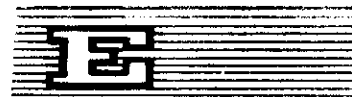




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PROGRESS REPORT ON THE AFRICAN CENSUS PROGRAMME

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## PROGRESS REPORT ON THE AFRICAN CENSUS PROGRAMME

### INTRODUCTION

1. The African Census Programme (ACP) was set up in response to the request of a number of African countries who could not, for technical and financial reasons, participate in the 1970 round of censuses. Most of these countries had never taken a census before and needed help to be able to conduct their first ever census. With the support of various legislative bodies of the United Nations, the African Census Programme, financed by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), was launched in 1971 and covered 22 countries as shown in Annexes I and II.
2. It may be recalled that for the 1970 round of censuses the United Nations had convened in 1967 a Working Group to revise the international recommendations made for the 1960 round of censuses. The 1970 recommendations were based primarily on the experiences of countries which had taken part in the 1960 round.
3. The African variant of these recommendations were prepared by a Working Group which was convened by ECA in 1968 and which examined the various international recommendations in the light of African experiences. The recommendations of the African Working Group were taken into account in the consideration of the content of questionnaires of the censuses held under the auspices of the ACP.
4. It should be emphasized that by the early 1970's a great interest had developed in the collection of demographic data which could provide invaluable inputs to the national development plans of a number of countries which had become independent in the 1960's.
5. This report describes the progress of the ACP within the overall context of census operations in the region. Some references are also made to censuses carried out in the region which did not form part of the ACP. A list of all countries which had taken a census since 1966 is shown in Annex I. Some information on United Nations inputs to-date will be given as well as indications of follow-up activities envisaged or desirable.

### PROGRESS OF THE AFRICAN CENSUS PROGRAMME

6. Since the beginning of 1966 censuses have been carried out in almost every African country with the exception of Benin, Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Niger, and Zaire. The first five of these countries are included in the African Census Programme, and Benin, Burundi and Niger plan to carry out their censuses before the end of 1978. However, no definite census dates have been established for Chad and Ethiopia. With respect to Zaire, there is now a consultancy mission in the country to work out a feasibility study for a census and it is hoped that this consultancy mission will at the same time establish a tentative time-table for census operations.
7. It should also be noted that the 1980 round is already in progress and Algeria (February 1977), Egypt (November 1976) Lesotho (April 1976), Swaziland (August 1976), and Tunisia (May 1975) have already conducted their censuses. Malawi expects to carry out its census in September 1977 and there are plans for Cape Verde (1978), Guinea (1978), Guinea Bissau (1978), Kenya (1979), Rwanda (1978), Sao Tome and Principe (1978), and Zambia (1979) to conduct their censuses in the years shown in parentheses against them.

8. A number of problems were encountered in the implementation of country programmes under the ACP; the details of some of these problems are covered in document E/CN.14/CAS.10/15 (Study on Methods and Problems of African Population Censuses and Surveys).

9. As reported to the ninth session of the Conference of African Statisticians in document E/CN.14/CAS.9/11, the delays in implementing the original programme of the ACP were due to the defects in original project requests, the unsatisfactory conditions under which country experts and regional advisers were operating and a shortfall in the development of national census organizations. An effort has been made in the last two years to correct the first three elements. The project requests have now been formulated in more realistic terms by governments with the assistance of ECA regional advisers. An attempt has also been made to cut down the time lag between the request by Governments for UN country expert assistance and the date of arrival of the expert in the country. While project documents were under preparation, a short list of suitable experts was at the same time being compiled and the interest and availability of the experts for the post being ascertained. This enabled the UN soon after the approval of the project to start recruitment procedures. It must be pointed out, however, that this did not work out satisfactorily in all cases since in certain instances the expert so identified and accepted by the country turned down the offer at the last minute and the UN had to start the whole recruitment process all over again.

