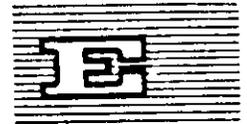


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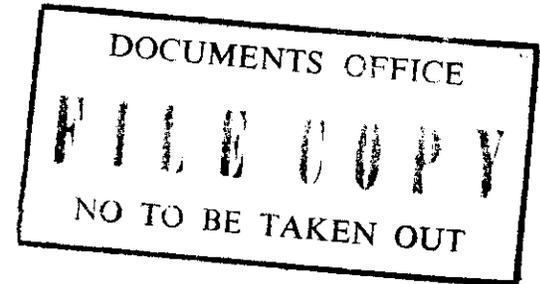
Distr.
LIMITED



E/CN.14/ASPP/G.4
E/CN.9/CONF.3/G.4

21 September 1962
Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
Seminar on Population Problems in Africa
29 October - 10 November 1962
Cairo, United Arab Republic



POPULATION ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS
PREPARED IN GHANA

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PREPARED IN GHANA
by
The Central Bureau of Statistics, Ghana

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This Seminar has been organized by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, Statistical Office and Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations, and the Government of the United Arab Republic as host.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. So far only estimates of population up to the year 1959 have been made by the Census Office. These estimates of mid-year population for every year up to 1959 were made at the request of an adviser to the Planning Commission by the use of the mathematical formula $rP = P_0 (1+r)^n$ ^{1/}
The estimates were made with an assumed growth rate of 3 per cent per annum which according to this adviser could be considered as reasonable maximum rate of growth for the country.
2. It is, however, hoped that after the tabulation of the data collected during the Post Enumeration Sample survey (the Sample Survey which followed the 1960 Ghana Population Census) more accurate estimates of population would be made on the basis of rates obtained from the survey data.
3. Only estimates of the total population of the whole country by sex have been made. The base data were the totals obtained in the 1960 Census.

II. PROJECTIONS

4. No population projections have yet been done for the country. The Census Office, however, has plans to undertake the following projects soon:
5. Project A
 - (a) Projection of the total population in 1960 - 1980 by age and sex
 - (b) Total population by sex projected by Regions (Administrative)
 - (c) Total rural and urban population projected by sex.
 - (d) Total rural and urban population projected by region.
6. It is hoped that this part of the projections of total populations alone will be undertaken in about a month's time.
7. This project is being undertaken at the request of the UN Regional Planning Mission in Ghana which is now preparing a National Physical Development Plan for the country.

^{1/} P₀ = base population
P = estimated
r = rate of growth
n = no. of years

Project B

8. It is hoped that after the processing of the data of the Post Enumeration Sample Survey which will give better estimates of fertility and mortality more detailed projections will be undertaken. The following will be the main aspects of this project.

1. Regional population projected by age and sex
2. Total urban/rural population by age and sex.

Project C

9. This project will comprise the following projections:

1. Labour force projections for the whole country.
2. Labour force projections for each of the administrative regions of the country.
3. Urban/rural labour force for projections for the whole country.
4. Urban/rural labour force projections for each of the administrative regions of the country.
5. School age projections for the whole country.
6. School age projections for each of the administrative regions of the country.

III. METHOD AND ASSUMPTIONS

Method

10. In all these projects mentioned above the component method of projection will be used. This method is preferred because the different components of population growth are expected to follow varying trends in the future and so it is only this method that will give an accurate indication of the future growth of the population. It is planned that low and high levels will be assumed for both mortality and fertility and thus low, medium and high population projections will be worked out for 5 years intervals up to 1980.

Assumptions.

11. Fertility Trend: There is at the moment no accurate measure of fertility level for the country. The level of fertility (Crude Birth Rate) for the base year will therefore be determined from the 1960 Census age data. This level will be assumed to follow a constant rate or to undergo very little change in the future since the present conditions in the country do not suggest any efforts either official or otherwise to reduce the birth rate.

12. Mortality Trend: Like fertility the present level of mortality will be estimated from the Census age data. For the future it may be expected that mortality will decline considerably during the next 15 years owing to Government plans to extend medical facilities to all rural areas of the country and to undertake an extensive programme of malaria eradication. The expectation of life at birth for the base year will be determined from Census data with an assumption of an increase of three-quarters to one year per year in the expectation of life up to 1975 and one-half a year per year after that date.

13. External Migration: The 1960 Census^{1/} has shown that the rate of migration from the neighbouring countries into Ghana is quite considerable. For this reason any projection to be done must take into account the future trend of migration, which may well be expected to be constant or even increase if only the present rate of development in the country continues to offer incentives of employment to the people of the neighbouring countries.

14. Internal Migration and Urbanization: Another important factor to be considered is the increased rate of urbanization which may be expected to result from the rapid industrialization already planned and begun by the Government. For an accurate estimate of future urban/rural components of the population the present rate of internal migration and its future trend will have to be determined. This will be done with the data obtained from the Census and Post Enumeration Sample Survey.

^{1/} The Census showed that persons of foreign origin in Ghana formed 12.1 per cent of the total population of Ghana.

IV.. PURPOSE OF PROJECTIONS

15. The main purpose of all these planned projections is to provide data for government planning in the various economic and social sectors and also for general day-to-day administration of the country and its different parts each of which may require different amenities at any particular time.
16. As already mentioned one such plan is already being undertaken for the country by a UN Regional Planning Mission now in the country.