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UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

REPORT ON A MISSION IN ETHIOPIA  
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By

Roger Hare

Regional Adviser in Census Cartography  
Statistics Division

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Addis Ababa

This report is the sole responsibility of the writer. It has been submitted to the Department of Technical Co-operation, United Nations, which may alter or supplement these findings.



1. Summary. A Census Proclamation has now been issued and this paves the way for the establishment of the Population and Housing Census Commission. The Commission will consist of two parts, namely, a Council and an Executive Officer. The Council will be chaired by the Deputy Chairman of the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council. It will have 14 members, consisting of 11 Government Ministers, the Commissioner of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), a representative of the Central Committee of COPWE and the Manager of CSO, who will also act as Secretary to the Commission and be the Executive Officer.

2. One of the duties of the Commission is to determine the date of the census. A firm date has not been set due to the unavailability of most of the 10 million sheets of A3 paper which are required for the census questionnaires. The paper (costing \$170,000 including freight) is being supplied under the UNFPA contribution, and was originally requested by the Government for delivery in April 1983. Due to financial constraints, however, approval for procurement of the paper and other items was only given in June 1983. Then the need to obtain three quotations, plus other delays, meant that the paper was only ordered from Finland in September 1983.

3. It should be emphasised, however, that UNFPA are now making all efforts to accelerate the delivery of the paper, and instructions for part of the shipment to be air-freighted have been given at the highest level. Consequently, the first 800,000 sheets have already arrived in Addis Ababa, and another one million sheets are expected by air very shortly. But due to the high cost of air-freighting paper, which is a heavy item, the remaining 8.2 million sheets are being sent by sea. According to the shipping agent they are scheduled to arrive in Djibouti by mid-February 1984.

4. If there are undue delays in arrival at the port or in transporting the paper up to Addis Ababa, some paper may have to be borrowed or purchased locally as the printing of the questionnaires still has to be done. It has been estimated that this operation could take from six weeks to two months. The present schedule, therefore, calls for the months of February and March to be used for printing and April for packing and distribution to the regions. Thus May 1984 is the target date for enumeration.

5. A Pilot Census was held over a period of four weeks during December 1983 and January 1984 in six selected areas. This was a 1% purposive sample of areas that have been completed during the field mapping and household listing exercise, and covered an estimated 51,800 households in 332 EA's. The main objectives were to test the urban and rural questionnaires and the logistical support. As far as demographic particulars are concerned, the two questionnaires are identical, but the urban questionnaire calls for more information on housing characteristics, and the reference period for economic activity is one week instead of twelve months. The Pilot Census revealed that only minor modifications are required to the wording of the questionnaires, and the relevant CSO Technical Sub-Committee were dealing with this issue during the mission. The questionnaires will then be submitted to the Population and Housing Census Commission for their final approval.

6. Field mapping and household listing has been virtually completed in 12 of the 14 regions and about 79% of the total estimated population of the country has now been covered. The remaining areas, however, are Eritrea and Tigray, where due to the prevailing situation only limited coverage will be possible by the field teams and during the census itself. CSO estimate a coverage of some 40% of the population for Eritrea and 10% in Tigray.



7. On-going tabulations of completed field work reveal that more than 35,300 EA's, with an average of about 180 households per EA, have already been delineated. This indicates that the final population total for the country could be beyond the official estimates. CSO are of the opinion that the total population is now in the range of 40 million, and this figure is being used as the basis for census planning.

### I. Introduction

8. The mission. Under the 1983 UNFPA Management Plan for ETH/81/P02 (Population Census), a monitoring visit was required in December 1983. The mission was delayed, until January 1984, however, in order to include an account of the Pilot Census. The mission was undertaken with the concurrence and assistance of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) Addis Ababa, and follows previous reports by the Regional Adviser in October/November 1980, February/March 1982, May 1982, November 1982 and May/June 1983.

9. The terms of reference were:

- (a) to report on cartographic activities for the Pilot Census;
- (b) to assess progress in regional cartographic preparations for the main census.

### II. Consultations

10. During the mission discussions were principally held with the persons whose names are given in Annex I.

### III. Background

11. Pilot Census Date. It may be recalled that the Tripartite Review of November 1982 recommended that a trial census be held in April 1983. But for various reasons this was postponed, firstly to August and then to December 1983. One of the main reasons for the postponement was that CSO required more time for preparations due to administrative delays, and as the main census date has had to be put back from December 1983 to a possible May 1984, so the Pilot Census has also been deferred.

