

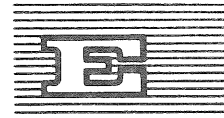
UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.3/377
5 January 1968

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH



STATISTICAL COMMISSION
Fifteenth session
Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda

DEMOGRAPHIC AND HOUSING STATISTICS

PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPROVEMENT IN DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Paragraph</u>
INTRODUCTION.....	1 - 2
A. STANDARD METHODS.....	3 - 28
I. Population statistics.....	3 - 12
II. Vital statistics.....	13 - 23
III. Migration statistics.....	24 - 28
B. STANDARDIZATION OF CLASSIFICATION SCHEMES.....	29 - 39
I. International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC)	30 - 31
II. International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO).....	32 - 34
III. International Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death (ICD).....	35 - 37
IV. WHO Nomenclature Regulations.....	38
V. International Standard Classification of Education (ISCE).....	39
C. COLLECTION, STORAGE, RETRIEVAL AND DISSEMINATION	40 - 59
I. Collection.....	40 - 46
II. Co-ordination.....	47
III. Storage.....	48
IV. Evaluation of quality.....	49 - 52
V. Dissemination.....	53 - 59
D. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES.....	60 - 104
I. Inter-regional.....	61 - 63
II. Africa.....	64 - 74
III. Asia and the Far East.....	75 - 87
IV. Europe.....	88 - 94
V. Latin America.....	95 - 103
VI. Oceania.....	104

CONTENTS (continued)

- ANNEX I. List of countries which have provided the Statistical Office of the United Nations with estimates of population, crude birth rates and crude death rates obtained from sample surveys
- ANNEX II. Fifteen tables on demographic statistics in the Compendium of Social Statistics : 1967

INTRODUCTION

1. This report summarizes the steps which have been taken to promote improvement of demographic statistics during 1965, 1966 and 1967, specifically since the thirteenth session of the Statistical Commission. Related documents to which reference is made for more detail on some of these promotional activities are E/CN.3/378 which contains a progress report on the United Nations 1970 Population and Housing Census Programmes, E/CN.3/388 which contains proposals for improvement of vital records and statistics systems and E/CN.3/380 which details progress in computerization of demographic statistics.

2. Measures taken for development and improvement of demographic statistics are set forth under four main headings which are the basic functions of the Statistical Office, viz, (A) Standard methods; (B) Standardization of classification schemes; (C) Collection, storage, retrieval and dissemination of statistics; and (D) Development-assistance activities.

A. STANDARD METHODS

I. Population statistics

(a) 1970 World Population Census Programme

3. The most important development bearing on the improvement of population statistics is the undertaking by the United Nations of the 1970 World Population Census Programme described in detail in E/CN.3/378. This project has as its core the formulation of standards (principles and recommendations) for the taking of population censuses between 1965 and 1974. These recommendations^{1/}, which are designed to facilitate improvement of population statistics and permit international comparison of the size, distribution and characteristics of population (including information on fertility from which birth rates can be estimated),

^{1/} Principles and Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 67.XVII.3).

were adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its forty-second session on 1 June 1967 in resolution 1215 (XLIII).

4. Promotion of census taking is another of the principal objectives of the Programme. The success of this aspect is detailed in E/CN.3/378 but suffice to say here that during 1965, 1966 and 1967, the first three years of the 1970 census decade, 49 censuses had already been taken by 47 countries. In the preceding seven years (1958-1964), one or more censuses had been held in 103 additional countries. Thus, if the goal of the census programme is to have, in every country of the world, a population bench-mark not more than ten years old, that goal may be said to have been reached by 72 per cent of the world's population living in 150 countries at the end of 1967.

5. Confirmation of the intention to take a census between 1968 and 1974, had been received from 127 countries by 31 December 1967. Precise plans for 6 countries have not yet been announced although it is assumed that they also will participate in the 1970 census programme; if they do, there is a potential total of 180 countries where censuses may be taken in the 1970 census decade. This should markedly increase the amount of current demographic data available for study.

(b) Sample surveys

6. Enumeration of population in a sample of households instead of in the whole universe, is becoming an increasingly popular method for obtaining estimates of population. Some of these surveys have been carried out as part of the inter-censal sample survey programme in an integrated system of data collection, the objective of which is to make current population data available at short-time intervals; others are first attempts at obtaining information on the size, distribution and characteristics of the population in countries where no census has ever been taken. The latter group are of special interest in the present context and a list of the countries which have provided the Statistical Office with population data based on the result of this type of survey is given in annex I.

