

United Nations Symposium on Population and Housing Censuses
13-14 September 2004
United Nations, New York

Organization of work

DRAFT

Monday, 13 September 2004—Conference Room 3

Registration of participants (8:30 - 9:30 a.m.)

Morning session (9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

Opening

Introductory remarks
Purpose of the meeting

1. Experiences and lessons learned from the World Population and Housing Census Programme (1995-2004)

This session will focus on experiences and lessons learned during the 2000 round of censuses. Participants will review the extent to which countries were able to follow the recommendations of the resolution on the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme as well as the implementation by the United Nations of the above mentioned programme. The recommendations coming out of this session will provide inputs for the draft resolution on the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme as well as give consideration to updating the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*.

Presentations

Discussion and recommendations:

- To what extent were countries able to conduct censuses, report results and follow the *Principles and Recommendations* during the 2000 census round?
- Why have some countries failed to carry out a census during the 2000 round?
- How well did censuses meet demands for data at the national level as well as for international reporting?
- How successful were the United Nations and funding agencies in substantively and technically supporting national efforts to carry out population and housing censuses in the 2000 round?

- What elements from the 2000 resolution should be included in the draft resolution on the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme? What other elements are needed?

Relevant documentation:

- 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses and Related Surveys (ESA/STAT/AC.97/1)
- United Nations 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses and related Surveys: A Proposal for Active Involvement of Member States (ESA/STAT/AC.97/2)
- Statement from Jamaica (ESA/STAT/AC.97/4)
- Australian Census Issues (ESA/STAT/AC.97/5)
- The 2011 Census: A Design for England and Wales (ESA/STAT/AC.97/7)
- Census 2000 and its implementation in Thailand: Lessons learnt for 2010 Census (ESA/STAT/AC.97/9)
- Statement from UN ESCAP (ESA/STAT/AC.97/12)

Lunch break (1:00 – 3:00 p.m.)

Afternoon session (3:00 - 6:00 p.m.)

2. Critical issues to be addressed

This session will focus on some of the critical issues that have emerged during the 2000 census decade round. These include concerns about high cost of censuses; lack of public support for census operations; public perceived loss of privacy and misuse of data; as well as alternative approaches to traditional censuses. The recommendations for this session will provide inputs for the draft resolution on the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme and contribute to the revision and updating of the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*.

Presentations

Discussion and recommendations:

- What, if any, additional critical issues have emerged during the past census decade and how should these be reflected in both the draft resolution and future revisions of the *Principles and Recommendations*?
- How might the draft resolution take into account alternative approaches to traditional census taking?
- To what extent should the *Principles and Recommendations* consider intercensal survey programmes?
- How might both the draft resolution and the *Principles and Recommendations* reflect the delicate balance between maximizing data utilization and maintaining confidentiality?
- What steps should be taken by the expert group to strengthen public support for censuses?

Relevant documentation:

- Statement from Peru (ESA/STAT/AC.97/3)
- Statement from the UNECE Statistical Division (ESA/STAT/AC.97/6)
- Proyecto de censo comun del MERCOSUR: Una experiencia de integración regional (ESA/STAT/AC.97/8)
- Statement from Brazil (ESA/STAT/AC.97/10)
- Population and Housing Censuses in the ESCWA Region: Overview of the Past Census Decade and Considerations for the 2010 Census Resolution (ESA/STAT/AC.97/11)

Tuesday, 14 September 2004—Conference Room 3

Morning session (9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

3. The 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses (2005-2014)

This session will consider a proposal for a 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses and will set priorities and deliberate on the roles and actions to be taken by countries, the United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations agencies and the Statistical Commission in the context of this programme. The recommendations for this session will provide inputs for the draft resolution on the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme as well as for the World Programme itself.

Presentations

Relevant documentation:

- 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses and Related Surveys (ESA/STAT/AC.97/1)
- United Nations 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses and related Surveys: A Proposal for Active Involvement of Member States (ESA/STAT/AC.97/2)

Lunch break (1:00 – 3:00 p.m.)

Afternoon session (3:00 - 6:00 p.m.)

4. Finalization of inputs to the draft resolution on the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme

The meeting will identify key priorities and issues for the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme and will consolidate the inputs that emerged during the various sessions of the Symposium for the draft resolution on the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme. In addition, the draft recommendations of the Symposium will be finalized.

Conclusion

Approval of final recommendations