12. An advantage of having the Pilot Census in December is that this is the dry season in the highlands, so the coverage and overall logistics were more severely tested. If the trial had been held during the rainy season in August the choice of areas would have been limited to places having easy access. The latter date also meant that as the field preparations are on-going, selection of the sample could be made from an even wider choice, including Addis Ababa itself.

13. A disadvantage of having the Pilot Census only 5 months before the main enumeration is that there is insufficient time to process the pilot questionnaires and test the computer programme before the questionnaires have to be finalised for printing.

14. Pilot Census Structure. Personnel for the Pilot Census was as follows:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 350 Enumerators (including 5% reserve) | - Ex-twelfth grade students, and in Addis Ababa, university extension students. |
| 61 Supervisors                         | - Geographical Assistants (GA's)  |
| 6 Field Co-ordinators                  | - Senior CSO Staff  |



15. School teachers were not used for the Pilot Census, whereas they will be deployed as Supervisors during the main enumeration. Twelfth-grade students will again be used as Enumerators. Although payments by UNFPA for the 500 GA's ceased at the end of October 1983, they have fortunately been retained by CSO to act as Wereda and Awraja Census Officers for the main census.

16. UNFPA Contribution. UNFPA contributed \$28,000 towards the Pilot Census, the bulk of which went towards paper and personnel costs. Paper for the questionnaires was purchased locally, and CSO supplied enumerators satchels from their own limited stocks.

#### IV. Progress

##### (a) The Pilot Census

17. Training. Preparatory activities started in Addis Ababa on 28 November 1983 with the training for six days of the Principal Trainers (CSO staff) and of the Supervisors by senior CSO personnel. Training of the Enumerators was carried out during the following week in the regions and in Addis Ababa. Immediately after training everyone was deployed to their respective areas. In Addis Ababa this caused no difficulties but due to transport problems this took 2-3 days in the regions.

18. Distribution of Personnel. Distribution of the enumerators, supervisors, and the areas they worked in was as follows:

<u>Region</u>	<u>Pilot Census Area</u>	<u>Enumerator's Trained</u>	<u>Supervisors Trained</u>
Gamo Gofa	1 Supervision Area (SA)	6	1
Sidamo (1)	1 Wereda }	268	45
Sidamo (2)	1 SA }		
Bale	1 SA	5	1
Gojam	2 SA's	11	2
Shewa (Addis Ababa)	1 Kefetegna (Higher)	60	12
		<u>350</u>	<u>61</u>

19. Pilot Census Enumeration. In Addis Ababa enumeration started on 15 December and soon afterwards in the regions. In most areas enumeration took about two weeks, but in the densely populated part of Northern Sidamo it took three weeks, and four weeks in the mountains of Gamo Gofa.

20. Pilot Census Activities-Gamo Gofa. The area chosen was a Supervision Area in Malokoza Wereda, Gofa Awraja. CSO had intended to carry out recruitment and training in the awraja capital of Bulki, but it was eventually done in the regional capital of Arba Minch under the direction of the regional Statistical Officer. After training, the party travelled some 160 miles (260 km.) on gravel roads to Bulki. From Bulki the team had to hire pack-animals to travel 50 miles (80 km.) over the mountains to Malokoza. All this travelling delayed the start of the enumeration by one week.

21. CSO realised that Malokoza would be a difficult area, that is why it was chosen, but there were more difficulties than expected. There were no problems in identifying the localities or the EA boundaries, but the extremely scattered nature of the traditional housing in the mountainous terrain meant that enumeration involved so much walking; it took four weeks to complete.



22. Another problem was in recruiting enumerators who could speak the local languages. The Head of the Population and Social Statistics Department noted that whereas in some regions one may perhaps find from two to four ethnic groups, in Gamo Gofa, and to a lesser extent Kefa Region, there may be as many as 30 to 40 different groups with their own languages and dialects.

23. Pilot Census Activities - Sidamo. Two very distinct areas were chosen in Sidamo. The first was a densely populated wereda (C.300 per sq.km.) called Awasa Zuriya in Sidama Awraja in the north of the region. This wereda includes the regional capital of Awasa (est. pop. 30,000). The whole wereda was completed and this constituted by far the largest part of the pilot census. The details are as follows:

Awasa Zuriya Wereda

	<u>PAA's</u>	<u>SA's</u>	<u>EA's</u>	<u>Kefetegnas</u>	<u>Kebeles</u>
Rural Area	71	33	188	-	-
Awasa Urban Area	-	8	40	2	14

Note: PAA = Peasant Association Area

24. Although there were no particular difficulties in Awasa urban centre, some problems were experienced in the rural areas, mostly relating to the large number of households in the EA's.