7. As can be seen in annex I, household sample surveys have been used to obtain estimates of the size of population in 20 countries where no census has ever been taken. The methods used in these surveys have been briefly reported from time to time in Sample Surveys of Current Interest, the most recent issue of which is the eleventh report.^{2/} More detailed information on demographic sample surveys, not only on methods but also on the problems encountered and the success achieved in this particular type of survey, is being assembled in preparation for the workshop described in para. 8.

8. To exchange experience as a prelude to formulation of international guidelines, plans are being made to organize an interregional expert workshop on the methodology of demographic sample surveys. The workshop will take place in Denmark in 1969. Interest is widespread and it is hoped that the workshop will help produce international recommendations for carrying out this type of inquiry.

9. The Commission was informed at its last session of the publication of the provisional edition of the Handbook of Household Surveys: A Practical Guide for Inquiries on Levels of Living, the English edition in October 1964, the Spanish in January 1965 and the French in July 1965.^{3/} The Handbook, which is intended to serve as a guide for persons concerned with general (multipurpose) sample household surveys aimed at measuring several different aspects of levels of living conditions of population, contains three chapters which are of particular importance in relation to improvement of demographic statistics, namely, Chapter I on "The household as a unit of enumeration"; Chapter II "Demographic character-

^{2/} United Nations publication, Sales No.: 67.XVII.11.

^{3/} United Nations publication, Sales No.: 64.XVII.13.

istics", and Chapter IX "Conducting the household survey". The Handbook has been used as a training manual at the Latin American Workshop on Household Surveys conducted in Mexico in 1965^{4/} by the International Statistical Program Office of the United States Bureau of the Census in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development and the Inter-American Statistical Institute. A revision is contemplated for completion in 1970.

(c) Population registers

10. The Commission was informed at its thirteenth session that revision of the technical study on continuous population registers, which was issued in abbreviated form in 1962^{5/}, had been deferred pending receipt of additional information expected in connexion with a survey of vital statistics methods and from other sources. However, it now develops that maintenance of registers by computers has advanced to such an extent that the original study is seriously out-dated. Especially lacking is reference to the possibility of utilizing the automated registers to supplement or even replace the population census as a means of gathering certain demographic facts. In view of these developments it did not seem expedient to finalize the study in its original form and it was, therefore, deferred again until the application of electronic data processing (EDP) and the relationship of registers to censuses of population could be further explored.

11. Advantage is being taken of the background papers^{6/} and the discussions by the Conference of European Statisticians at its fourteenth session on maintenance of a population register by computer^{7/} as well as subsequent discussions by the

^{4/} United States Bureau of the Census, Atlántida : A Case Study in Household Sample Surveys, Unit I to Unit IX, Series ISPO 1. Nos. 1-A to 1-N. Washington, D.C., 1965.

^{5/} E/CN.3/293.

^{6/} Conf.Eur.Stats./237 and Add.1.

^{7/} Conf.Eur.Stats./246, paras. 105-112.

Conference's Working Group on Electronic Data Processing at its fifth session, held in Geneva, 6-10 March 1967,^{8/} on technical problems of setting up and maintaining a population register by computer. An International Symposium on Automation of Population Register Systems,^{9/} held 25-28 September 1967 in Jerusalem, was also scheduled to discuss problems of automation. The findings of these and other groups will be utilized in evaluating the utility of population registers for statistical purposes as requested by the Commission in resolution 6 (XII). Publication of the technical manual, up-dated and revised as indicated above, is now scheduled for 1968.

(d) Population projections

12. The possibility of setting up a uniform system of calculating and up-dating the principal kinds of demographic projections on a world-wide scale through the use of electronic computers is discussed in document E/CN.3/386.

II. Vital statistics

13. Projects designed to improve vital statistics have been included in the work programme approved by the Commission since 1947. In response to a Commission request at its fourth session^{10/}, a reference file of civil registration and other vital statistics methodology has been collected and maintained since 1950. Based on these data, recommendations for the improvement and standardization of vital records and statistics were developed, approved by the Commission at its seventh session and adopted by the Economic and Social Council in 1953.^{11/}

^{8/} Conf.Eur.Stats./WG.9/54, Annex I and II.

^{9/} Organized by the Informative Processing Association of Israel.

^{10/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Ninth Session, Supplement No.6 (E/1312), para. 74.

