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Review Critical Issues Relevant to the Planning of
the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses
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Suggestions of topics concerning ageing for inclusion
into the 2010 round of censuses^{*}

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1. The *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* of 1998 includes a host of topics and questions concerning the socio-economic status of older persons. Meanwhile, for the purpose of monitoring the implementation of the recently adopted Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, it would be useful to include in the census questionnaires for the 2010 round some questions addressing the following additional topics:

- a. Older person providing care for family member(s) including those suffering from HIV/AIDS
- b. Employment status of older person by five-year age cohorts
- c. Assessment of living conditions by age in rural vs. urban households (accessibility of housing, access to clean water, sewage system, existence of bathroom and toilet, electricity)
- d. Assessment of living conditions of older migrants (accessibility of housing, access to clean water, sewage system, existence of bathroom and toilet, electricity)
- e. Inter-generational solidarity and exchange including inter-generational transfers
- f. Annual or monthly income of older person by five-year age cohorts
- g. Risk factors of diseases (smoking, physical activities, alcohol consumption, etc.)
- h. Access to health care services
- i. Physical and mental functioning

2. In addition to the topics listed above, the Programme on ageing would be interested in three more topics. However, it is clear that questions related to these topics are highly sensitive. Your considerate opinion would be appreciated on whether these topics and related questions would have a place in a census design. These topics are the following:

- a. Older person infected with HIV (and affected by HIV/AIDS)
- b. Condom usage among older persons
- c. Existence of abuse of and violence against older persons

3. All topics addressed above should be disaggregated by sex.

4. Given a continuing increase in life expectancy, it would be important to replace the category '85 and over' with five-year age groups reaching up to '100 and over'.

5. In more general terms, it would be desirable in the next round of censuses to encourage governments to pay attention to measuring both *exclusion (disadvantages)* and *integration* of different social (population) groups, including older persons, through, among other possible approaches, measuring their *participation*. Following the recommendation of the previous issue of the *Principles*, it is necessary to emphasize the role of concept, along with methods, in planning the censuses. In the Madrid Plan, the central concept is that of *a society for all ages*.