25. The Regional Adviser noted the following in his mission report of November 1982 (Paras.25 and 26):

"Although the EA's are small in area, it was found that some of the teams are forming EA's with a higher number of households (e.g.250) than the range indicated in the training manual (150-200)..... This may pose difficulties of completion for the enumerator in the time allocated, particularly in areas of large household size".

26. This is in fact what happened. Another problem was that in 20-25% of the EA's it seems that the household listing was incorrect. For example, whereas in the household listing and mapping exercise in November 1982 the GA's had recorded 220 households, now there were 260 households. One would expect small increases of course, but CSO surmise that some of the GA's did not record all the households. CSO will be discussing the matter with them at the earliest opportunity.

27. The second area covered in Sidamo was a remote semi-nomadic SA in Burji Wereda, Arero Awraja in the south west of the region. Here the opposite situation was found to Awasa Zuriya, i.e. in Burji there were often less households in the villages than were listed on the household listing forms. For example, whereas 190 households were recorded in an EA during the mapping, now there were only 160 households.

28. In the case of Burji there was a good reason for the discrepancies. Many of the structures were empty because whole families had moved with their cattle down to Lake Chamo some 100 km. (60 miles) away in search of grass and water. And as there was a drought last September when it should have been raining, more families than usual had made the trek.



29. The Head of the Population and Social Statistics Department related that he had received word about this semi-nomadism from the Field Co-ordinator and so went to see the situation for himself. Apparently the families leave their homes in November and do not return until March, in time to prepare their land and sow the crops before the rains begin. The semi-nomadic life applies particularly to families with a smaller than average land holding, but who have a large number of cattle that cannot be maintained during the dry season. When villagers were asked why all the family went with the cattle and not just the young boys, it was reported that it was considered as part of their culture that everyone should travel, and besides, it was an "adventure".

30. Pilot Census Activities - Bale. A quite different situation again was selected for the Pilot Census in Bale. Here the SA was a Settlement Area (a group of PAA's) containing the new Agarfa Farmers' Multi-Purpose Training School, the Amigna Harro Farmers' Producers Co-operative, and a nearby model Settlement Area village. These are all located in Agarfa Wereda, Mendeyo Awraja in northern Bale.

31. When the Regional Adviser visited the training school during the field mapping in November 1982 it had just been completed and the students had not yet arrived. The EA's were delineated by the teams, therefore, on the basis of the population at that time, whereas the future population should perhaps have been anticipated.

32. The training school now has 4,000 students in collective quarters. The Head of the Population and Social Statistics Department noted that the CSO Manual for Census Mapwork clearly indicates that collective quarters with a population of 100 or more persons should be considered as special EA's, and the instructions should have been followed.

33. There are now also teachers, cooks and other attendant staff, and the number of households has risen from 35 to 197 in the past year. Delays in the enumeration were experienced due to more questionnaires having to be sent from Addis Ababa, and to the fact that the students and co-operative farm workers had to be interviewed in the evenings.

34. Pilot Census Activities Gojam. The previous three regions are in the south of Ethiopia whereas Gojam is in the north-west sector between Addis Ababa and Lake Tana. Here, two SA's in two adjoining weredas in Debre Markos Awraja were selected.

35. This is a predominantly agricultural area, and the SA in Dejen Wereda contained a co-operative farm. The only problem reported was that as it was harvest time it was sometimes difficult to interview the respondents. The other SA was in Baso Liben Wereda and contained conventional PAA's. There were no particular problems indicated; in fact the enumerators and CSO staff were apparently particularly well looked after by local officials.

36. Pilot Census Activities - Addis Ababa. The capital city is a municipality, and is divided into 25 Kefetegnias (Higher Urban Dwellers' Associations, known as "Higher") which are in turn sub-divided into 284 Kebeles (UDA's). The area selected was Higher 2 which was completely enumerated. The Higher has 9 Kebeles, 8 SA's, and 50 EA's. The Pilot Census Questionnaires have not been summarised, but during the cartographic field work a population of 32,742 was recorded.

37. The area was chosen for its diversity; it is in the city centre and contains blocks of flats, hotels and shops, as well as the CSO offices. There were no technical problems. The only apparent difficulty was that the university extension students recruited as enumerators complained about their pay of EB.120 (\$58) for the three week period (including training), and at having to undertake enumeration in the evenings.