^{11/} Principles for a Vital Statistics System (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 53.XVII.8).

14. In the intervening years, the need for improving vital statistics and of experimenting with non-conventional methods of collection, was constantly reiterated by both the Statistical Commission and the Population Commission. These, as well as the regional economic commissions, have recognized that the 1970 World Population Census Programme will not produce the demographic data required for planning economic development and social advancement unless provision is also made for obtaining sound knowledge of current population growth rates. At its twelfth session, several members of the Statistical Commission emphasized this point and noted that because of differences in the degree of accuracy attained by the censuses, and because of real changes in fertility and mortality, it is unsafe to assume that the rates of growth observed between two successive censuses of population will continue unchanged into the future.^{12/} To establish the rate of natural growth, an adequate system of vital statistics must be established and maintained in each country. Thus, in 1965, with the 1970 World Population Census Programme well under way, the Statistical Commission turned its attention directly to vital statistics and requested the Secretariat to undertake, as an ad hoc project of high priority, a "study of the methods of developing vital statistics registration systems and of interim methods of providing vital rates by appropriate survey methods."^{13/}

(a) 1970 World Programme for the Improvement of Vital Statistics

15. Experience with the 1950 and 1960 World Population Census Programmes has shown that placing the problem in a framework for international development strategy is an efficient organizing principle. Therefore, the study recommended by the Commission has been undertaken as one part of a suggested "1970 World

^{12/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No.13, (E/3633), para. 76.

^{13/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No.13, (E/4045), para. 177 (20).

Programme for the Improvement of Vital Statistics". The goal of the Programme would be the establishment, in every country of the world by 1979, of a vital statistics system capable of producing reliable measures of population growth and the statistics needed for demographic research. The Programme would consist of seven major projects, viz (1) preparation of standards or recommendations; (2) provision of detailed guidelines or handbooks for implementing the standards; (3) the organization of seminars and working groups to exchange experience among higher level national officials; (4) promotion of training for middle- and lower-level national personnel; (5) provision of fellowships for training nationals abroad; (6) provision of technical experts on request, and (7) wide dissemination of the improved statistics with indications of how they may be used. If the Commission considers that this approach would be useful, it may wish to suggest that the Economic and Social Council adopt the following resolution:

1970 World Programme for the Improvement of Vital Statistics

The Statistical Commission

Requests the Economic and Social Council to adopt the following draft resolution:

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the report of the fourteenth session of the Population Commission, the report of the fifteenth session of the Statistical Commission and of resolution 14 (XIII) adopted at the latter's thirteenth session,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1710 (XVI) of 19 December 1961 on the United Nations Development Decade, which requests the Secretary-General to develop proposals for the intensification of action in the fields of economic and social development with particular reference to the "need to review facilities for the collection, collation, analysis and dissemination of statistical and other information required for charting economic and social development and for providing a constant measurement of progress towards the objectives of the Decade",

Further recalling its resolution 469 D (XV) which recommended to Governments that they "give attention to the importance of developing vital

statistics to meet demographic, economic, public health and social needs"^{14/}
and resolution 1084 (XXXIX) which endorsed "the recommendations of the
Population Commission..... on the long-range programme of work in the fields of
population, including its recommendations with regard to the increase and
improvement of demographic statistics....." and drew the attention of the
Statistical Commission "to the recommendations and suggestions of the Population
Commission relating to activities in their fields of interest",^{15/}

Recognizing the striking deficiencies in vital statistics, especially in
developing countries, and that these deficiencies in coverage and quality
represent a serious gap in world demographic knowledge required for analysing
the trends in population size and characteristics,

Being aware that vigorous efforts must be exerted by the United Nations,
the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and Member States to push
forward the development of reliable civil registers of vital events not only
for the statistical use of the records but also because they serve as legal
instruments for (1) proof of nationality, as provided in article 15 of the
Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted in 1948, (2) proof of name and
nationality as provided in article 6 of the Declaration of the Rights of the
Child adopted in 1959, (3) proof of marriage, consent to marriage and age at
marriage as provided in article 3 of the Convention on Consent to Marriage,
Minimum Age at Marriage and Registration of Marriage, opened for signature in
1962 and (4) proof of divorce as provided in its resolution 1068 F (XXXIX) of
16 July 1965,

^{14/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifteenth Session,
Supplement No.1, (E/2419), p.12.

^{15/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session,
Supplement No.1, (E/4117), pp.18-19.

