

NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CAPABILITY PROGRAMME

Report on the Preparatory Mission to Nigeria

by

J. Harewood
UN Consultant

The views expressed in the Report are the expert's and do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations.

July 1978

Nigeria

It was not possible to visit as many organizations and collect as much information in Nigeria as might have been hoped. The Director of the Federal Office of Statistics (FOS) stated that he had known earlier of my expected arrival in Lagos on 11 May and had expected me then. He had received no information that my visit was delayed to 18 May and therefore when I arrived at his office he was surprised and unprepared. Because of this, no appointments or meetings had been arranged with anyone, and the Director himself was so busy with meetings that I was not able to see him personally for any serious discussion until the afternoon of the last day of my visit, though I met a number of members of his staff. While the UNDP and the ILO were aware of my new date of arrival, it is clear that because of severe problems of communication, with the virtual breakdown of telephone communication, efforts to apprise the Director of FOS were unsuccessful. This difficulty with telephone communication also made it extremely difficult for me to see persons in other offices and organizations, as the only chance was to drive to the office and hope that the officer concerned would be there and free to see me, or else then make arrangements to return some other time. This clearly greatly reduced the amount I could accomplish in my short visit.

When I visited the UNDP office on the first morning, the Programme Officer stated that the Director of ILO had been enquiring about me and he therefore merely arranged to take me over to that office. There I met, along with the ILO Director, Mr. J. Stepinski, ILO Regional Adviser on Labour Statistics who is stationed in Dakar. He had been advised of my itinerary and intended to visit Nigeria, Ghana and Sierra Leone at the same time as I would be in these countries, and would wish to go along with me to as many offices and meetings as possible, in addition to some work for his own office which he would be undertaking in these countries. He accompanied me on all visits on the first day, but went off to his own visits with the Ministry of Labour on the second day, arranging to meet me again on the third day. He did not accompany me on the third day but was present at my final appointment with the Director of Statistics.

A. National Statistical Office

The establishment and existing professional staff of the Federal Statistical Office are set out below. It is clear that a large proportion of established professional and sub-professional posts remain unfilled. The reasons for this are that suitably qualified persons are not available. However, a number of appointments and promotions had been made recently largely as a result of persons graduating within the FOS's training programme.

The FOS is a department of the Ministry of Economic Development. At present there is a major sub-division into two divisions - Economic Statistics Division and Survey and Demographic Division. Recent proposals for reorganization of the FOS are that there should be 4 divisions in accordance with the existing establishment of 4 Assistant Directors including the Assistant Director of Data Processing. The four divisions which it is proposed to set up are:

- (i) National Sample Surveys, Research and Statistical Standards;
- (ii) National Accounts and General Economic Statistics (including Agriculture, Industrial, Construction, Distribution);
- (iii) Social and Welfare Statistics;
- (iv) Data Processing.

The Director has requested an increase of 2 in the number of Assistant Directors (see attached reorganization proposals)* and proposes the following seven divisions if this is approved:

- (i) Research and Statistical Standards;
- (ii) National Sample Surveys;
- (iii) Social and Welfare Statistics;
- (iv) Agricultural and Industrial Statistics;
- (v) National Accounts;
- (vi) General Economic Statistics;
- (vii) Data Processing.

The Director also proposes that all the subject matter units currently in the FOS will be moved to the appropriate Ministries. For example, the Agricultural Statistics Unit will transfer to the Ministry of Agriculture and so on. With this arrangement, "the Headquarters Divisions and their functional units listed above will operate as a Development, Advisory and Co-ordinating Agency to the Divisions in the Ministries, Federal Office of Statistics Branch Offices in the States (which will function as service wings of the National Sample Survey Organisation, the Statistical Agencies of the Parastatals and the State and Local Governments Statistical Agencies."

For field work in rural areas, the FOS has 19 state offices, one in each state, as well as 52 sub-offices. These state offices and sub-offices are primarily organized with respect to the field work of the FOS and hence fall under the existing National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) of the FOS. The NSSO is concerned only with data collection. In its various state offices and sub-offices there are field officers and assistant field officers (enumerators), and above them supervisors and senior supervisors, with a state officer in charge of the state office. The normal procedure is that the planning of surveys is done by the subject-matter divisions concerned, the field work is carried out by the NSSO and the documents sent in, after preliminary checking, to the subject-matter division, where they are edited and coded and then sent to the Data Processing Division (or data processing is done manually), the subject-matter division being also responsible for the preparation of all reports. The total field staff is 2,260 (see attached table)* The principal rural survey is the Rural Economic Survey which is carried on continuously.