38. Pilot Census Analysis. CSO Field Co-ordinators observed the Pilot Census in each area and submitted individual accounts of proceedings to CSO. The Manager of CSO noted that they intend to compile a final report on the Pilot Census and to edit and machine process the questionnaires from Awasa Zuriya Wereda in Sidamo to test the computer programme after the new computer equipment arrives. If time allows the questionnaires from Higher 2 in Addis Ababa may also be processed.

39. In the meantime, however, CSO have taken note of the main problem areas and are formulating contingency plans to counteract difficulties encountered during the Pilot Census. These include:

- a. Making a print of the complete wereda map for each Supervisor. To save paper during the Pilot Census it was thought that cut-outs of each Supervisor's Area from the wereda map would be sufficient. But it was found that Supervisors had difficulty in orientating themselves properly as there were no surrounding details. This happened even though the Supervisors were GA's who were familiar with the maps. But in the main census the Supervisor's will be teachers who are not acquainted with the maps, and there will be insufficient time to train them extensively in map reading.

The Regional Adviser fully supports the proposal to print more maps as this would be the ideal solution. But in reality if all the Supervisors are to be given a complete copy, some 300 extra rolls of printing paper at a cost of \$5000 would be required. As the Wereda Census Officers will have a complete copy anyway, it may be necessary to limit printing so that supervisors only have a print of that section of the map, with surrounding details, which shows their particular SA.

- b. The Head of the Cartographic Section noted that they do not intend to revise the EA's or household lists where difficulties occurred during the Pilot Census as this would be too expensive and time consuming at this late stage. But they will give each Supervisor a photocopy of the relevant household listing forms as a check.
- c. A 5-10% reserve of enumerators will be trained, and efforts in this respect will be concentrated in the densely populated areas. As such a large number of enumerators are required over a period of one month (training one week logistics one week, enumeration two weeks) the problem for CSO will be to keep within the overall census budget.
- d. Within a single Supervision Area and within adjacent SA's, enumerators will be reallocated according to the workloads.
- e. The Wereda Census Officers (GA's) will be sent out in good time to check their areas. It is suggested that when allocating Wereda Census Officers to their respective weredas, they be assigned as far as possible to areas where they worked as GA's and with which they will be familiar.



b) Regional Cartographic Preparations for the Main Census

40. Present Coverage in Population Terms. The following table shows the extent of the cartographic work in population terms up to the end of the reporting period. Those areas currently in progress have been included in the percentage figures.

<u>Region</u>	<u>% of each region covered in population terms</u>	<u>% of total estimated Population of Eth. covered</u>
1. Shewa (including Addis Ababa)	98%	20%
2. Welega	100%	7%
3. Ilubabor	98%	3%
4. Kefa	100%	5%
5. Gamo Gofa	98%	3%
6. Sidamo	100%	9%
7. Bale	80%	2%
8. Arsi	100%	3%
9. Harerge	74%	7%
10. Gojam	100%	6%
11. Welo	89%	7%
12. Gonder	70%	5%
13. Eritrea	25%	2%
14. Tigray	-	-
Total		79%

41. Thus approximately 79% of the total estimated population of 40 million has now been covered by the field mapping programme.

42. Progress in Each Region. Brief details of progress made and the future programme in the regions are as follows:

43. Shewa. Since the previous report Mafud Wereda in Yifat and Timuga Awraja has been completed, so now only 3 weredas out of 105 remain to be done. The delay is due to the reorganisation of PAA's in the north-east sector of the region. The Head of the Cartographic Section noted that CSO intend to do the work at the earliest opportunity. The remaining weredas are:

<u>Awrajas</u>	<u>Weredas</u>
Yifat and Timuga	Bure Modayito
Tegulet and Bulga	Dulecha
Yerer and Kereyu	Berehet

44. Addis Ababa. Field work was started in the capital city at the end of July 1983 and took over two months to complete. About 45 teams were used and for the most part two teams were put into a Higher, particularly in the centre of the city. Two GA's were assigned to each Kebele; so, as there are 8 GA's to a team, this meant that a team was working in about four Kebeles simultaneously. Mapping and household listing were done for all areas of the city and the listing included non-diplomatic foreign residents, but not embassies and diplomatic staff. The latter would, however, be included in the main census. The figures obtained during the field mapping programme are as follows:



Addis Ababa

25	- Kefetegnias (Highers)
284	- Kebeles
293	- Supervision Areas (SA's)
1,517	- EA's
257,896	- Housing Units
256,796	- Households
621,445	- Male Population
712,447	- Female Population
1,333,892	- Total Population

45. The Head of the Cartographic Section noted that no particular problems were encountered during the work. As far as boundaries are concerned he pointed out that the city boundary is long-established and well-defined with boundary pillars, though their frequency could not be determined. But, for example, the point at which the boundary crosses the Bahir Dar road is indicated by a pillar. This is situated past the city check - point on the top of Entoto Mountain some 10 km. (7 miles) from the city centre.