Requests the Secretary-General to undertake a "1970 World Programme for the Improvement of Vital Statistics", utilizing every means at his disposal, including provision, on request, of technical assistance under the United Nations Development Programme,

Recommends,

1. That States Members of the United Nations undertake to establish a system of vital records and statistics, or to improve the existing system, to the level where it will yield reliable measures of natality, mortality, nuptiality and divorce, adequate to meet the needs of economic and social development planning and especially to provide the statistical base for planning the development and utilization of human resources as called for in Council resolution 1274 (XLIII).

2. That, in developing this system, the international recommendations be closely followed so that the resulting statistics will meet international standards as well as national needs.

3. That attention be paid to integrating the recommended vital statistics system into the general statistical system so that maximum utility may be obtained with minimum cost.

(b) Recommendations for the improvement and standardization of vital statistics

16. The Commission has before it, in document E/CN.3/388, draft proposals of recommendations for the improvement and standardization of vital statistics which have been prepared in pursuance of the first objective set forth in para. 15. These proposals are in effect a revision of the 1953 Principles for a Vital Statistics System^{16/}, but they are much broader in concept, in keeping with the views of the Commission which, at its thirteenth session had pointed out "that

16/ Op.cit.

the United Nations had a responsibility to promote the development of balanced programmes of vital statistics as part of an integrated system of data collection".^{17/} Thus, in its resolution 14 (XIII) the Commission requested the Secretary-General to sponsor "a programme of studies and research in sample household survey methods for obtaining demographic data, particularly in providing information on vital rates" and recommended "that States Members of the United Nations which do not yet have a reliable vital statistics system consider organizing sample survey and/or sample registration areas as interim measures while taking recommended long-range steps toward improving the entire vital records and statistics system".^{18/}

17. Moreover, the Population Commission at its thirteenth session had endorsed this view when it noted that current and retrospective data on fertility, and even on mortality, collected in censuses and surveys, appeared to supply better indications of levels of the birth and death rates than could be obtained through analytical techniques. (The countries which have supplied such rates are set forth in annex I). It was agreed, therefore, that these experimental methods should be encouraged and that developing countries should afford them high priority. It was also suggested that the results of such experiments should be given wide dissemination among developing countries in particular.^{19/}

18. In recognition of these viewpoints, the new recommendations deal with all sources of vital statistics in the context of an integrated system of data collection. They consider both the short-term methods of obtaining estimates

17/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No.13, (E/4045), para. 168.

18/ Ibid., para. 168.

19/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No.9, (E/4019), para. 80.

of vital rates as well as the long-range goal of establishing a co-ordinated system of vital records and statistics. In order to make the new recommendations available at the beginning of the United Nations Development Decade of the 1970's, when they can most effectively be implemented, it will be necessary to undertake wide circulation of the draft proposals for comment by Governments and the specialized agencies concerned. A suggested procedure is set forth in E/CN.3/388 for consideration of the Commission.

(c) Handbook of Vital Statistics Methods

19. Promotion of adoption of the recommendations proposed in E/CN.3/388 will require detailed guidelines which are usually made available in the form of a "handbook". The first edition of the Handbook of Vital Statistics Methods^{20/} was published in English in 1955, French and Spanish in 1957, in accordance with a Statistical Commission resolution at its fifth session.^{21/} Changes in the conventional vital statistics systems to meet changing needs during the decade, and introduction of non-traditional methods of obtaining vital statistics in countries where the conventional system is not yet able to produce reliable data for planning economic development and social advancement, make it necessary to revise the Handbook and bring it into accord with current proposals for improvement in the vital statistics system.

20. The preparatory work for the revision which was requested by the Commission in resolution 8 (XII), is already well under way and drafting will begin in 1968. The English edition of the revision should be available in 1968/69.

^{20/} United Nations publication, Sales No.: 55.XVII.1.

^{21/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eleventh Session, Supplement No.4, (E/1696/Rev.1), para. 88.

(d) Seminars and working groups on vital statistics

21. The exchange of experience in vital statistics methods, preparatory to revision of the recommendations, began with the second Inter-American Seminar on Civil Registration^{22/} and the African Seminar on Vital Statistics,^{23/} both held in 1964. The conclusions of these seminars were before the Commission at its thirteenth session and in its resolution 14 (XIII), the Commission requested the Secretary-General to support them.