10. With respect to the work of regional advisers attached to ECA, a great deal of monitoring of projects was added to the main function of providing technical advice to countries. Annex IX gives details of missions carried out by regional advisory staff since 1 January 1973. Annex VIII also gives the full list of census advisers used in the ACP since 1971. In addition to responding to Government requests for specific advisory missions, the ACP attempted to develop a strategy aimed at monitoring the progress of work in all the countries participating in the programme and despatching missions to those areas where problems were found to exist. Such missions were of course first cleared with the appropriate Governments. It was thus possible to identify problems and take appropriate remedial action before they reached serious proportions. In those countries where no progress has been made towards the realization of the census the problems have been beyond the competence of either the United Nations or the national statistical offices. Annex V shows the status of each of the 22 projects under the original census programme. For those countries which have completed their field enumeration, data processing problems have been the main cause of delay in publishing final tables.

11. The African Census Programme in addition to providing advice to countries has also helped in collecting and recording census experiences in many countries. Some of these experiences have been used as basis for methodological studies such as the Post-enumeration Survey for Coverage Evaluation of African Population Censuses E/CN.14/CAS.9/77) and Special Techniques for Enumerating Nomads in African Censuses and Surveys (E/CN.14/CAS.10/16).

#### UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE

12. A Separate paper on UN Technical Assistance (E/CN.14/CAS.10/6) is being presented to this Conference. Therefore, only brief comments will be made on the nature of UN assistance to the ACP. These consist of the provision of:

- (a) Country experts in the fields of census organization, cartography, data processing, demographic data analysis, sampling; Annexes III, IV, VI and VII give some information on these census experts.

- (b) Regional or inter-regional advisers in the fields of census organization, cartography, data processing/computer methods, sampling and demographic data analysis.
- (c) Financial assistance for equipment (both expendable and non-expendable), including vehicles and hire or purchase of data processing equipment.

Also contributions towards meeting local costs (salaries and/or incentive payments of administrative staff and field personnel), maintenance and repairs of vehicles, etc.

- (d) Financial support for a communications component of the census project.

13. The level of UNFPA financial support has varied widely from country to country according to requirements. Preliminary figures show that UNFPA contribution to the total census budget has ranged from 11 to 75 per cent. It should be mentioned, however, that uniform standards have not been used in the preparation of the total budget and therefore inter-country comparisons are likely to be misleading.

14. There has been some indication from UNFPA that the level of support received for the 1970 round may not be available for the 1980 round. Thus, African countries participating in that round may have to rely more on their own resources and less on UNFPA contributions, especially in the area of subventions to meet local costs.

#### FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

15. A number of follow-up activities have been suggested in connection with the census. The most important of these activities is the African Household Survey Capability Programme which is being reported upon separately. It was also hoped that the census programme would be the starting point for renewed activity in obtaining more reliable and up-to-date information on rates relating to the three components of population change: fertility, mortality and migration. This could be done either by improving civil registration systems or by conducting single-round demographic surveys as part of an integrated household survey programme, multi-round demographic surveys or dual record systems. It was expected that African countries would devote time and resources to these questions once the censuses have been conducted.

16. It is also expected that, in those countries which have not established a regular series of censuses, the ACP will help in establishing this series and that once every 5 or 10 years a population census will be conducted. In the African context it seems more reasonable to think of a census once in 10 rather than 5 years.

17. The ACP regional advisory service at ECA is expected to be continued under new arrangements after December 1977 when the African Census Programme formally comes to an end. Details of these new arrangements are being worked out with UNFPA but it is hoped that the present four advisory posts in census organization, sampling and data processing will be maintained.