46. There are no boundary pillars or written descriptions for the Kefetegnias or Kebeles but the boundaries are well known to local officials. For example, the Head of the Cartographic Unit is also the Secretary to the Chairman of a Kefetegna, and it was the Head of the Cartographic Unit himself who delineated the boundary of his Kefetegna and who showed the field mapping team the boundary. The boundaries are then plotted on the 1:2000 maps of the city.

47. There is, incidentally, an on-going project aided by the Italian Government to devise a new Master Plan for Addis Ababa. This will advise on zoning requirements and overall town planning for the future expansion of the city. Representatives of the project have visited ECA Statistics Division, who advised that a migration survey should be carried out.

48. Welega. The field work has been 100% completed

49. Ilubabor. Akobo Wereda in Gambela Awraja has still not been done. It now appears that the area is completely inaccessible by road, even in the dry season, and CSO have decided it will be too expensive to charter a small plane before the enumeration.

50. The resident population is not estimated to be more than 5,000, but at present there is an influx of refugees from Sudan. The villages are all situated along the Akobo River (which forms the international boundary) so enumeration should not be too difficult. It is suggested that base maps be provided for the Wereda Census Officer so that the EA boundaries can be plotted and other updating carried out during enumeration.

51. Kefa. Three teams are currently in Maji and Goldiya Awraja which has 7 weredas and a total of 75 PAA's. The awraja is inaccessible except during the present dry season and is mainly mountainous, although there is a low lying semi-nomadic wereda on the Sudan border. The overall situation is as follows:

<u>Weredas in Maji and Goldiya Awraja</u>	<u>PAA's</u>	<u>Status</u>
Shasha	14	Completed
Goldiya	22	"
Mehal Maji	12	In progress
Kurit	5	"
Biro	9	"
Gesha	13	"
Tirma Tid	-	Semi nomadic, not started
	75	



52. Gamo Gofa. Mursi and Bodi Wereda in Geleb and Hamerbako Awraja still remains to be done. This area is on the border with Sudan and Kenya and is totally inaccessible except by plane. There is apparently only one settlement which, as the area is stricken by drought, is run by the RRC. The rest of the population is nomadic.

53. The Head of the Cartographic Section noted that it would be expensive to send a team there, so the number of households at the settlement will be obtained from the RRC. The area, therefore, will not be tackled before the census. Again, it is suggested that base maps be given to the Wereda Census Officer so they can be updated during the enumeration.

54. Sidamo. The two remaining hilly waredas in Sidama Awraja (Arbe Gona and Bersa) have now been done. The fieldwork, therefore, for the settled population has been 100% completed. But as noted in Paras. 27-29, parts of the southern half of the region are inhabited by semi-nomads, some of whom may not have been accounted for during the mapping work.

55. Bale. The two remaining weredas in Genale Awraja (Nansebo and Kokosa) which were left because it was an insecure area have now been completed. The four weredas in Delo Awraja (Mena, Arera Bulki, Gura Damole and ~~Wentawale~~) which were left because of heavy rains and inaccessibility have also been finished. The following six mainly nomadic/semi-nomadic weredas in El Kere Awraja remain to be done:

Weredas in El Kere Awraja

Weyib  
Serer  
Afker  
Wabi Shebele  
Dolo Bay  
Bare

56. El Kere, which makes up 44% of the land area of Bale, is a drought area so the RRC have set up some 20 shelters (camps) to assist an estimated 60,000 nomads and semi-nomads. RRC have a list of these shelters which CSO will obtain prior to the enumeration.

57. Arsi. Field work has been 100% completed.

58. Harerge. The wereda in Harar Zuriya Awraja and the three settled weredas in Jijiga Awraja that were in progress at the time of the Regional Adviser's previous mission report have been completed. The five mainly nomadic awrajas which make up 55% of the land area of the region have not been started. The overall situation is as follows:

<u>Awraja</u>	<u>Status</u>
1. Habro	Complete
2. Webera	"
3. Gara Muleta	"
4. Harer Zuriya	"
5. Chercher, Adal and Gara Guracha	partly nomadic, settled areas complete
6. Dire Dawa, Isa and Gurgura	"
7. Gursum	"
8. Jijiga	"



Ogaden Awrajas

Status

9. Degeh Bur
10. Gode
11. Kebri Dehar
12. Welwel and Warder
13. Kelafo

Mainly nomadic, not started

" " " "

" " " "

" " " "

" " " "

59. Gojam. The region is now 100% completed.

60. Welo. Wag Awraja and Raya and Kobo Awraja border Tigray Region and are, therefore, considered as insecure areas for the field mapping teams. This has prevented a start being made there. Awsa Awraja, which borders Djibouti, is partly nomadic but the settled areas have been finished. The other nine awrajas in the region have been completely covered.