22. During 1965-1967, regional meetings concerned with developing recommendations for the 1970 censuses of population were given priority, but beginning in 1968, vital statistics will again be the focus of regional activities. The first of these is a meeting in Latin America of the Subcommittee on Demographic and Housing Statistics of the Committee on Improvement of National Statistics of the Inter American Statistical Institute, scheduled for January 1968. In July 1968, an Asian seminar on civil registration and vital statistics is scheduled to take place in Copenhagen, Denmark. In Africa, a second African seminar on civil registration and vital statistics is in the programme of work for 1970 approved by the fifth Conference of African Statisticians.^{24/} Finally an inter-regional seminar on improving demographic statistics has been proposed to the United Nations Development Programme, also for 1970.

23. Three seminars which will exert influence on improving vital statistics while dealing with a much broader frame of reference are (1) the inter-regional seminar on application of demographic statistics and studies in development planning, scheduled for mid-1968; (2) an African seminar on the same subject to

22/ Final Report of the Second Inter-American Seminar on Civil Registration
(United Nations publication, Sales No.: 65.XVII.4).

23/ Final Report of the African Seminar on Vital Statistics. (United Nations
publication, Sales No.: 65.XVII.6).

24/ E/CN.14/405, para. 188.

take place from 4 to 13 November 1968; and (3) a European seminar on demographic statistics proposed for 1969. These seminars should provide abundant opportunity for the exchange of ideas at the regional level on the recommendations for the improvement and standardization of vital statistics described in para. 16.

III. Migration statistics

24. The current standards for international migration statistics are those endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in 1953 in resolution 469 E (XV).^{25/} These "Recommendations for the Improvement of International Migration Statistics" were first published in the report of the seventh session of the Statistical Commission.^{26/} Subsequently they were issued, together with information on problems of organization and operation and the use of sampling in International Migration Statistics.^{27/}

25. At its twelfth (1962) session, the Commission, in considering the standardization and improvement of comparability of international tourist statistics, "emphasized the importance of considering the movement of tourists as part of the total movement of persons across frontiers and therefore drew attention to the need of consistency between tourist statistics and statistics of migrants."^{28/}

26. At the same session, the Commission "emphasized the need for more quantitative information on international and internal migration"^{29/} and, in

^{25/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No.1, (E/2419), p. 13.

^{26/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No.5, (E/2365), annex 4.

^{27/} United Nations publication, Sales No.: 53.XVII.10.

^{28/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No.13, (E/3633), para. 131.

^{29/} Ibid., para. 79.

resolution 8 (XII), recommended "that methods of improving international migration statistics be studied".^{30/}

27. At its thirteenth (1965) session, the Commission requested the Secretary-General "to prepare for review by the Commission a study of methods and definitions suitable for use in the field of international travel statistics with a view to enabling the Commission to make recommendations for the improvement of statistics in this field".^{31/} In response to this resolution, an Expert Group on International Travel Statistics was convened in Geneva, 26-30 June 1967, and the results of their deliberations are before the Commission in document E/CN.3/385. In view of the fact that the Commission, also at its thirteenth session, reiterated its view "that data on the number of tourists formed part of the data on the total movement of persons across frontiers and that any definitions adopted should both be based on a consistent set of recommendations covering all types of international movements of persons"^{32/}, members may wish to request that the current "Recommendations for the Improvement of International Migration Statistics"^{33/} should be reviewed with a view to determining whether they could be made more useful to countries.

28. In this connexion, the Commission's attention is called to the fact that the Population Commission at its recent fourteenth session expressed the view that, although international migration was an integral, and important, component of population change, it was of limited interest to most countries. Some of the

^{30/} Ibid., para. 80.

^{31/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No.13, (E/4045), resolution 4 (XIII), para. 47.

^{32/} Ibid., para. 44.

^{33/} Op.cit.

few countries which have a large volume of international border traffic have made significant progress in developing a system of national statistics to meet their needs. But it was felt that because of their lack of universal interest and usefulness, international migration statistics systems could probably be developed and improved only at the national, or perhaps, regional level. On the other hand, the Population Commission expressed interest in developing methods of measuring internal migration.^{34/}

B. STANDARDIZATION OF CLASSIFICATION SCHEMES

29. Among the steps taken to make demographic statistics compiled by different countries more comparable and useful is the development of international standard classifications for various attributes such as age, marital status, industry, occupation and cause of death and the forging of links between the different systems of statistics in respect of these and other characteristics. Standard classification schemes for most personal characteristics have been set forth in the Principles and Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses^{35/}, in the Principles for a Vital Statistics System^{36/} and in International Migration Statistics^{37/}; among these are three widely used classification schemes which have been the subject of major revision during 1965-1967. Developments in these three areas as well as in the work on a classification of educational attainment, are described in paras. 30-39 below.