For the urban sector, there are 50-60 urban centres with a small urban field office in each. The permanent staff in each urban centre comprise a Field Officer (urban) and 1 or 2 Assistant Field Officers who are engaged principally on on-going jobs such as price collection, the follow-up of postal establishment enquiries etc. For household surveys, it is usual to employ temporary staff who, in some cases (e.g. the labour force survey) are teachers, civil servants, etc. on part-time, and in other cases (e.g. the Household Budgetary Survey) are full-time. These latter may be employed on various surveys for periods of 2 years or more.

The Research and Statistical Standards Unit is responsible for sampling. The unit both designs the samples and monitors them in the field. However, in the light of the present shortages of staff, the unit is often called upon to assist the various subject-matter sections in preparing reports of surveys and other duties, and hence adequate attention cannot be paid to the question of sample design and to improving the designs. One area of concern is the sample frame. The Population Bureau, as the organization responsible for the Population Census, is responsible for all work related to the enumeration areas which are used as primary

*Not included.

sampling units. These were created for the 1972-73 census. The Chief of the Research Unit complained that these are now out of date and need up-dating except at the listing stage of those areas which are actually selected. The maps are considered inadequate. They are said to be rough maps showing the enumeration area boundaries. No attempt is made to show buildings on the maps as is done in some countries. Since 1976, primary sampling units are selected with probabilities proportional to size, the size being the population enumerated at the 1973 census, but as will be shown below, this enumeration is considered very unreliable. The selection of the households at the second stage is done by the enumerators, because it is considered impracticable to attempt to have this done in the office in the short time between the listing and the final enumeration.

There are at present two officers who are competent in the field of sampling, the head of the Research and Standards Unit and the head of the NSSO. A number of other officers have had some training in sampling but have had little or no opportunity to develop in this area.

There is no cartographic unit at the FOS, but there is such a unit at the Population Bureau. No attempt has been made, up to now, to translate questionnaires or interviewer instructions into different local languages. Enumerators are employed from the area in which they will work, so that they will know the local language(s) in addition, to English. Enumerators for the most part are persons who have gone to secondary school but have not obtained a school certificate, while assistant enumerators in most states comprise persons who have completed primary school but have had no secondary education.

The surveys with which the FOS has been involved in recent years include: Agricultural Survey (continuous); Industrial Survey (continuous); Urban Consumer Survey (1974-75); Distributive Trades Survey (annual); Building and Construction Survey (annual); Transport Survey (planned but not yet carried out); Housing Enquiry (annual but stopped last year because of reorganization of the unit); and the Labour Force Survey (ad hoc) which is planned and analysed by the Manpower Unit of the Manpower Board, the field work being carried out by the CBS. The major problems so far have been with programming of surveys and with monitoring. As regards programming of surveys, there have been times when there are not enough surveys in the field to fully occupy the field staff, while at other times so much field work needs to be done that temporary field staff have had to be employed. As regards monitoring, because of shortage of staff, the subject matter sections are often not geared to undertake adequate monitoring of on-going surveys, and the quality therefore suffers.

At present various ministries are requesting social statistics of different kinds, but there is still need for these requests to be brought together so that the total needs in the field of social statistics can be determined and some effort made to plan for their collection in some programme of integrated surveys or from other sources.

There is a printing unit but there have been many breakdowns of equipment because of constant use for the last census and fluctuations in electricity. Some new machines have recently been received. No specific request made for assistance but some small provision for equipment might be made.

The major obstacle to the timely completion of surveys is data processing. There is a serious lack of experienced, capable programmers. Moreover, the programmers have very limited appreciation of statistics while the statisticians have little knowledge or understanding of data processing. Data processing personnel have not been adequately brought in at the planning stage of surveys, and this has multiplied the problems. For the Family Expenditure Survey (1975), the data processing could not be done by the DP unit of the CBS and a private firm had to be engaged for the purpose. Tabulations are only now becoming available. Prior to this, the subject-matter unit has had to undertake manual tabulation of a sub-sample and the report on this is about to be published soon. On the basis of this manual tabulation work, new weights have been introduced into the Retail Prices index only 2-3 weeks ago.