61. Gonder. The region has 29 weredas, but due to the areas bordering Sudan and Tigray being of an insecure nature, work was only completed in 17 weredas. Field mapping started in two weredas in Simen Awraja, but had to be abandoned. The overall situation is as follows:

<u>Awrajas</u>	<u>Weredas</u>	<u>Status</u>
Debre Tabor	4	Complete
Gayint	3	"
Libo	3	"
Gonder Zuriya	4	3 weredas completed, 1 not started
Chilga	5	2 " " 3 " "
Wegera	5	2 " " 3 " "
Simen	5	2 " started, 3 " "
	<u>29</u>	

62. Eritrea. Although it will be impossible to obtain complete coverage due to the current troubles in the region, at least household listing and mapping work has started in eight urban areas, and is scheduled to start in seven others.

63. Locality and household listing (but not mapping) may be carried out in selected rural areas where PAA's have been formed, but this will depend on the situation prevailing at the time the urban programme has been completed. Before the teams leave the region an assessment will be made and a report submitted to the Census Commission, who will take the final decision.

64. So far CSO have sent seven teams and one co-ordinator to Eritrea; in addition, the work is being assisted by the Regional Statistical Officer. As far as language is concerned, CSO made sure that the seven Supervisors and about half of the GA's were Tigrinya-speaking. It was not considered necessary that all the GA's should speak Tigrinya as they work in pairs anyway, and Amharic is also spoken.

65. After the 7 teams had completed working in the regional capital of Asmara, they were each deployed to an urban centre, most of which are awraja capitals. The present overall situation, therefore, is as follows:



<u>Urban Centre</u>	<u>Est. Pop. (as at July 1982)</u>	<u>Status</u>
Asmara	474,241	Complete
Dekemhare	18,499	In Progress
Mendefera (Adi Ugri)	22,609	"
Keren	42,373	"
Mitsiwa (Massawa)	36,839	"
Akordat	32,807	"
Adi Keyih	9,803	"
Ginda	9,407	"
	<u>646,578</u>	

Thus approximately 25% of the total estimated population of Eritrea of 2.6 million is being covered at present.

66. In fact Eritrea has a higher proportion of urbanisation (+2000 pop.) than any other region in Ethiopia. Whereas the national average is about 14%, some 31% of the populations of Eritrea are living in urban areas. This figure is only matched by Shewa (which includes Addis Ababa) with 30%.

67. As previously mentioned, the present programme in Eritrea is limited to 15 urban areas. In addition to eight centres listed above, work has also been proposed for Aseb, Adi Kwala, Dibarwa, Senafe, Nefasit, Teseney and Barentu, though this list is subject to change. The two latter places, for example, will depend on the availability of a military plane to transport the teams.

68. Master Plans. All the listed places have Master Plans (town planning maps) and the Ministry of Urban Development has been assisting CSO with printing copies of them. Although many of the maps are old, apparently the one for Asmara was quite up to date, and no difficulties were experienced.

69. Aseb Awraja Administration. Although located in the south of Eritrea, the port of Aseb (est. pop. 30,000) and the semi-nomadic coastal area to the north (as far as the Gulf of Zula) are administered separately under the Aseb Awraja Administration. This is because of the importance of the port and the great road distance of some 1000 km. (625 miles) between Aseb and the other main centres of Eritrea. CSO teams, therefore will be sent directly from Addis Ababa to Aseb in the coming months to tackle the area; the precise coverage will be decided later.

70. Eritrea-Rural Areas. The rural settlement pattern in Eritrea is different to some regions where the villages are small and scattered. Here they are consolidated and much larger, and are known as "adi". Around the adi is the agricultural land which is farmed on a communal basis.

71. CSO consider that if limited rural work is done, the listing of the adi and their households will not be a problem. But since they would wish to complete the work as quickly as possible, the GA's will not be making the usual EA maps and boundary descriptions. The Ethiopian Mapping Agency are making 1:50,000 film positive enlargements from the 1:250,000 series in readiness for the rural areas, but they would only be used by the Co-ordinator and the Supervisor to plot the listed villages and for control purposes.

