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Joint UNECE/Eurostat Meeting on Population and Housing Censuses
Eleventh Meeting
Geneva, 13-15 May 2008

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE ELEVENTH MEETING*

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 13 May 2008, in Room XVI

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda and election of officers.
2. Census quality assurance and evaluation.
3. Difficult-to-measure topics.
4. Data editing and validation.
5. Future work.
6. Other business.
7. Adoption of the report.

* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete a registration form available from the UNECE Internet Web site and transmit it to the UNECE secretariat by 29 February, either by fax (+41-22 917 0040) or by e-mail (mijidgombo.oyunjargal@unece.org). Prior to the meeting, delegates are requested to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, Avenue de la Paix for the issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulty, please contact by telephone the UNECE secretariat (+4122-9174147).

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. The Meeting is open to representatives of all member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). Representatives of other Member States of the United Nations, specialized agencies of the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) may also participate in a consultative capacity, according to the terms of reference of UNECE (E/ECE/778/Rev.3, paras. 11, 12 and 13). All delegates must be accredited by the competent authority of their country or international organization. In addition to the regular circulation, meeting documentation will be uploaded on the Meeting's web site: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2008.05.census.htm>

2. The meeting will be followed by an optional one-day Workshop on Communication and Dissemination of Census Results on 16 May 2008. More information on this workshop is available on the following web site: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2008.05.dissemination2.htm>

Tuesday, 13 May 2008

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda and election of officers (10.00 a.m. – 10.20 a.m.)

3. The Meeting is expected to adopt its agenda and to elect its Chair and Vice-Chair(s).

Item 2. Census quality assurance and evaluation (10.20 a.m.–1.00 p.m., 3.00 p.m.–6.00 p.m.)

4. In this session, countries are expected to exchange their experiences with regard to strategies for census quality assurance and census evaluation. Census quality must be managed throughout the entire census programme. An appropriate strategy for quality assurance should be developed in advance, and attention to quality should be paid during design, implementation and assessment of census operations.

5. Although the evaluation of census results has always been an essential component of the census operation, the wider use of new ways of census taking has increased the importance of coverage and quality evaluation. There is the need for discussion and an exchange of information between countries to determine best practices in evaluating the quality and coverage for all types of censuses - including 'traditional' censuses and registered-based censuses.

6. This session will be divided in two parts, one dedicated to traditional censuses (with field data collection) and the other dedicated to register-based censuses.

Wednesday, 14 May 2008

Item 3. Difficult-to-measure topics (9.30 a.m. – 12.30 a.m., 2.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.)

7. The CES Recommendation for the 2010 Censuses of Population and Housing provide countries with guidance on the planning of the next population census, and present the selection of topics to be considered, together with recommendations on definitions and classifications, etc.

The CES Recommendations also discuss some of the problems that could be faced by countries in collecting data on specific topics. Problems could be due to various reasons, including for instance the nature of the topics, the type of data collection method adopted, or the characteristics of the sources, for instance when registers or existing surveys are used.

8. In this session, countries are expected to discuss about the problems associated with selected difficult-to-measure topics. Attention will be paid also to the topics that are difficult to measure for countries using registers, also taking into account the results of the Expert Group Meeting on Register-based Census held in Astana on 7-8 June 2007 (<http://www.unecce.org/stats/documents/2007.06.census2.htm>). The discussion in this session may include also problems associated with the coverage of specific population groups that are traditionally difficult to enumerate, like illegal immigrants, homeless, etc.

Thursday, 15 May 2008

Item 4. Data editing and validation (9.30 a.m. – 12.30 a.m.)

9. To obtain accurate census results, data must be free, as much as possible, from errors and inconsistencies, especially after the data processing stage. However, census data are never perfect and may suffer, at different extents, from various sources of data errors or omissions. The procedures developed for identifying errors and omissions and correcting results play a key role in determining the quality of the final census data. Countries are expected to share in this session their experiences in the development of the procedures for census data editing and validation.

Item 5. Future work (2.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.)

10. The Meeting is expected to agree on future work, based on the proposal to be formulated by the Steering Group on Population and Housing Censuses.

Item 6. Other business (3.30 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.)

11. At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this item.

Item 7. Adoption of the report (4.00 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.)

12. The Meeting is expected to adopt the report.
