

UNITED NATIONS STATISTICS DIVISION

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC
COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

NATIONAL STATISTICAL COMMITTEE OF
THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

UNFPA COUNTRY OFFICE IN
BELARUS

Regional Workshop on Census Data Processing: Contemporary technologies for data capture, methodology and practice of data editing, documentation and archiving (8-12 December 2008, Minsk, Belarus)

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations is organizing a Regional Workshop on Census Data Processing: Contemporary technologies for data capture, methodology and practice of data editing, documentation and archiving that will be hosted by the National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus (Belstat) with the special technical support of the UNFPA Country Office in Belarus. The meeting will be held from 8 to 12 December 2008 in the premises of the National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus located at 12, Partizansky av., Minsk, Belarus. Information on the purpose and agenda of the Workshop is given in sections II and III below.
2. The regional workshop on census data processing, contemporary technologies for data capture, methodology and practice of data editing, documentation and archiving is organized in the context of the 2010 World Programme for Population and Housing Censuses.

II. PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

3. The purpose of the workshop is to present international standards for processing population and housing censuses and to highlight the significant additional capabilities of contemporary technologies and their use for census data capture and data editing. More specifically, the Workshop will: (1) Present revised international standards for conducting population and housing censuses, focusing on recommended core topics as identified in the United Nations Principles and Recommendations Revision 2; (2) Discuss ways of improving the management and planning of the census, including outsourcing issues; (3) Present and discuss contemporary technologies in census data capture, including the use of Optical Mark Recognition (OMR), Optical Character Recognition/Intelligent Character Recognition (OCR/ICR), (4) Discuss the process stages for data capture, (5) Present an overview of major commercial suppliers for data capture; and (6) Present the principles and practices for census data coding and data editing. The workshop will also offer the possibility to the participants to present the experience of their countries in census data processing.
4. The target audience of the meeting includes managers and experts in national and international statistical offices responsible for census planning and management.

III. AGENDA OF THE WORKSHOP

5. The programme of the workshop will consist of the following substantive topics:

- (i) The 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses and the preparations of the 2010 round of censuses in the region
- (ii) Review of the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2010 Censuses of Population and Housing, and international recommendations on census planning and management
- (iii) International recommendations on contemporary practices in census cartography and use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and introduction to GIS fundamentals
- (iv) Introduction to Data Capture Methods

6. Detailed explanatory notes on the topics (i) – (iv) are provided below.

The 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses and the preparations of the 2010 round of censuses in the region

7. The sessions under this item are focused on the activities on 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses followed by a round table on the preparations of 2010 round of censuses in the region.

Review of the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2010 Censuses of Population and Housing, and international recommendations on census planning and management

8. The objective is to present the major issues for the revisions of the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, the Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2010 Censuses of Population and Housing, and on international recommendations on census planning and management with emphasis on quality assurance.

International recommendations on contemporary practices in census cartography and use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and introduction to GIS fundamentals

9. The sessions under this item will provide (i) presentations on the recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on Contemporary Practices in Census Mapping and Use of GIS, (New York, May 2007), and the “*Handbook on Geospatial infrastructure in support of Census Activities*”; (ii) census mapping and use of GIS in the region; and (iii) stages of building a census geography programme; organizational and institutional; and a demonstration on use of mobile GIS.

Introduction to Data Capture Methods

10. The main focus will be on the presentation of an overview of Data Capture management considerations and discussion of the applications and issues of data capture using Optical Mark Recognition Technology; Optical Character Recognition/Intelligent Character Recognition, Manual Data Entry and provision of an overview of different process stages.

IV. PARTICIPATION AND ACCREDITATION FOR THE WORKSHOP

11. Representatives of the CIS countries and interested international organizations are welcome to participate in the meeting. All delegates must be accredited by the competent authority of their country or international organization. All delegates attending the workshop are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas must be made as soon as possible to the Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in the country in which the delegates reside, with a reference to the Regional Workshop on Census Data Processing: Contemporary technologies for data capture, methodology and

practice of data editing, documentation and archiving. If necessary, Belstat can provide a letter to facilitate obtaining the visa. This can be requested from the International Cooperation Division of Belstat (fax: +375 17 249 2204, e-mail: intcoop@mail.ru).

12. Delegates should complete the registration form sent with this information note and return it to the UNSD (Ms. Denise Quiroga, e-mail: quiroga@un.org, with a copy to intcoop@mail.ru) by 14 November 2008.

V. OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

13. The working languages of the workshop are English and Russian. The simultaneous interpretation from/to both languages will be provided.

VI. ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORTATION

Belstat will make reservation for participants in the following hotels:

Minsk Hotel **** Standard single room – 185 USD
11, Nezavisimosty av.
220030 Minsk

Tourist Hotel Standard single room – 86 USD
81, Partizansky av.
220026 Minsk

Please note that transportation services from/to airport will not be provided by Belstat. A regular bus service as well as a taxi service is available at the airport.

VII. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact the following organizers:

UNSD
Ms. Margaret Mbogoni
Statistician
Demographic statistics section
United Nations Statistics Division
Tel: +1-917-367-9165
Fax: +1-212-963-1940
Email: mbogoni@un.org

Belstat
Ms. Zhanna Vasilevskaya
Deputy Head
Main Department of Summary Information and
International Cooperation
National Statistical Committee of the Republic of
Belarus
Tel: +375 17 249 7339
Fax: +375 17 249 2204
E-mail: zhannav@ring.by

Administrative matters:
Ms. Denise Quiroga
United Nations Statistics Division
Tel: +1-212-963-8504
Fax: +1-212-963-9851
E-mail: quiroga@un.org

Ms. Natalie Barten
Head
International Cooperation Division
National Statistical Committee of the Republic of
Belarus
Tel: +375 17 249 7339
Fax: +375 17 249 2204
E-mail: intcoop@mail.ru

Regional Workshop on Census Data Processing:
Contemporary technologies for data capture, methodology and
practice of data editing, documentation and archiving

8-12 December 2008, Minsk, Belarus

REGISTRATION FORM

*Please complete this form and e-mail it to quiroga@un.org and intcoop@mail.ru or
fax to +1-212-963-9851 by 14 November 2008*

Country and/or organization represented:

Mr/Mrs/Ms	Family Name	First Name	Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

Official occupation:	Telephone number:	Fax number:

E-mail address:

Permanent official address:

Arrival to Minsk	Date:	Flight #	Time:
Departure from Minsk	Date:	Flight #	Time:

Request for hotel booking (see information note)

Yes (please indicate)	No
Minsk Hotel **** <input type="checkbox"/>	
Tourist Hotel <input type="checkbox"/>	

Request for official invitation: Yes
No

Date:

Signature: