

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

Item 3 (e) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: population and housing censuses

Document E/CN.3/2022/8 – Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme

Statement provided by:

Libya

Statement:

Libya would like to express on behalf of the Africa group a contribution to the subject matter.

In pursuance of Resolution 2015/10 of the Economic and Social Council on the 2020 Round of World Population and Housing Census Programme, African Member States committed to conduct at least one census during the 2020 round of censuses. Thus, at the first joint session of the Committee of Directors General of National Statistics Offices and the Statistical Commission for Africa, held in Tunis in December 2014, it was decided that the Africa Symposium on Statistical Development should focus on raising awareness among all 54 African countries regarding the 2020 round of population and housing censuses, which covers the period 2015–2024. To operationalize the commitment, at its ninth session, held in Libreville on 29 and 30 November 2015, the Committee of Directors General decided to establish the Africa Census Coordinating Committee to promote the South to South cooperation on census technical assistance.

Further at the Seventh meeting of the Statistical Commission for Africa held in October 2020 called upon all African Member States to renew their commitment to the conduct of population and housing censuses during the 2020 round of such censuses.

African members are committed to transition from manual to digital systems that use of better methods and new technologies, which will increase the reliability and accessibility of statistics in a timely manner and mitigate the adverse impacts of conflicts in Africa so that countries can undertake their censuses during the 2020 round.

African Member States are ready to use of new census methods for the upcoming 2030 round, including online, register-based, electronic and hybrid censuses. Such approaches would require extensive planning and the laying of groundwork well in advance.

The Africa group:

- endorses the establishment of national statistical population registers based on census records exclusively for statistical purposes and within the legislative framework, disallowing its use for any other purposes;
- requests the Division to continue to monitor population and housing census- taking worldwide and to report to the Commission
- Takes note of the low implementation of the 2020 World Population and Housing

Census Programme in Africa and would encourage all member states to fulfil Resolution 2015/10 of ECOSOC.

Submitted on:

14/2/2022