When Censuses of Population have been undertaken in the past, a special Census Board and Census Office have been set up for this purpose. This census bureau has obtained its core staff from the FOS, consisting especially of the persons who have been involved in sample surveys (offices and field) and in population statistics. The last successful census was carried out in 1963. The last census undertaken in 1973 has been abandoned by the Government as completely unreliable. The main problem arises because of the political advantage of the separate states that each have as large absolute and relative population. Among the benefits related to size of population, is the amount of funds to be awarded to the state for its budget each year. In an effort to ensure as large a population count at census time as possible, most states introduced serious irregularities into their enumeration. For example, on the ground that persons on the road would not be enumerated at their homes, persons were enumerated at places such as market places and at special road blocks. The census results have been abandoned because they are believed to grossly overstate the true population. No time has yet been fixed for the next census.

Because of the special difficulties involved in census taking, the Government decided, after the 1973 fiasco, to set up a permanent and separate National Population Bureau under the guidance of a National Population Board, directly under the Cabinet Office. The Board and Bureau were set up in 1976, but the law to formalise their existence has not yet been finalised. Apparently second thoughts are being given to this question of having the Population Bureau separate from the FOS. The National Advisory Council on Statistics has advised that there is no justification for such an independent body. It is, however, quite uncertain what the decision in this sphere would be, and in the meanwhile, the Population Bureau is making plans to organize to carry out all its functions. The function of the Population Bureau, according to the proposed legislation, includes, in addition to responsibility for the decennial censuses, responsibility for demographic statistics. Demographic sample surveys will, therefore, come under the Population Bureau.

The Bureau is at present organized in four divisions: Demographic; Vital Statistics and Migration; Administration; and Computer. When the Bureau was set up, the staff of the 1973 Census Office, who had been on secondment from the FOS, were given the choice of joining the Bureau or returning to the FOS. The same choice was offered to staff in the Computer unit working on the Census. While some staff remained with the Bureau and some returned to the FOS, others, especially from the Computer unit, left Government to join private enterprise. The PB is not finding it easy to recruit staff at the professional level because of the generally high demand. The technical staff of the PB are on the whole young and inexperienced, and need more training. Each year, therefore, some are being sent for training, to places such as RIPS in Accra, the Bureau of the Census in Washington, DC, and the Demographic Centre in Cairo. More staff are being requested from year to year. The

Computer Division is critically short of staff because the salary scales are far below those obtained in private enterprise.

Because of the shortages of staff in many areas, the PB is anxious to collaborate with FOS as far as possible and to depend on FOS especially in the area of field work. However, they look forward to the time when they will be fully staffed and capable to undertake all their functions without having to depend on FOS. They would like, in particular, to undertake their own surveys rather than have surveys done for them by FOS, though they envisage that even then there would be much opportunity for co-operation.

The PB is not at present giving direct attention to the next population census; instead, the present objective is to plan and carry out a Demographic Sample Survey largely to prepare the organization for the next census. The plan for the DSS is that there will be 4 rounds, the first round, lasting about one month in the field, being used to collect census type data, while in subsequent rounds, information will be collected on fertility, mortality and internal migration. The sample has been designed (and selected) with a view to providing estimates of population with a 1% SE for the country as a whole, and a 5% SE for the individual states. The sample comprises 912 EA's out of a total of about 112,400 EA's, 48 EA's being selected in each of the 19 states. It is proposed to have complete enumeration in the selected EA's.

The PB has completed its plans for this Demographic Survey and is ready to go into the field but no funds have as yet been provided. Government proposes to provide some funds but this would not be enough to do all that has been planned for the survey. The PB therefore will be putting a proposal for support to the UNFPA within a few days. In the meantime, they propose to begin the survey and to carry out the first round with the funds that will be made available by Government; hopefully, the UNFPA would provide support which would permit the subsequent rounds to be undertaken. It is tentatively planned to start Round 1 in May 1978.

The PB also plans a nation-wide vital registration system, and proposals for this have reached an advanced stage. The matter is now with the Ministry of Justice with regard to the finalising of the proposed laws. The PB is also attempting to get itself accepted as the collecting agency for the Manpower Board so that they would be responsible for collecting information on employment and unemployment.

The request to UNFPA is to cover a 2-3 year period for a total sum of \$3,150,000 for: Field staff expenses and materials, office equipment for state offices and equipment for the cartographic section, plus limited technical assistance. The above sum is made up of \$ 1.5 m per year for field work for 2 years = \$ 3 m. and \$ 150,000 for other expenses.

Since Population census and Population statistics are exclusive to the Federal Government (unlike statistics which is concurrent), there will be no state Population Bureau.

From the above it is clear that the future for population censuses and demographic and related sample surveys is at present uncertain and will remain so until either the law setting up the PB is enacted or alternatively, the Government decides that the PB should form part of the FOS.