I. International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC)

30. At its thirteenth session the Commission, in connexion with its consideration of the revision of the System of National Accounts, observed "that a

^{34/} Draft Report of the Fourteenth Session of the Population Commission (United Nations document E/CN.9/L.81/Add.3, para. 45).

^{35/} Op.cit.

^{36/} Op.cit.

^{37/} Op.cit.

thorough review of the ISIC was necessary, involving detailed study of requirements and practices in the industrial classification of a wide range of statistics". ^{38/} Among the field of statistics for which the standard classification has been recommended are (1) population census statistics^{39/}, (2) demographic sample survey statistics^{40/}, and (3) vital statistics. ^{41/} Revision of the ISIC should, therefore, take account of the requirements of these data, especially its use in the 1970 round of population censuses both for tabulation of industry and in connexion with the development of a classification of socio-economic status.

31. Work on an interim revision of ISIC as required for use in the revised system of national accounts began during 1966. The Commission now has before it E/CN.3/359 which contains the proposed revision, and it may wish to consider whether the proposal meets the needs of the 1970 population censuses and related demographic statistics both for tabulation of economically active population by industry and for studies of economic differentials in natality, mortality and nuptiality. These are aspects relating directly to the proposed study of statistics of manpower and population in relation both to systems of national accounts and balances and to the needs for such data on programming and planning recommended by the Commission at its thirteenth session.^{42/}

^{38/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No.13, (E/4045), para. 106.

^{39/} Principles and Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses, op.cit., para. 222.

^{40/} Handbook of Household Surveys : A Practical Guide for Inquiries on Levels of Living, op.cit., chapter VII, p. 81.

^{41/} Principles for a Vital Statistics System, cp.cit., para. 309 (12).

^{42/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No.13, (E/4045), para. 177 (13).

II. International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO)

32. This classification has been recommended for use in tabulating population census results^{43/}, demographic sample survey results^{44/} and vital statistics.^{45/}

33. A revised version of this classification^{46/} prepared by the International Labour Office was adopted by the eleventh International Conference of Labour Statisticians in October 1966. The proposed revision was presented to the Conference as report III and annex II to that report. An English edition of the revised ISCO is scheduled for publication in 1967; French and Spanish editions will follow in 1968.

34. Provision has been made by the ILO for continuous research on occupational classification problems, guidance to countries in application and interpretation of ISCO and assistance to countries in developing their national occupational classification schemes. In view of the intimate link of this classification to demographic statistics, the Commission may wish to emphasize the need for strict co-ordination in its application among the various fields of statistics.

III. International Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death (ICD)

35. This is the classification recommended in the Principles for a Vital Statistics System for tabulation of causes of death.^{47/} The latest (eight) revision was adopted by the nineteenth World Health Assembly in May 1966, with

^{43/} Principles and Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses, op.cit., para. 247.

^{44/} Handbook of Household Surveys, op.cit., chapter VII, p.81.

^{45/} Principles for a Vital Statistics System, op.cit., para. 309 (22).

^{46/} International Standard Classification of Occupations, International Labour Office publication, Geneva, 1958.

^{47/} Op.cit., para. 410 (e).

effect from 1 January 1968.

36. Development of the eighth revision began early in the 1960's. In 1965 the International Conference for the Eighth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases was convened by the World Health Organization in Geneva. The Conference considered final proposals concerning the revised classification, which has been prepared by the WHO Expert Committee on Health Statistics on the basis of suggestions from its own Sub-Committee on Classification of Diseases and from a regional advisory committee on classification in the Americas. In its report, the Conference made the following recommendations:^{48/}

1.2 ... that the revised Detailed List of Categories and Sub-Categories shown in annex 2 constitute the Eighth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases.

2.1 ... that no change of substance be introduced in the International Form of Medical Certificate of Cause of Death; that the International Form be reviewed in respect of editorial improvement; and that explicit definitions be given in the Manual of the items in the Medical Certificate of Cause of Deaths. Further recommends that countries who have not already done so make provisions in the death certificate for obtaining information on the type and circumstances of violent deaths. The Conference also discussed the variations bound to exist in stating the cause of death in respect of completeness, accuracy and reporting habits. It noted with satisfaction the studies made or being made on the national and international level and considered it desirable that such studies be undertaken with a view to increasing the reliability of the basic data and to improve medical certification of cause of death.