72. Eritrea - PAA Formation. Over 300 PAA's have been formed in Eritrea and these would be the areas in which CSO would consider limited rural work. But the situation is not uniform. In many weredas there may be only a few PAA's, and often the PAA's are isolated from each other rather than forming a cohesive block.



73. Eritrea - Urban and Rural Coverage. According to their present information, CSO have calculated that certain rural work is feasible. If these areas are added to the previously mentioned urban programme, the overall situation is as follows:

Awrajas	Weredas	Weredas having PAA's	PAA's	Est. pop. of PAA's and Urban areas	Total est. pop. of Awraja	% of total est. pop. to be covered
Hamasen	5	3	68	578,336	675,400	86%
Akele Guzay	4	4	38	78,345	324,200	24%
Keren	3	3	33	69,979	267,500	26%
Serahe	4	4	130	170,634	364,200	47%
Akordat	3	1	2	36,793	229,100	16%
Gash & Setit	4	3	27	45,627	227,400	20%
Key Bahir	5	1	3	54,585	150,900	36%
Sahil	4	-	-	-	304,700	-
Aseb	5	-	-	30,195	86,700	35%
	<u>37</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>301</u>	<u>1,064,488</u>	<u>2,630,100</u>	<u>40%</u>

74. CSO estimate that the population of the 301 PAA's is 291,805 i.e., 11% of the total population, and the population of the 15 towns to be 742,521 being 29% of the total population. Thus, an estimated population of 1,064,488 or approximately 40% of the total population of 2,630,100 may be covered during the field preparations and the census.

75. Tigray. Work has not started in the region and CSO note that it may be possible to only cover about 10% of the total estimated population of 2.3 million due to it being an insecure area. CSO have no information available on progress made in forming PAA's in the rural areas, so probably work will be restricted to the main urban centres.

76. CSO have a list of 19 urban areas but most of them are very small and the total urban population of some 233,000 amounts to 10% of the total for the region. About 24% of the urban population live in the regional capital of Mekele (est. pop. 56,000). CSO and the Population Census Commission will be assessing the situation carefully before any field work begins.

77. Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Areas. CSO previously estimated that nomads and semi-nomads made up some 10% of the population. They now feel that with the drought situation and the setting up of Herdsman's Association Areas in order to control grazing, the figure is rather less. They have also determined that most of the true nomads are in the Ogaden (Southern Harerge) and that the majority of nomads in Bale are utilising the RRC shelters. They are confident, therefore, that the enumeration of nomadic groups will not cause too many problems.

78. But due to having other priorities and to the fact that the Ogaden is an insecure area CSO have not carried out the field studies in the nomadic areas that they had hoped to do. This would have obtained information on the nomadic clans and their migratory movements and helped to decide on the best way of enumerating them.

79. Preparatory studies, however, have been made at the CSO offices under the auspices of the Technical Sub-Committee on Nomads, and one thing that has been achieved is to obtain a list of wells dug by the RRC. But these wells should have already been identified in the field and plotted onto the census maps. In this way details about which nomadic clans are using particular wells, and at what season, can be known to the census planners well before the enumeration. These preparations in the field should be started as soon as possible, as it may be leaving things rather too much to chance if they are not done.



80. In addition to enumerating nomads at the wells, CSO will be recruiting enumerators from within the nomadic clans by first contacting the "ugaz", who act as representatives between the nomads and the Government.

81. Under its "Study of Nomadic Areas" programme, one of RRC's tasks is to collect and provide information on the population and distribution of nomads. They will, therefore, be assisting CSO with the planning of the census in these areas, a strategy that should be beneficial to both sides.

82. With reference to the small settlements and development projects etc., that exist within the main nomadic areas, it is the intention of CSO to obtain lists of these localities and household lists from local officials prior to the census.

#### V. Conclusion

83. Although an actual census date cannot be determined, preparatory activities are being undertaken on the assumption that enumeration will take place before the rainy season starts in June. There would otherwise be a delay until October when the dry season starts. Thus CSO are making all efforts to be ready by May, and ideally by Mayday, the first day of the month.

84. As previously noted, the GA's are now termed Census Officers. Those who are not out in the field are busy redrawing the regional index maps at 1:500,000 and filing the thousands of household listing forms. Indeed, the map and document storeroom is looking most impressive now with the recent addition of more locally-made cupboards and drawers, which are rapidly being filled up.

85. Publicity. One aspect that has not been mentioned is publicity. Census publicity has already started on TV in a small way, but a massive publicity campaign is under preparation, with a Publicity Campaign Committee being set up under the Census Commission. The Publicity Committee will be chaired by the Minister of Information and National Guidance. Publicity will be at a maximum during the month before the census, and will be in the form of radio broadcasts, TV spots, newspaper articles, local level meetings, leaflets and posters.