The PB has a large computer, an IBM 370/145 with 384 K. It has COCENTS installed and expects to install SPSS soon. There are no edit packages. There are

104 video terminals (key to disc) for input, all on location. Because of the present poor state of communication (especially telephones) there is no chance of successfully operating these from other offices. The computer operates 2 shifts over the period 7.30 a.m. to 8 p.m. At present no work is being done for the FOS on the computer despite the problems with computer being experienced by the FOS. Ten key punches are devoted in the afternoon shift to work for the FOS at present. There is need for training for programmers as well as for supervisors of operatives, and also at the senior level in operational research, data banks and tele-processing.

The Statistical staff of the PB is as follows: 1 Director/1 Asst. Director (Demography)/1 Asst. Chief Demographer/2 Principal Demographers/4 Senior Demographers-Statisticians/2 Statisticians-Demographers I/3 Statisticians-Demographers II/1 Statistical Officer (Higher)/6 Statistical Officers/ 8 Senior Officers (administrative) to man field offices.

There are at present 12 field offices in the 12 former states, and plans are afoot to set up field offices in the 7 new states also. It is proposed that these offices should all be headed by a professional officer as soon as possible.

The Computer staff of the PB is as follows: 1 Data Processing Manager/ Principal Systems Analysts-Programmers/4 Programmers out of an establishment of 8/4 Computer Operators. The figures relate to staff in posts, not to establishment.

B. NSO and National Planning Department

The FOS is under the administration of the Ministry of Economic Development. For its statistical work, however, the FOS operates under a Statistics Law. For the most part, the FOS is not drawn into the major planning committees, but these Committees and the Ministry in general, consult the FOS when statistics are required. Where they find it preferable to obtain data themselves, usually through some small-scale enquiry, this is invariably done with full assistance from the FOS.

The Ministry of Economic Development's Chief Planner, to whom I spoke, is very much in favour of having the FOS build up a household survey organization. At present there is need to 'rationalise' and consideration is being given to merging the Population Census organisation back with the FOS, but no final decision has yet been made. He considers that this would be a good move as it would make for better use of scarce staff and also of the computer. He appreciates that there are political obstacles in the taking of the Population Census, but feels that if the technical capacity for census taking is sufficiently built up these political obstacles could be restrained.

The Ministry of Economic Development is interested in a variety of data from household surveys, including demographic data, data on prices and data on the labour force, and particularly data on agriculture and other household economic activity. The situation as regards demographic data is now confused as pointed out earlier. In the field of prices, the data from the FOS is only partly satisfactory as they now prepare and publish separate price data for urban and rural areas but no integrated price index. (While this has been referred to as data from household surveys, in fact it is the weights for the index and the list of items to be priced that are obtained from such surveys, and not the regular pricing which is done through establishments, especially markets). The Manpower Division of the Ministry of Economic Development plans labour force surveys, but the field work has been carried out by the FOS. Though a number of these labour force surveys have

been carried out, including surveys in November 1974, July 1975, and March 1976, no recent report has been completed. The services of a lecturer from Lagos University were obtained to help prepare the 1974 report, but because of problems with the computer this report was not satisfactory and has not been published. The 1975 data are considered to be totally unsatisfactory, while efforts are being made to abstract data from the 1976 survey manually. Because of this unsatisfactory history, the Manpower Board is considering abandoning these surveys. (It was mentioned above, however, that the Population Division stated that they hoped to become the collecting agency for the Manpower Board for these surveys). While the Ministry has been unable to obtain satisfactory labour force data, such data can be critical as one of the major policies of the next development plan (1980-85) is likely to be the alleviating of urban unemployment, particularly among school leavers. In the 1976-80 plan period the situation would have been achieved where free primary school places are available for all children. This is expected to lead to greater demands for secondary school places, but also increased unemployment is likely to result. The absence of reliable population data from the population census of 1973 and from the labour force surveys is considered critical.

Given the above circumstances, the Government will undoubtedly give high priority to efforts to obtain reliable population data through household censuses and surveys. However, while the Chief Planner of the Ministry of Economic Development is fully in favour of an integrated survey capability, the prospects in the immediate future are not clear.

