The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) will hold the 2023 Census Week in Geneva, Switzerland on 18-22 September 2023. This consists of two meetings: a capacity development workshop on population and housing censuses on 18-19 September, and the meeting of the Group of Experts on population and housing censuses on 20-22 September.

The meetings are open to representatives of all UNECE member States. 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.5, paras. 11, 12 and 13). All delegates must be accredited by the competent authority of their country or international organization. Representatives of academia and non-governmental organizations may also register and will be able to participate subject to available capacity.

Participants must register online by Friday 25 August 2023 using the links below. If you will attend both events, you must register separately for both of them.

- Registration for workshop
- Registration for meeting of the Group of Experts.

The working languages of the workshop are English and Russian and the working languages of the meeting of the Group of Experts are English, Russian and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in these languages.
Timetables, papers, presentations and other documents for the meetings will be made available on the respective meeting web pages.

Instructions for submission of papers for the meeting of the Group of Experts are provided in the Call for Papers and have been sent to all submitting authors. Instructions for the submission of presentation slides have been sent by email to submitting authors. Presenters are reminded that any images used in papers and slides must be obtained in accordance with copyright regulations.

Participants are encouraged to download papers from the websites and, where feasible, use electronic devices to read them in order to minimize paper use. Documents posted on the websites will not be distributed in the meeting room.

II. VENUE

The meeting will be held in Room V at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. Should there be any last-minute change in the room allocation, all registered participants will be notified by email.

Please bring your photo ID (passport, or national identity card for EU citizens) and present it on the first day of the meeting at the Security Office in the newly-renovated Prégy Pavilion, which is located across the street from the Red Cross (CICR) on Avenue de la Paix, approximately 300 metres uphill from the Nations Gate and Peace Gate (which are on the Place des Nations). The closest bus stop is Appia, (buses 8, 20, 22, F).

It is advisable to arrive at least one hour before the meeting is due to start, to allow time to collect your badge and make your way to the meeting room.

Your entry badge will last for the duration of the meeting(s) for which you are registered.

If you receive a blue, yellow (head of delegation) or green (delegate) badge, it will be possible to enter the Palais des Nations on subsequent days from either the Prégy Gate or the new Peace Gate (near the Place des Nations). Holders of all other badges will have to enter the Palais des Nations only through the Prégy Gate on all days of the meeting, but may exit through the Peace Gate.

For identification and security reasons, participants are requested to wear their badges at all times while inside the Palais des Nations. Due to security procedures, we advise participants not to bring any large items of luggage to the Palais des Nations. Such luggage is not permitted in the building, and there is only limited storage space for it at the Prégy Gate. You may bring into the Palais only the type of luggage that is normally considered as carry-on luggage by airline companies e.g., computer bags, rucksacks and handbags.
III. ACCOMMODATION

Participants and/or their offices are requested to make their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations. Our funding partners will contact separately those participants whose participation is funded by them, regarding their travel arrangements.

It is advisable to book your hotel well in advance as available rooms may be limited due to other meetings and events taking place in Geneva at the same time. A list of hotels and other valuable information about Geneva are available on the following website: https://www.geneve.com/en/.

The closest hotel to Palais des Nations is the 5-star Intercontinental. There are several 3- and 4-star hotels near Cornavin train station. These hotels are located about 10 minutes by bus or tram and 25-30 minutes on foot from the Palais des Nations.

IV. VISAS

Participants travelling to Switzerland must have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Prior to leaving their country of residence, participants are requested to make their own arrangements for obtaining a Schengen visa or any other travel permits that may be required for the entire journey, including countries of transit.

If necessary, the UNECE secretariat can provide an invitation letter to facilitate visa procedures. Such letters can be requested by contacting the secretariat at social.stats@un.org.

V. COVID-19 MEASURES

All public health measures and travel requirements related to COVID-19 have now been lifted. Nevertheless, in the interests of protecting one-another’s health, please do not come to the UN premises if you develop any COVID-like symptoms.

VI. DINING

Meeting participants may choose to have lunch at the UN cafeteria located on the ground floor of the A building. It is open from 11:30 to 14:30 Monday to Friday. There are many dining options available nearby and in the city centre for evening meals.

VII. PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Geneva has an extensive public transport network with many tram and bus lines. See https://www.tpg.ch/fr to plan your route.

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1 Information on visa requirements according to the traveller’s nationality can be found on the website of the Swiss government: https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/entry-switzerland-residence/visa-requirements-application-form.html.
Some hotels in Geneva offer a free Geneva Transport Card, enabling you to use the entire Geneva public transport system free of charge throughout your stay. Please ask at your hotel.

Should you need to purchase public transport tickets, you may do so from the ticket machines at bus stops or by SMS (text ‘tpg1’ to 788 for a single ticket for the ‘all Geneva’ zone, zone 10, valid for one hour. For other SMS ticket options, route maps and itineraries use the ‘TPG Preview’ app). No tickets are sold on buses and trams.

VIII. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT GENEVA

Currency

The Swiss currency is the Swiss Franc (CHF).

Currency exchange facilities are available in the city centre and at the UBS bank branch at the Palais des Nations, located on the second floor of E building (door 41), open from 08:30 to 16:30 from Monday to Friday.

All major credit cards are widely accepted in shops, hotels and restaurants.
Time Zone

Switzerland is located in the Central European time zone and is currently on Central European Summer Time (UTC+2).

Electricity

The voltage in Switzerland, as in most of Europe, is 230V/50 Hz. Please note that Switzerland uses ‘type J’ 3-pin electrical plugs and sockets. European ‘type C’ 2-pin plugs such as that shown below will fit these sockets, but all other equipment, including European ‘type F’ plugs, will require a socket adaptor.

![Type C: This will fit](image1)
![Type F: This will NOT fit](image2)

Water

Please reduce your contribution to plastic waste by bringing your own refillable water bottle. Geneva tap water consistently rates among the highest-quality tap water in the world.

Useful telephone numbers

General emergency calls: 112
Police: 117
Ambulance: 144
Fire Department: 118

IX. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

Additional details will be communicated to all registered meeting participants by e-mail.

UNECE Secretariat

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