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MISSION REPORT

Purpose of Mission: To represent ECA and make substantive contributions at the **“Workshop on Advocacy and Resource Mobilization for the 2010 Round of Censuses in sub-Saharan Africa”**.

Venue: Yaounde, Cameroon

Dates: 21-25 November 2005

Reporting Officer: Amson Sibanda, Population Affairs Officer, Sustainable Development Division

Summary

The Workshop on Advocacy and Resource Mobilization for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses in Sub-Saharan Africa was held in Yaounde, Cameroon from 21-25 November 2005. The meeting recommended that ECA should support member States in the areas of capacity building/strengthening and data collection, utilization and dissemination; play an active role in helping member States undertake the 2010 Round of PHCs; make every effort to lead an Africa-wide consultative meeting that would come up with an Africa common position. This position will be tabled at the next UN Statistical Commission meeting. As a way forward, the meeting recommended that member countries should encourage ECA to engage in all regional activities aimed at addressing Africa's priorities; spearhead the 2010 Round of PHCs in Africa. It was noted that ECA cannot abandon statistical and population data given the need to monitor the MDGs, NEPAD, and PRSPs in Africa; lead member States to build consensus on critical issues relating to the 2010 Round of PHCs; and play an active role in helping member States in the preparation of the 2010 Round of PHCs.

The meeting mandated the Government of South Africa to engage ECA in these areas. And in addition to the above ECA specific recommendations, the meeting also recommended organizing a follow-up Africa-wide meeting in Durban, South Africa in January/February 2006 to come up with an African common position as regards the revision and updating of the global *United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*. The Government of South Africa agreed to organize this regional meeting.

I. Background:

The Workshop on Advocacy and Resource Mobilization for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses in Sub-Saharan Africa was held in Yaounde, Cameroon from 21-25 November 2005 as part of Africa's preparations for the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses.

The United Nations Statistical Commission at its last meeting in March 2005 approved the 2010 World Programme of Population and Housing Censuses and established an Expert Group to take care of its implementation. The Expert Group, in turn, proposed the formation of working groups and technical subgroups to carry out its mandate. The main goal of the Expert Group is to carry out the revision and update of the global *United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*. In this regard, the Expert Group is expected to work with Regional Commissions and other relevant organizations in order to take into consideration processes already in place, to maximize the efficiency of the process, to avoid duplication of effort and to ensure coordination and harmonization of activities. With the exception of Africa, the implementation of these activities at the regional level has been spearheaded by Regional Commissions. All regions have organized working groups, task forces and other meetings, with the collaboration of member States to assess their census experiences for the 2000 round as well as to have a regional common position on the proposed recommendations emanating from the *United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*.

During the 22-26 August 2005 meeting in New York, the Expert Group Meeting on the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses was concerned by the lack of progress and preparation by African countries and resolved to organize a meeting of census experts in time for the purpose of preparing the Africa regional report in time for submission to the UN Statistical Commission in March 2006.

II. Purpose of the mission:

The purpose of the mission was to represent ECA and make substantive contributions at the "Workshop on Advocacy and Resource Mobilization for the 2010 Round of Censuses in sub-Saharan Africa".

The Chief of the Population and Development Branch, Technical Support Division, UNFPA NY, Mr. Francois Farah opened the workshop. He said the primary objectives of the workshop were to help African countries that are participating in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses (PHCs) to:

- i) Determine problems pertaining to the different stages of the census, e.g. design, operations, analysis, technical deficiencies, and lack of capacity and the range of incompleteness of censuses in sub-Saharan Africa;
- ii) Ascertain the reasons for the underutilization and poor dissemination of census results at the national and sub-national levels and identifying appropriate strategies to reverse this trend;
- iii) Ascertain the availability (or lack) of resources and budgets, both internally and externally, and identify appropriate strategies to address the resource constraints for the participating countries for the 2010 Round of PHCs;
- iv) Redefine and assert the value of the PHCs in measuring progress toward the achievement of the MDGs, including poverty mapping.
- v) Discuss the status, stage and level of preparedness of census undertaking activities in countries participating in the 2010 Round of PHCs;
- vi) Develop action plans for advocacy and resource mobilization for the 2010 Round of PHCs;
- vii) Define approaches to be adopted for dialogue with donor agencies and stakeholders; and
- viii) Discuss approaches and opportunities for South-South cooperation.

The following countries attended the meeting: Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Burkina Faso, Congo (Brazzaville), Guinea, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland and Togo. The following organizations also attended the meeting: UNFPA, NY; UNFPA CSTs (Harare, Addis Ababa, Dakar); UN Statistical Division; ECA; UNDG; ILO-Dakar; ADB; IFORD, RIPS, Intitute Superiur des Sciences de la Population (ISSP); RISTAT, CIDA, and US Census Bureau.