C. Other Government Departments

(i) Sectoral Ministries

In many Ministries there is a small statistical unit concerned with the collation of statistics from the Ministry's administrative records, and concentrating on statistics of particular importance for that Ministry. Those currently covered are: Education, Health, Trade, Industry, Agriculture (Fishing), Labour, Manpower, Establishment, Mines and Power and the National University Commission. In these cases, the statistical staff involved have been outposted from the FOS. These ministries have not been involved in household surveys. However, the Director of FOS stated that he is considering transferring (outposting?) the Agricultural Statistics Section to the Ministry of Agriculture from the FOS. This is a large section, and among other things, is responsible for both the planning and the analysis of the continuous Rural Economic Survey. I assume, although the Director did not say so specifically, that the 'transfer' of the Agricultural Statistics Section will involve these functions being carried out in the Ministry of Agriculture but in close collaboration with the FOS. In a written document on re-organization given to me by the Director of FOS, it is stated that "all the subject-matter units currently in the Federal Office of Statistics will move to appropriate Ministries" including, in addition to the Agricultural Statistics Unit, the External Trade Statistics Unit; Transport, Motor Licensing etc.; and the Industrial Surveys Unit. The headquarters divisions and their functional units will then operate as development, advisory and co-ordinating agency to the divisions in the Ministries, FOS Branch offices in the States, the Statistical Agencies of the Parastatals, and the State and Local Government Statistical Agencies.

The staff in the statistical units in the other ministries should, however, remain staff of the FOS, and recruitment, promotion and transfer within the statistical service should be done centrally by the FOS. "The provision of the

common services such as the collection of data by the National Sample Survey Organization, Sample Design and Research, Electronic Data Processing and Printing facilities will undoubtedly contribute to the forces unifying the staff and activities in the Ministries."

The needs of the various ministries for statistics from household surveys, are, at present, taken into account by the Ministry of Economic Development in their annual project plans. For example, the 1978 'Plan' included a number of surveys, among which were:

- 164 FOS Demographic Survey
- 164A Road Transport Survey
- 165 Rural Consumption Survey
- 168 Urban Consumption Survey

Unfortunately, several visits to the Ministry of Health and Agriculture were unsuccessful.

(ii) Major Regional and Other Public Authorities

The most important regional aspect of statistics follows from the fact that in the federal constitution of Nigeria, statistics is a concurrent subject. As a consequence, in addition to the FOS, each of the states has its own state Statistical Agency of Statistics. These SSA's vary appreciably in size and efficiency, according to the size and interest of the state. Most of the SSA's are involved in household surveys of one kind or another, though not in population census activity. The SSA's participate in some of the surveys conducted by the FOS, notably manufacturing, agriculture, and distribution. This limits duplication.

There is a Chief Statisticians Conference (i.e. heads of SSA's and FOS) at least twice per year, the principal objective of which is to ensure co-ordination between the states and particularly with the FOS, and to settle issues of concepts and definition. These conferences often set up committees to deal with special subjects and make recommendations on the statistics to be collected, the methods to be adopted and so forth.

There are, at present, technical assistance arrangements between UNDP and four of the states. The general principle is that the FOS should be involved in any negotiation of a state for international or bilateral assistance, though this principle is perhaps not always honoured.

Time did not permit me to visit any of the SSA's. While these SSA's will be interested in national household surveys as benchmark data for their own studies, and would also be happy to obtain data about their states from these national surveys if data at the state level are reasonably accurate, the states will retain an interest in undertaking their own surveys, partly for a higher level of accuracy at the state level, and partly to obtain information of interest to the particular state.

(iii) Universities and Research Institutes

Apart from the problems of time, and the impossibility of making appointments because of the virtual breakdown of the telephone system in Lagos, it was not possible to visit any universities or related research institutes because of the student unrest at the universities during my visit.

The universities and research institutes have been involved from time to time, in household surveys, but only of special restricted areas, rather than national surveys. Staff of the universities have been involved in assisting at one stage or another in the survey work of the FOS and other Government bodies. Reference has been made earlier of one university lecturer being involved in the report-writing of the 1974 labour force survey. In general, university staff are engaged on such projects, as paid consultants. University staff have also been members of technical committees concerned in assessing statistical programmes etc. The chairman of the National Advisory Council of Statistics is from the University of Ibadan. There are no subject-matter committees at present. The main prospects seen are for continued use of university staff as paid consultants for special work on household surveys, particularly in connection with the preparation of reports.

(iv) Co-ordination of all these Activities in the Country

The principal organ of co-ordination is the National Advisory Council on Statistics, of which the Chairman is Professor Afonja, Head of the Department of Statistics of the University of Ibadan. This is the body, for example, which has recommended that the Population Bureau be made part of the FOS. The FOS provides the secretarial services for the NACS.