86. CSO put in a request to UNFPA for paper for publicity purposes. If the A3 paper being imported for the questionnaires is late in arriving and local paper has to be used instead, it may be possible for some of the UNFPA paper to be put towards publicity leaflets.

87. An important aim of the publicity will be to dispel any fears about the purpose of the census, particularly as this will be the first one to be conducted in the country. The Government is, therefore, keen that everyone understands the questions that will be asked, especially the "unpopular" ones. For example, during the Pilot Census a certain resistance was encountered in getting respondents to answer the question on disability.

88. The Pilot Census was well publicised and no difficulties were experienced in the urban areas. But in some rural areas the lack of a directive from the Government meant that a few local officials (e.g. PAA Chairmen) were reluctant to co-operate, for instance, in assisting the Enumerators with food and shelter. But after CSO (with the assistance of the Deputy Regional Administrators) had held meetings with local functionaries and explained that any costs were reimbursable, there were no further problems.



89. Nomadic Areas. CSO learned many lessons from the Pilot Census exercise. What is needed now is a second Pilot Census, this time covering the nomadic population. CSO's impressively thorough preparations for the settled population have perhaps not been matched by the rather loose arrangements formulated for the nomadic areas.

90. On the other hand CSO feel that as the census is essentially a regional exercise they can rely on the local administrators - who know their areas and their problems - to carry out the required operations. There is, however, a built-in danger of relying on local officials; it is possible that they may alter figures for their own purposes.

91. CSO also note that as enumeration in the nomadic areas will be assisted by the RRC and be extended for as many weeks as is necessary to collect the information, there is not quite the same urgency as is required for the settled population. The extra costs involved in an extended enumeration would, however, have to be considered.

92. Enumerators Satchels. At the moment it is the lack of stationery items that are causing the most concern. Besides the paper for the questionnaires the other item that UNFPA is contributing in a large quantity are the 50,000 enumerator's satchels. These were requested (with full specifications) at the same time as the paper, but CSO and the UNFPA Deputy Representative and Senior Adviser on Population have received no word about the order. The Chief of the Programme Division of UNFPA has recently visited the project and was briefed about these major delays. During his visit he apparently contacted headquarters by telephone, and will be making further enquiries on his return to New York.

93. Printing of Questionnaires. CSO have recently received a Heidelberg offset press from the UNFPA contribution, and it is CSO's intention to use it to print the approximately 1.4 million urban questionnaires. The rural questionnaires (approx. 8.6 million) will be printed on two large presses in Addis Ababa that have a higher speed and can accommodate A3 paper. As the total of paper being sent by air-freight is 1.8 million, CSO can start their printing programme as soon as the second shipment arrives.

94. In conclusion, it has been shown in the report that census preparations are now at a fairly advanced stage. The issue of the Proclamation and the setting up of the high-level Census Commission are important steps that further indicate the commitment with which the Government are undertaking this vast operation. It really only needs the printing paper to arrive for the final parts of the pre-enumeration programme to be put into action.

95. But there are still many other matters to be attended to. For example, about one-fifth of the school teachers in the country will be taking part in the census as one of the 8,000 Supervisors, and so some schools may need an extension of the Easter school holidays for the census period. The census will also need 50,000 pencils, rubbers and pencil sharpeners for the Enumerators. It is understood these are being obtained locally, but as such large quantities are involved, checks should be made as soon as possible to ensure their availability when required. On the other hand, it appears from censuses in other countries of the region that it is more usual to use ball-point pens rather than pencils. Finally, we can mention that local level transportation arrangements for personnel and documents will have to be made with wereda and awraja administrators. There may be difficulties in obtaining sufficient vehicles and pack-animals, particularly in the remote areas, and mobility will be an important factor towards the success of the census.

96. But these problems - and many more - will no doubt be resolved in the coming months with the Government's usual seriousness and ingenuity. There is every reason to believe, therefore, that the forthcoming census particularly in the majority of areas where the geographical frame is complete, will be highly successful.



List of persons with whom discussions were held

Government (CSO)

Ato Mitik Beyene	-	Manager
Ato Abdullahi Hassen	-	Head, Population and Social Statistics Department
Ato Tesfa Alemayehu	-	Head of Cartographic Section

United Nations

Mr. Abdalla Mahgoub	-	UNFPA Deputy Representative and Senior Adviser on Population
Mr. Carlos Ellis	-	Data Processing Adviser (CSO)