^{48/} WHO/HS/8 Rev.Conf./11.65.

2.2 ... that WHO revise the Intermediate List of 150 Causes and the Abbreviated List of 50 Causes and circulate them to countries for comment before deciding their final form and including them in the Manual. The Conference considered that a longer list of 250 to 300 titles might well be included in the Manual for optional use.

2.3 ... that WHO re-examine the Nomenclature Regulations taking into account the above comments, and any further proposals put forward by Member States, and prepare revised draft regulations for submission to the World Health Assembly.

37. The report of the International Conference for the Eighth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases was examined by the nineteenth World Health Assembly which met in Geneva from 3 to 20 May 1966 and the detailed list of three-digit categories and optional four-digit subcategories recommended by the Conference were adopted, with effect from 1 January 1968. The publication by WHO of a new edition of the Manual of the International Classification of Diseases^{49/} was authorized and the English edition was published in 1967; it will be followed shortly by versions in French, Spanish, Portuguese and Russian.

IV. WHO Nomenclature Regulations

38. The twentieth World Health Assembly, which met 8-26 May 1967 in Geneva, adopted a text constituting a revision of the WHO Nomenclature Regulations relating to diseases and causes of death. The original Regulations were adopted in 1948 as a means of securing comparability between the morbidity and mortality

^{49/} Manual of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries, and Causes of Death, based on the Seventh Revision Conference 1955 and adopted by the ninth World Health Assembly under the WHO Nomenclature Regulations, Geneva, 1957.

statistics compiled and published by Member States. The mandatory requirements under the Regulations have now been reduced to a minimum and concern mainly the type of death certificate and the use of the International Classification of Diseases. Various technical matters relating to the reporting of health statistics have been removed from the Regulations and included in a series of recommendations, the text of which was also adopted by the Assembly, to afford guidance to Member States pending the preparation of a compendium of recommendations, definitions and standards that is to appear in due course.^{50/}

V. International Standard Classification of Education (ISCE)

39. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is developing a standard classification system for levels of educational attainment and educational qualifications for use inter alia in promoting development of an adequate statistical base for studies of future supplies of and needs for different skills. Since benchmark statistics of the educational characteristics of population come from the population censuses, this classification is of importance in connexion with the 1970 censuses as producers of data for educational planning. The new classification, which is compatible with ISIC and ISCO, has been published in provisional form in English, French and Russian.^{51/}

C. COLLECTION, STORAGE, RETRIEVAL AND DISSEMINATION

I. Collection

40. During 1965-1967 collection of demographic statistics (including international migration statistics) from Governments continued to be carried out by annual and monthly questionnaires and by searching of official literature.

^{50/} WHO Chronicle, Volume 21, No.8. August 1967, p.333.

^{51/} International Standard Classification of Education, UNESCO draft 2 - SS/2309/18/10/66 (English); 67-68/ST/13 000/46 1315 (French and Russian).

Expansion of the collection programme was undertaken in 1966, efforts being directed particularly towards obtaining urban/rural differentials, and series which are needed for constructing population projections for the urban and rural segments separately.

(a) Urban/rural data

41. The special inquiry undertaken was a request for the data in each table in the Demographic Yearbook questionnaires to be provided separately for urban and rural population. As of 30 November 1967, the number of countries which had supplied data on population by sex and urban/rural residence (national definitions) numbered 135. Population by age, sex, and urban/rural residence was available for 98 countries. Most of these data come from population censuses and they have been published in the 1962, 1963 and 1964 Demographic Yearbooks.

42. This is a commendable showing for population statistics but, when one examines availability of birth and death statistics by urban and rural residence, it is evident that there are not enough data on which to construct projections of urban and rural population separately. Total births for the latest year are available separately for urban and rural populations for 36 countries only; corresponding total deaths are available for 30 countries while infant deaths are so subdivided in only 20 countries. Births by age of mother separately for urban and rural populations are available for 13 countries while deaths by age, sex and urban/rural residence were submitted by only six countries. All other combinations are available for less than 5, and often only one country had supplied the data in the form requested.

43. This inventory may be seriously deficient in that countries may well have these data though they have not supplied them on request. Nevertheless, it would appear that the series of vital statistics by urban/rural residence are available for relatively few countries.