Annex I  
Latest Population Censuses  
in ECA Member States  
June 1977

Country	Year	Pop (mn)	Country	Year	Pop (mn)
NORTH AFRICA			CENTRAL AFRICA		
Algeria	77	N.A.	Angola	70	5.67
Egypt	76	38.23	*Cameroon	76	7.08
*Libya	73	2.26	*Central African Emp.	75	1.79
Morocco	71	15.38	*Congo	74	1.30
*Sudan	73	14.17	Equatorial Guinea	71	N.A.
Tunisia	75	5.59	Gabon	70	0.50
WEST AFRICA			Sao Tome & Principe	70	0.07
Cape Verde	70	0.27	EAST AFRICA		
*Gambia	73	0.49	Botswana	71	0.58
Ghana	70	8.56	Comoros	66	0.24
Guinea	72	...	Kenya	69	10.94
Guinea Bissau	70	0.49**	Lesotho	76	N.A.
*Ivory Coast	75	6.71	*Madagascar	75	6.20
*Liberia	74	1.50	Malawi	66	4.92
*Mali	76	6.50	*Mauritius	72	0.85
*Mauritania	76	1.48	Mozambique	70	8.17
*Nigeria	73	N.A.	Seychelles	71	0.53
*Senegal	76	5.08	*Somalia	75	3.04
*Sierra Leone	74	2.73	Swaziland	76	0.50
Togo	70	1.95	Tanzania	67	12.31
*Upper Volta	75	6.14	Uganda	69	9.55
			Zambia	69	4.14

\* Original members of group of 22 countries participating in the African Census Programme.

\*\* Population of part of the country which was under Portuguese control.

Annex II

Countries which have yet to  
Undertake a National Census

Country	Year	Pop (mn)
WEST AFRICA		
* Benin	78	3.07
* Niger	77	4.59
CENTRAL AFRICA		
* Burundi	78	3.76
* Chad	?	4.02
Rwanda	78	4.20
Zaire	78	24.50
EAST AFRICA		
* Ethiopia	?	27.97

\* Original members of group of 22 countries participating in the African Census Programme.

Annex III

The timing of assistance activities and project implementation in 17 African countries which have taken population censuses in the 1970 round with assistance from the United Nations African Census Programme

Sub-region and country	Submission of project request		UNFPA approval		Arrival of general census expert initially	Census date	
	Original	Revised	Initial	Subsequent		Original	Revised
NORTH AFRICA							
Libya	No project assistance request made to UN by Government				Aug 72	1974	July 73
Sudan	Feb 72	June 72-Jan. 74 (addl. request)	Oct 72	-	Feb 73	Apr/May 72	Apr 73
WEST AFRICA							
Gambia	Dec 71	May 73 (addl. request)	March 72	-	-	April 73	
Ivory Coast	Dec 72	-	March 74	-	Nov 72	April 73	April 75
Liberia	March 72	-	Nov 72	-	March 73	Nov 73	Feb 74
Mali	May 72	-	Nov 72	-	Aug 73	Sept 73	Dec 76
Mauritania	July 72	-	Dec 72	March 73	Feb 74	Jan 74	Dec 76
Nigeria	June 71	-	March 72	-	-	Sept 73	Nov 73
Senegal	June 72	-	March 73	-	Sept 73	April 74	April 76
Sierra Leone	Nov 71	Sept 72	May 72	June 73 1/2	Oct 72	April 74	Dec 74
Upper Volta	Feb 73	-	Dec 73	-	July 74	Dec 73	Dec 75
CENTRAL AFRICA							
Cameroon	Sept 72	Dec 74	April 73	-	June 73	Nov 73	April 76
Central African Empire	July 72	-	March 73	-	March 73	Dec 73	Dec 75
Congo	June 72	-	March 73	-	March 73	1973	Feb 74
EAST AFRICA							
Madagascar	Feb 72	June 72	August 72	-	-	Oct 72	Feb 75
Mauritius	Aug 71	-	Dec 71	-	-	June 72	June/July 72
Somalia	July 71	Aug 72	Feb 73	-	May 73	Nov 74	Feb 75

1/ Central month of approval given in parts over several months.

Annex IV

The timing of assistance activities and project implementation in 5 African countries which aim to complete population censuses in the 1970-round with assistance from the United Nations African Census Programme  
June 1977

Sub-region and country	Submission of project recurrent		UNEP approval		Arrival of general census expert initially	Census date	
	Original	Revised	Initial	Subsequent		Original	Revised
WEST AFRICA Benin Niger	Sept 72	June 73	Nov 72	Nov 73	June 73	Feb 73	March 78
	Sept 72	March 73	June 73	-	May 74	March 74	Nov 77
CENTRAL AFRICA Burundi Chad	Nov 73	May 73	Nov 73	-	April 74	Aug 74	?
	July 72					Dec 74	
EAST AFRICA Ethiopia	Aug 72	Jan 73	April 73	Jan 74	Feb 74	March 74	?



Annex V

ACP COUNTRIES STATUS REPORT

The present position of the census projects in the following 22 participating countries of the United Nations African Census Programme, as is known to us in ECA, is indicated against each country:

<u>Sub-region and Country</u>	<u>Date of Census Enumeration</u>	<u>Present Position</u>
<b>NORTH AFRICA</b>		
Libya	July 1973	Preliminary results released. Tabulations completed. Final report under preparation. Detailed analytical work in process.
Sudan	April 1973	All the ten province reports have been published. The four volumes of the Sudan Census Final Report - Vol.I: Socio-economic Characteristics, Vol.II: Population Dynamics - Fertility and Mortality, Vol.III: Characteristics of Nomadic Population, and Vol.IV: Part 1: Housing Characteristics and Part 2: Socio-economic Characteristics of Urban Areas are under preparation.
<b>WEST AFRICA</b>		
Benin	March 1978	Preparations underway. Pilot census taken in April 1977.
Gambia	April 1973	Census data processing completed. Report on Statistics for Settlements and Enumeration Areas Vol.I: Population, and Vol.II: Housing, published. Analytical Report is under preparation.
Ivory Coast	April 1975	Preliminary census results released. Census data processing underway. The volume "Reportoire des localites et population de Côte d'Ivoire" reported to have been published in August 1976. Detailed tables in respect of two out of 26 departments now completed.

<u>Sub-region and Country</u>	<u>Date of Census Enumeration</u>	<u>Present Position</u>
<b>WEST AFRICA (CONTD.)</b>		
Liberia	February 1974	Census data processing well underway. Provisional Census Report Bulletin No.1 containing provisional population totals and demographic indices and Population Bulletin No.2 showing the final population totals and related percentages with some salient demographic characteristic published. The computer printouts of all the Census tables are expected to be ready by end of June 1977.
Mali	December 1976	Provisional census results published. Data collected is being processed.
Mauritania	December 1976	Census enumeration of the entire population completed. Provisional total population figure announced by Govt. Data processing is underway.
Niger	May & July 1977 (Nomadic population in northern areas) November 1977 (Sedentary population and rest of the nomadic population)	Preparations are well in hand. Pilot census taken in January 1977.
Nigeria	November 1973	Census results cancelled.
Senegal	April 1976	Provisional census results released. Census data processing underway.
Sierra Leone	December 1974	Provisional total population figure released. Census tabulation programme is in hand. Delays due to hardware problems.
Upper Volta	December 1975	Provisional total population figure released. Census data processing underway, with direct assistance from France and the United States, in the installation of COCINTS, one of the census software packages. Some preliminary analysis of migration data completed.

<u>Sub-region and Country</u>	<u>Date of Census Enumeration</u>	<u>Present Position</u>
<b>CENTRAL AFRICA</b>		
Burundi	August 1976	Project approved. Census expert under recruitment.
Cameroon	April 1976	Census data processing in progress, expected to be completed in October 1977.
Central African Empire	December 1975	Census data processing underway. Coding and verification operations completed.
Chad	?	Census date uncertain, due to factors beyond the control of the statistical authorities.
Congo	February 1974	Data analysis in progress. Reports published: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commune de Brazzaville. Résultats définitifs, 1974</li> <li>- Vol.XIV. Population de Localities, Février 1975.</li> </ul>
<b>EAST AFRICA</b>		
Ethiopia	?	Cartographic preparations completed in most urban areas and rural areas of one province. Field cartographic work now suspended due to factors beyond the control of the statistical authorities.
Madagascar	February 1975	Tabulation of census data well underway. Census results are expected to be published shortly.
Mauritius	June 1972	Final Census Report published. Some demographic analysis completed.
Somalia	February 1975	After a period of uncertainty, Government has now reactivated the processing of census data, which they had suspended for some time.

## Annex VI

UN Experts Assigned to Population Census Projects  
(in countries where census enumeration is completed)

June 1977

Country	Name of Expert	Assignment	Contract Dates
<b>NORTH AFRICA</b>			
Libya	N.S.Choudhury(India)	Senior statistician	Aug 72 - June 77
	G.B. Saxena(India)	Demographer analyst	Nov 76 - Nov 77
Sudan	D.H. Bhate(India)	Population census expert	Feb 73 - May 75
	R.J. Connolly(USA)	Systems analyst	June 73 - Dec 74
	A.S.Galocz(Poland)	Census cartographer	July 73 - Jan 75
	M.H.A.G.Rizk(Egypt)	Programmer	Sept 73 - Sept 74
	B.M.Mahajan(India)	Demographic analyst	Sept 74 - Sept 77
<b>WEST AFRICA</b>			
Ivory Coast	S.Zrimec(Yugoslavia)	Population census expert	Nov 72 - Oct 76
	L.Byberg(Denmark)	Pop.census expert (Assoc.)	Sept 74 - Sept.76
	P.D.Matter(France)	Census cartographer	Dec 74 - June 75
Liberia	J.C.Rumford(USA)	Population census expert	March 73 - June 75
	G.K.Mehrotra(India)	Systems analyst	July 75 - June 77
Mali	M.Lubin(Haiti)	Population census expert	Aug 73 - Aug 74
	P.Matter(France)	Census cartographer	Oct 75 - Oct 76
	S.Looky(Togo)*	Population census expert	July 75 - Jan 77
Mauritania	B.Ray (India)	Population census expert	Feb 74 - June 77
	S.Shoermackers(Belgium)	Pop.census expert (Assoc.)	May 75 - May 77
Nigeria	C.Fleischmann(Austria)	Systems analyst	March 73 - March 75
	C.R.Oliveira(Brazil)	Census cartographer	April 71 - April 74
Senegal	J.Gagnon(Canada)	Population census expert	Sept 73 - Sept 74
Sierra Leone	M.D.Crone (UK)	Population census expert	Oct 72 - Aug 75
	G.Wood (UK)	Systems Analyst	June 75 - June 77

\* ECA Regional Demographic Adviser acting as country expert.

Country	Name of Expert	Assignment	Contract Dates
Upper Volta	A. Berciu(Romania)	Population census expert	July 74 - Sept 76
CENTRAL AFRICA			
Cameroon	J.Daenen(Belgium)	Population census expert	June 73 - April 74
	W.Joseph(Liberia)	Population census expert	Oct 74 - Dec 76
	A.P.Pinganaud(France)	Census cartographer	Oct 74 - April 76
	A.L.Deldker(Netherlands)	Systems analyst	Apr 75 - Nov 77
Central African Empire	M.E.Ledjri(Tunisia)	Population census expert	March 73 - Feb 76
	E.Desert (Haiti)	Population census expert (Assistant)	Aug 74 - Feb 76
		Population census expert	March 76 - Sept 77
	M.H.Simonet(France)	Demographic analyst	April 77 -
Congo	P.Naidenova,Mrs. (Bulgaria)	Population census expert	March 73 - Sept 74
		Consultant population census (periodic visits as required)	Oct 74 - Oct 75
EAST AFRICA			
Madagascar	H.Simon(Canada)	Data processing expert	June 75 - June 76
Mauritius	G.S.Kumari,Miss (India)	Demographic analyst	Oct 73 - Dec 75
Somalia	O.Adegboyega(Nigeria)	Population census expert	May 73 - June 77
	B.R.Cohen(Bulgaria)	Census cartographer	May 73 - Nov 74
	N.Nadarajah(Sri Lanka)	Sampling expert	Sept 70 - Dec 76
	B. Georgoson(Sweden)	Data processing expert	Dec 74 - Aug 77

Annex VIIUN Experts Assigned to Population Census Projects  
(in countries where census enumeration is pending)

June 1977

Country	Name of Expert	Assignment	Contract Dates
<b>WEST AFRICA</b>			
Benin	J.J.Plaisir(Haiti)	Population census expert	June 73 - May 75
	H.Ureta(Uruguay)	Census cartographer	Aug 74 - Dec 75
	A.P.Pinganaud(France)	Cartographer	July 76 - June 77
	I. Ferenbac(Romania)	Population census expert	June 76 - July 77
Niger	J.Daenen(Belgium)	Population census expert	May 74 - Jan 77
	R.H.Rotach(Switzerland)	Population census expert	Jan 77 - Dec 77
	P.Valet(France)	Census cartographer	Oct 75 - June 77
<b>CENTRAL AFRICA</b>			
Burundi	L.F.J.Naon(Uruguay)	Census cartographer	May 77 - May 78
Chad	P.Franche(Philippines)	Population census expert	March 74 - March 78
	L.F.J.Naon(Uruguay)	Census cartographer	Nov 74 - July 76
<b>EAST AFRICA</b>			
Ethiopia	G.Jacobsson(Sweden)	Population census expert	Feb 74 - Feb 76
	N.K.Chakravarti(India)	Sampling expert	Aug 73 - Aug 75
	B.K.Roy (India)	Census cartographer	Aug 73 - Sept 75
	A.Listoe(USA)	Data processing expert	Sept 73 - Aug 74
UDEAC	B.Z.Gil(Israel)	Chief UN demographic statistics adviser/ Co-ordinator	June 73 - June 74
	W.Joseph(Liberia)	Chief UN demographic statistics adviser/ Co-ordinator	Jan 77 - Dec 77
	J.Archibald Mrs. (Canada)	Demographer	Jan 75 - Jan 76
	G.Gonnings(Belgium)	Demographic statistics adviser (Assoc.)	July 75 - July 77

Annex VIII

ECA/ACP Regional Population Census Advisers

Assignment	Name	Date of	
		Arrival	Departure
Project Officer	E.P.Swan	April '72	May 74
	K.T.de Graft-Johnson	July 75	
Demographic Statistics	J.G.C.Blacker	Oct 67 Jan 72	Dec 72
	Z.Rajakovic	Oct 68 May 73	Dec 73
	L.W.St. John-Jones	Nov 72	April 75
	Y.de Jocas	April 74	April 75
	M.E.Ledjri	March 76	
Cartography	G.L.Cazaux	Feb 74	Jan 75
Census Operations	W.Perry	July 73	Jan 75
Sampling	A.K.Maitra	Dec 72	
Data Processing	L.R.A.Rehlin	June 72	June 73
	M.Richardson	Oct 73	Oct 74
	W.Hess	June 75	June 76
	W.Raible	March 77	
Demography	N.Hong	Feb 72	July 74

# African Census Programme Regional Advisory Missions

1 January 1973 - 30 June 1977

SUBJECT	SUB - REGION															TOTAL					
	North Africa					West Africa					Central Africa						East Africa				
	73	74	75	76	77	73	74	75	76	77	73	74	75	76	77		73	74	75	76	77
Census Organization	4	2	2	1	2	14	17	2	15	9	2	4	2	3	2	2	11	1	1	2	98
Sampling and Household Surveys	3	1	4	2	2	-	5	-	1	1	1	4	2	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	32
Data Processing	-	3	-	2	1	2	5	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	21
Cartography	3	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	18
Total	10	6	6	5	5	17	34	2	16	10	5	12	4	6	3	3	15	1	5	4	169

**Note:** The missions have been classified according to their primary objective. Thus, a mission which covered census organisation mainly but also dealt with household surveys is classified under census organization.