III. Proceedings and outcomes:

The meeting was official opened by H.E. Frederick Augustin Kodock, Honorable Minister of State for Planning, Programming and Regional Development, Cameroon. In his address, the Honorable Minister highlighted the importance of timely and accurate population and statistical data in the context of Africa's economic and social development.

The meeting discussed the central importance of "data for development", particularly in the context of assessing Africa's progress towards the attainment of Internationally Agreed Development Goals, including MDGs and NEPAD objectives.

As regards preparations for the 2010 round of population censuses, the African countries invited to the meeting made presentations highlighting the major challenges they are facing in areas such as resource mobilization, inadequate technical capacity, census mapping problems, and lack of essential equipment (questionnaire preparation and printing, computers, scanners, vehicles, and dissemination of results in a timely manner).

The meeting was also informed of the lack of progress and preparation at the African regional level in coming up with an Africa common position as regards the *United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*.

As regards the role of ECA in addressing Africa's priorities in the area of population and housing censuses, the meeting noted with dissatisfaction, the lack of participation of the regional commission in the area of population and housing censuses.

The meeting further noted that ECA used to provide technical support to member States in the past. However, the meeting noted that ECA's support to member States had diminished considerably over the years as a result of the reorganization of ECA that saw the downgrading of the Statistics Division to a Statistical Unit as well as the abolition of the Population Division. Because of these changes, the meeting noted that ECA has not played a major role in advising member States in the area of Population and Housing Censuses.

In response to these issues, ECA informed the meeting that it was now in a better position to offer technical assistance to member States in these areas given the recent strengthening of ECA's Statistical Unit that is housed in ESPD as well as the Population and Social Development Team in SDD.

IV. Conclusions and Observations

- i. The meeting recommended that ECA should support member States in the areas of capacity building/strengthening and data collection, utilization and dissemination;
- ii. ECA, through its population and statistical experts should play an active role in helping member States undertake the 2010 Round of PHCs;
- iii. ECA should make every effort to lead an Africa-wide consultative meeting that would come up with an Africa common position. This position will be tabled at the next UN Statistical Commission meeting; and
- iv. ECA should play an active role in the UN Statistical Commission.

V. Follow-up actions

The meeting recommended that member countries should encourage ECA to:

- i. Engage in all regional activities aimed at addressing Africa's priorities;
- ii. Spearhead the 2010 Round of PHCs in Africa. It was noted that ECA cannot abandon statistical and population data given the need to monitor the MDGs, NEPAD, and PRSPs in Africa.
- iii. Lead member States to build consensus on critical issues relating to the 2010 Round of PHCs.
- iv. Play an active role in helping member States in the preparation of the 2010 Round of PHCs.

The meeting mandated the Government of South Africa to engage ECA in these areas. And in addition to the above ECA specific recommendations, the meeting also recommended the following:

- i. A follow-up Africa-wide meeting will be held in Durban, South Africa in January/February 2006 to come up with an African common position as regards the revision and updating of the global *United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*. The Government of South Africa agreed to organize this regional meeting.
- ii. The African common position will aim to strengthen statistics in Africa, as well as outline the central role of population and housing censuses in providing data for the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of MDGs and NEPAD.
- iii. Regional organizations, including ECA, should contribute background papers in order to generate concrete results that can then be tabled at the UN Statistical Commission.
- iv. A resolution relating to ECA's future role in the area of statistical and population information will be drafted and tabled in Durban. The resolution that will be adopted at the Durban meeting will then follow a political process to ensure that ECA plays a critical role in Africa's development priorities.
- v. A task team will be constituted to address the issues raised with regard to promoting ECA's full participation in the 2010 Round of PHCs.

VI. ANNEXES

Workshop on Advocacy and Resource Mobilization for the 2010 Round of Censuses in sub-Saharan Africa - Yaoundé 21 to 25 November 2005

PROPOSED AGENDA

Day 1

Chair: Cameroon

Rapporteurs: Mpolai Cadribo, UNFPA Lesotho Assistant Representative
Daniel Msonda, Malawi NPO

09:00 -10:45

Plenary

- Report on the Advocacy and Resource Mobilization Meeting for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses in Developing Countries, New York, 24-25 February (F. Farah, TSD)
- Guiding principles on the Organization of Population and Housing Censuses (UNSD, General Introduction)
- Program-Based Census Advocacy Note (B. Yisa)

10:45 -11:00

Coffee Break

Chair: Democratic Republic of Congo

11:00– 12:30

Use of census data for Poverty mapping: the cases of Benin, CAR, and Rwanda (Mady Baiye and Lamlel Samson)

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch Break

Afternoon Rapporteurs: Gervais Barampanze, UNFPA Burundi Asst. Representative
Ngoy Kishimba, UNFPA DRC Asst. Representative

