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Organised in cooperation with UNFPA
(Geneva, 12-16 December 2005)**

Supporting paper

**PLANS BY COUNTRIES IN THE UNECE REGION
ON THE INCLUSION OF SELECTED TOPICS
IN THE POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS OF THE 2010 ROUND**

Note by the UNECE Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. As part of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses promoted by UNSD, a meeting of the Technical subgroup 1-3 on “Core set of outputs and tabulations for international dissemination” was organised in Dublin on 13-14 October 2005. The purpose of the meeting was to review the draft set of recommended tables proposed by UNSD for the 2010 Round of Censuses, and possibly synchronise the tabulation programmes of UNSD, Eurostat and the ILO. The draft report of the meeting and the revised set of recommended tabulations proposed at the meeting are available as WP.3 and WP.2 respectively.

2. On the basis of the outcome of the meeting, a follow-up note was prepared to share with UNECE the issues raised at the meeting which may impact the CES Recommendations for the 2010 Population and Housing Censuses (WP.4). In this note, the differences between the core topics according to the UNSD recommendations (as identified at the October 2005 meeting in Dublin) and the core topics in the draft version of the CES recommendations (in the version to be discussed at

the December 2005 meeting in Geneva) were presented. These differences should be discussed during the review of the draft CES recommendations, in order to evaluate whether they can be reconciled or reflect justifiable differences between the two sets of recommendations.

3. In this note, for each of the topics which are “core” in ONLY one of the two sets of draft census recommendations, information is presented on the number of UNECE member countries that 1) included the topic in the 2000 census round; and 2) plans to include the topic in the census of the 2010 round. This information is based on the results of the survey conducted by ECE in 2003 to collect information on practices in the 2000 census round and plans for the 2010 census round. The questionnaire was returned by 44 countries where a census was taken in the 2000 round, out of 55 member countries of the UNECE. For selected topics which were not covered in the survey, the results are based on the analysis of the census forms.

4. The information presented in this note may be used during the discussion on the draft CES census recommendations, in particular to decide whether the relevant topics should be considered core or non-core.

II. Topics considered as CORE by UNSD and NON-CORE in the Draft CES recommendations

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS: Total number of children born alive

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

Data not available

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 30 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

ETHNO CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS: religion, language, ethnicity. UNSD recommends that one of these three should be asked.

In the 2000 census round, in 10 UNECE countries - mainly from Western Europe - none of the three topics was included. Detailed information on the three topics is presented below.

Ethnicity

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round, 27 countries out of 44 (61%), included a question on ethnic group. From the geographical distribution of those countries who collected these type of data, two groups are identified: countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the traditional immigration countries Australia, Canada, USA and Israel, as well as the United Kingdom, asked one or several questions regarding ethnic affiliation. In the rest of the Western European countries ethnicity was not included, because in many countries it is considered a very sensitive issue.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 28 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

Language

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

Most countries (33 out of 44 responding countries - 75%) asked in the 2000 round of Censuses a question on language. Among them 21 countries asked for mother tongue, 3 for main language, 11 for the most spoken language and 17 for the knowledge of languages.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 28 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census, but no information is available on what concept will be used.

Religion

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round, half of the reporting countries (22 out of 44) collected data on religion. The countries that collected data on religion are mainly immigrant countries, countries from Central Europe, but also some countries from Western and Southern Europe. Among the different approaches adopted, 5 countries asked for formal membership of a church or community, 9 countries asked for religious belief and 7 countries choose a different concept essentially referring to identification with communities or denominations.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 21 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

EDUCATION: School attendance

Adoption in the 2000 census round (information from census forms):

Most of the countries (34 out of 43) included school attendance in their census questionnaires. In the ECE and World Recommendations it is considered important that the concept of attendance be identified as a different concept of enrolment. However, it was not possible to determine if all countries actually measured such differences. From the countries where information is available it seems that often behind the use of the word attendance there is the concept of enrolment.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 35 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

EDUCATION: Literacy

Adoption in the 2000 census round (information from census forms):

In total, 24 countries out of 43 included some measurement of literacy in their 2000 round census questionnaire using different methods. Some countries included a specific question on literacy, as recommended in the World Recommendations, asking the ability to read and write a short sentence while other countries assessed literacy through items included in the question related to educational attainment.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 20 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION: Period of arrival

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round, 30 countries out of 44 collected information on the year of arrival to the country. 21 of them specified the country of previous residence and the remaining 9 recording only year of arrival 'from abroad', without specifying the country.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 29 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

DISABILITY: Disability status

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

Data not available.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 14 countries indicated that they were planning to include disability in the 2010 census.