There is also the Conference of Chief Statisticians, referred to earlier, as well as frequent consultations between the FOS and the SSA's, which ensure co-operation and agreement on matters such as concepts and definitions.

D. General Problems

Transport is a problem for the carrying out of household surveys in Nigeria but only in the sense that it is important that the survey organization has an adequate number of vehicles. Telephone communication is extremely poor, even in Lagos, and hence telephone communication with distant areas within the country is impossible. There is, indeed, a serious shortage of skilled manpower, particularly programmers and qualified statisticians. The problem is primarily a result of the relatively low salaries and poor working conditions of these staff as compared with similar staff in quasi-Government bodies and in private enterprise. The result is that when persons receive training and some experience (e.g. programmers) they tend to leave.

Data processing is a major problem in Nigeria mainly because of the staff shortages. In addition, as regards hardware, the IBM has stated that it is not prepared to adopt the Nigerian Government's requirement, according to the Indigenization Decree, that 60 per cent of all foreign companies must be in the hands of Nigerians. As a consequence, the expectation is that IBM will have to close down its organization in Nigeria. This would mean that if any further IBM equipment were to be obtained it would have to be purchased outright, rather than on rental. Moreover, there could be critical problems of servicing and spare parts. Some major re-thinking may, therefore, soon have to be done with respect to computers and data processing for all computer organizations in the country.

The present capacity of the FOS's computer is 32K on an IBM 360-25. As stated, there is a very large IBM 370-145 with 384K at the Population Bureau. Up to now the FOS does not have mandatory access to this large computer, although it is under-utilised. Also, the Population Bureau is far away from the main office of the FOS, where the computer is housed, and the view was expressed that for efficient use of the PB computer, it would be necessary for the FOS computer organization to have

accommodation nearer the PB office. In any case, the FOS cannot now find and keep adequate staff to run its small computer so access to a larger computer will not by itself solve the serious data processing problems of the office.

There are no serious problems in recruiting lower level staff, such as clerks and interviewers.

Budgetary restraint is not likely to be a major obstacle to an integrated system of household surveys. The main problems are: (a) agreement on how to proceed in the area of population censuses and surveys; and (b) how to overcome the critical problem of data processing which has resulted in a lot of material being collected over the past few years but not being processed or analysed.

E. Assistance Needed

Training programmes are being carried out locally in statistics and data processing. Documents setting out the local training programmes are attached* for information. For this reason, despite the considerable need for training, no assistance has been asked for training in data processing, and for training in statistics, the request has been only for 4 persons for 1 year's training each in a foreign institution to up-grade the training of qualified statisticians.

For technical assistance, the request is for 2 Systems Analysts/Programmers for 4 years each and 1 person for statistical training in the local statistical training programmes.

In the field of equipment, requests were made for computer software, including someone to install this (e.g. COCENTS) and train local staff in its use; and for equipment for agricultural surveys (e.g. measuring instruments, scales, etc.). There may be need for some printing equipment. In addition, the Household Survey Unit of the FOS is in serious need of filing cabinets for survey schedules, which are now most inadequately stored.

F. Tentative Programme and Provisional Time Table

For a proposal on a system of integrated surveys, see attached* copy of a note by J.B. Coker, Chief of the Household Surveys Unit of the FOS, entitled: "The Case for a System of Ongoing Integrated Multi-subject Statistical Surveys for Federal Office of Statistics."

As regards future surveys, the Director of FOS felt that this must depend on the extent to which there is success in overcoming the massive delays with data processing. He pointed out that the 1975 Budget Survey is still with the Computer Division for data processing and that at present there is a delay of at least 2 years after the completion of the field work before a survey report can be published. The top priority, given these problems, for future survey work, was for the carrying out of an Agricultural Census.

*Not included.

G. Expertise or Assistance Available Locally

Little information was gained from the UN agencies in Lagos. The UNFPA stated that the Population Bureau are preparing a proposal to put to them, but until the law is passed which legally sets up the PB, assistance from UNFPA could not be considered. He also mentioned that the proposal for assistance for household surveys by the PB is also to be submitted to the Population Council: the Population Bureau did not advise me of this.

UNDP has one ongoing project in which there is an expert in the field of education statistics; this is a UNDP/UNESCO project. The FAO had no one and no project relating to household surveys. At the WHO, the Director was not in Lagos and the Ag. Director had gone out shortly before I arrived (appointments could not be made in advance because of the telephones) and the driver could not find the office of the IBRD.