14:00 – 16:00

Opening ceremony (Hosted by the Minister of State for Planning, Programming and Regional Development and the UNFPA country Representative)

- Opening Statement by Faustin Yao, UNFPA Cameroon Representative
- Statement by Benson Morah, Director, CST Addis Ababa, on behalf of Africa Division, UNFPA

- Statement by Francois Farah, Chief PDB, on behalf of TSD, UNFPA
- Address by H.E. Frederick Augustin Kodock, Honorable Minister of State for Planning, Programming and Regional Development, Cameroon

Post Opening Informal Gathering

Chair: Togo

16:00 – 17:45 Data for Development (R. Dackam)
Integrated Management Information System (J.M. Hié)
Presentation on DevInfo (J. Moller)

18:30 – 20:00 Cocktail / Reception (TSD, AD, and UNSD)

Day 2

Chair: Guinea Conakry

Rapporteurs: Togbé Ngaguedeba, UNFPA Chad Asst. Representative
Benjamin Zanou, UNFPA Haiti Programme Advisor

Country presentations

08:30 – 09:30 Ethiopia: Presentation and discussion

09:30 – 10:30 Nigeria: Presentation and discussion

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

Chair: Liberia

11:00 – 12:00 Congo Brazaville: Presentation and discussion

12:00 – 13:00 Burkina Faso: Presentation and discussion

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break

Chair: Swaziland

Rapporteurs: Jude Edochie, UNFPA Ethiopia Deputy Representative
Victor RAKOTO, UNFPA Madagascar Asst.
Representative

14:00 – 15:15 Madagascar: Presentation and discussion

15:15 – 16:15 Cameroon: Presentation and discussion

16:15 – 16:30 Coffee Break

Chair: Mozambique

16:30 – 17:30 Donor's response / perspective

Day 3

Chair Malawi

08:30 – 9:00 Introductory Remarks (UNFPA)

9:30 - 11:00 Group sessions; Elaboration of Action Plans per country
(Each group to select its own chairperson and rapporteur)

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00 Bilateral Consultations with Donors

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch Break

Chair: Burundi

14:30 – 16:00 Plenary: Presentation of countries' Action Plans
(By group session chairs/rapporteurs)

16:00 – 16:15 Coffee Break

Chair: Chad

16:15 – 17:30 Plenary: Presentation of countries Action Plans
(By group session chairs/rapporteurs)

Day 4

Chair: Angola

Rapporteurs: Meron Tewfik, UNFPA Ethiopia NPO
Joaquim Vicente Gomes, UNFPA Guinea Bissau Asst.
Representative

08:30 – 09:30 Regional Training and Capacity building in Censuses
(IFORD, RIPS, ISSP, ECA)

Chair: Lesotho

09:30 – 11:00 Synthesis of the discussions and bilateral consultations
Way forward in terms of mechanisms of monitoring;
Networking and information sharing (TSD, UNSD)

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee Break

Chair: Guinea Bissau

11:15 – 12:30 Adoption of the recommendations

12:30 – 13:00 Closing remarks (AD, TSD, UNFPA, Country Office)

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 15:30 Open / Free

Day 5

Initial Meeting on Implementation of the 2010 World Programme of Population and Housing Censuses - United Nations Statistics Division

Chair: South Africa (Pali Lehohla, Statistician-General, Statistics South Africa)

Rapporteurs: Jason Onsembe, Advisier, CST Addis Ababa
Barnabas Yisa, Adviser, CST Addis Ababa

09:00 - 09:30 Opening remarks by the chairperson (Pali Lehohla)

09:30- 10:00 Overview on the revision process of the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses (Martin Butterfield)

10:00 - 10:30 Coffee break

10:30 - 11:30 Briefing on the approaches used to develop the proposed standard tabulations (Martin Butterfield)

Discussion

The proposed basic set (43) vis-à-vis the requirements of most African countries; The recommended set (109) in the African context; Is there benefit to specifying the core set (28) as a minimal set for countries emerging from difficult circumstances? Thematic vs. general/profile approach

11:30 - 12:30 Variables for inclusion in African Censuses especially additional to those implicit from the tabulations (Martin Butterfield)

Discussion (Pali Lehohla)

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch

Rapporteurs: Jean-Marc Hie, Adviser, CST Addis Aababa
Mady Biaye, Adviser, CST Harare

14:00 - 15:00 The way forward: Formulation of the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses (Martin Butterfield)

15:00 - 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 - 17:00 The way forward: Discussion (Pali Lehohla/Martin Butterfield)

17:30 Closing

General Rapporteurs: Obi Emekekwe, Africa Division, New York
Samson Lamlem, Advisor, CST Dakar

Workshop on Advocacy and Resource Mobilization for the 2010 Round of Censuses in
sub-Saharan Africa - Yaoundé 21 to 25 November 2005

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