HOUSING: Type of sewage disposal system,

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

This topic was covered in 28 out of 44 countries.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 23 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

HOUSING: Rent [note: in the ECE/CES census recommendations, this topic is considered as a characteristic of the household, not in the housing section]

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

Data not available.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 22 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

HOUSING: Information and Communication Technology

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

Data not available.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Data not available.

III. Topics considered as CORE by UNSD and are not present in the DRAFT CES recommendations

MIGRATION: Duration of residence in the locality

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

NOTE: The duration of residence was a non-core topic in the 2000 ECE census recommendations. However, no countries asked specifically about duration of residence in the 2000 census round (30 included a question on year of arrival).

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 22 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS: children living, children born alive in last 12 months, deaths in last 12 months

No data available for this topic.

HOUSING: furnished and unfurnished

No data available for this topic.

IV. Topics considered as CORE in the DRAFT CES recommendations and non-core or derived core in UNSD recommendations

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS: Time usually worked

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

The topic of time usually worked was included in 26 countries out of the 38 for which the census forms were analysed. Few countries specified in the questionnaire the hours worked in the main and secondary activity (Belgium and Estonia) or the sum of the hours worked in all activities (Israel). The majority of the countries (Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Spain, Switzerland, United States, United Kingdom) included a generic question on working hours during a predefined week. 11 countries (Belgium, Canada, Croatia, France, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malta, Monaco, Poland, Switzerland) asked the question in terms of *full time or part time contract*.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 22 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS: Type of place of work

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 ECE census recommendations, the core topic Place of work covered both the type of place of work and the location of the workplace. In total, 32 countries out of 38 collected data on place of work.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 38 countries out of 47 plan to include the topic Place of work in the 2010 census.

MIGRATION: Place of usual residence one year prior to the census

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

Twenty-four countries (out of 44) included a question based on place of residence one year previously – either as a single question or in combination with another question relating to previous place of residence or date of arrival. Eight countries (as a subset of the 24 above) additionally asked about place of residence at another date: five referring to place one year previously and at the date of the previous census; and three referring to place of residence one year and five years before the census.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 34 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

HOUSING: Housing arrangements

NOTE: This is a new topic proposed in the 2010 DRAFT CES Census Recommendations. It was not included in the 2000 ECE Census recommendations, therefore no data are available.

HOUSING: Number of occupants

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round this topic was covered in 34 countries out of 44.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 38 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

HOUSING: Occupancy status of conventional dwellings

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round the topic Occupancy status topic was included in 24 countries out of 44.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 33 countries out of 47 plan to include the topic Occupancy status in the 2010 census.

HOUSING: Kitchen

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round this topic was covered in 21 countries out of 44.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 26 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

HOUSING: Bathing facilities

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round this topic was covered in 33 countries out of 44.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 28 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

HOUSING: Type of building

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round this topic was covered in 23 countries out of 44.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 30 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

HOUSING: period of construction.

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round this topic was covered in 33 countries out of 44.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 34 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

V. Topics considered as CORE in the DRAFT CES recommendations and are not present in the UNSD recommendations

HOUSING: type of heating

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round this topic was covered in 36 countries out of 44.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 35 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

HOUSING: location of living quarters

Adoption in the 2000 census round:

In the 2000 census round this topic was covered in 40 countries out of 44.

Plans for 2010 census round:

Based on the results of the ECE questionnaire on censuses, 32 countries out of 47 plan to include this topic in the 2010 census.

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