-1-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH | |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain | 12 1 1000 | 111 | 1000 | 111 | |
| and Northern Ireland | 21-4-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH | |
| Yugoslavia | 31-3-1991 | PH | 2001 | PH | |
| 1490514114 | J1 J 1991 | 111 | 2001 | 111 | |
| <u>Oceania</u> | | | | | |
| American Samoa | 1-4-1990 | PH | | | |
| Australia | 30-6-1986 | PH | | | |
| | 30-6-1991 | PH | | | |
| Christmas Island | 30-6-1986 | PH | | | |
| | 30-6-1991 | PH | | | |
| Cocos (Keeling) Islands | 30-6-1986 | PH | | | |
| | 30-6-1991 | PH | | | |
| Cook Islands | 1-12-1986 | PH | | | |
| | 1-12-1991 | PH | 1996 | PH | |
| Fiji | 31-8-1986 | PH | | | |
| French Polynesia | 6-9-1988 | PH | | | |
| Guam | 1-4-1990 | PH | | | |
| Johnston Island | 1-4-1990 | PH | | | |
| Kiribati | 9-5-1985 | P | | | |
| | 7-11-1990 | PH | | | |
| Marshall Islands | 13-11-1988 | PH | | | |
| Micronesia (Federated States of) | 15-9-1985 | PH <u>e</u> / | | | |
| miorometra (reacrated beates or) | 17-9-1989 | PH | | | |
| Nauru | 17-4-1992 | PH | 1995 | PH | |
| New Caledonia | 4-4-1989 | PH | 1000 | 111 | |
| New Zealand | 4-3-1986 | PH | | | |
| Ivew Beataila | 5-3-1991 | PH | 1996 | PH | |
| Niue | 29-9-1986 | PH | ± / / 0 | rΠ | |
| 1AT MC | | | | | |
| Nonfolk Island | 9-1991 | PH | | | |
| Norfolk Island | 30-6-1986 | PH | 1000 | _ | |
| | 2-8-1991 | PH | 1996 | PH | |

| | 1990 rd | 2000 round | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|------|--------------------|
| Country or area | Dates (day-month- year) | Type of census* | Year | Type of census* |
| Northern Marianas | 1-4-1990 | PH | | |
| Palau | 15-3-1986 | PH | | |
| | 1-4-1990 | PH | | |
| Papua New Guinea | 7-1990 | P | | |
| Samoa | 3-11-1986 | PH | | |
| | 11-1991 | PH | | |
| Solomon Islands | 23-11-1986 | P | 1996 | P |
| Tokelau | 1986 | PH | | |
| | 1992 | P | | |
| Tonga | 28-11-1986 | PH | 1996 | PH |
| Vanuatu | 20-1-1986 | P <u>f</u> / | | |
| | 16-5-1989 | PH | 1999 | PH |

 $^{^{\}star}$ $\,$ In the body of the annex, P stands for population census, H for housing census, and PH for population and housing census.

- <u>a</u>/ Enumeration of former Yemen Arab Republic.
- **b**/ Enumeration of former Democratic Yemen.
- $\underline{c}/$ Enumeration of the entire country.
- \underline{d} / Enumeration of former Federal Republic of Germany.
- $\underline{e}/$ A census was conducted in 1985, in 1986 and in 1987.
- \underline{f} / For urban areas only.