(b) Revision of collection programme

44. The current collection programme was established by the Statistical Commission at its second session when it approved^{52/} an outline of the contents recommended by the Population Commission at its second session.^{53/} The 48 general topics approved at that time have been expanded somewhat in response to special needs (see paras.4-43 above), but the problem of manually processing and maintaining data files, as well as producing manuscript by hand, has limited the extent to which additional data could be collected.

45. With the inception of the computerization project described in E/CN.3/380, the possibility of changing the collection programme for demographic statistics both in method and content arises.

46. The first change which has been contemplated is a revision of the annual Demographic Yearbook questionnaires to adapt them to computer processing. At the same time, consideration is being given to the possibility of receiving, from such Governments as are in a position to supply them, the tapes containing national tabulations of population and vital statistics. Such a collection programme would automatically place at the disposal of international agencies and Member States not only the limited types of data now requested but, in addition, a large number of tabulations not yet included in the collection programme. It is anticipated that this change in the collection programme might be initiated in 1970.

II. Co-ordination

47. Standard arrangements exist for routinely supplying demographic statistics and related procedural information basic to their operations, to

^{52/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixth Session, Supplement No.3, (E/577), para. 28.

^{53/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixth Session, Supplement No.4, (E/571), chapter III and annex A.

members of the United Nations family. Selected pages from the Demographic Yearbook questionnaires are Xeroxed on receipt and copies are sent to WHO, the ILO, FAO and UNESCO, as well as to the regional economic commissions and the Pan American Health Organization. However, this is a burdensome procedure which may well be replaced by exchange of tapes when computerization of demographic statistics is on a routine basis.

III. Storage

48. Official demographic statistics for every country and territory in the world have, since 1948, been transcribed manually from their source to data cards which were then filed according to subject matter. Beginning in 1966, computerization of these files began; a detailed report on progress in this activity is contained in E/CN.3/380.

IV. Evaluation of quality

49. All demographic statistics which are received in the Statistical Office questionnaires or obtained from national publications and other sources are rigorously scrutinized and checked for consistency with similar data already stored in the files. Efforts are made to resolve differences and discontinuities by reference to additional sources or by correspondence with the Government concerned. However, for such general purpose figures as total population, special efforts must be made in order to meet the increasing demand for internally consistent and current series for each country in the world.

50. Mid-year estimates of total population are among the series collected from Governments monthly, quarterly and annually, and time series back to 1920 are maintained in the files. However, by virtue of the method by which they are made, estimates constructed prior to an enumeration of a population may well be out of line with the results of censuses. Moreover in some countries, post-censal estimates continue to be constructed on the outdated base and using the same time adjustment as were used for the pre-censal estimates and they, therefore, also may be incompatible with the most recent census result.

51. To replace those found to be defective, as well as to fill gaps where reliable data are completely lacking, official series are being carefully evaluated by the Population Division of the United Nations and new series of total population are being deduced if required, using generally accepted and scientifically sound statistical methods. During the past two years, United Nations estimates of this type have been brought to the attention of the country concerned and subsequently they have been published in the Demographic Yearbook and other publications of the Statistical Office, suitably identified to distinguish them from official figures.

52. The amount of analytical evaluation that can be carried out is severely limited when these techniques have to be applied manually. As demographic statistics are computerized, it is anticipated that attention will be able to be given to establishing better and longer time series for more countries. This will automatically help improve national statistics as well as international comparability.

V. Dissemination

(a) Demographic Yearbook and related publications

53. Up to the present, selected official demographic statistics have been up-dated and published monthly in the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, quarterly in the Population and Vital Statistics Report and annually in the Demographic Yearbook. These have included official census results, sample survey results, estimates of population, vital statistics from registers and from census-type inquiries, as well as migration statistics - all accompanied by qualifying codes and technical notes. One new development, introduced in 1965, was the publication of United Nations estimates of mid-year population when official figures were either lacking or obviously out of line with confirmed census results (see para.51 above). This new procedure was adopted in order that there might be available internally consistent and standard time-series of population

for every country in the world - series which could be used by other agencies within the United Nations family as well as by others. This policy also makes it possible to compute vital rates for countries and years where, heretofore, a population base was lacking.

54. The Commission was informed at its thirteenth session that the 1965 Demographic Yearbook would feature natality statistics for the first time since 1959 and that the 1966 issue would feature population trends, including migration. The 1965 issue, with statistics of natality as its special topic, was published in 1966; however, since mortality statistics had not been presented in depth since 1961, it was decided to concentrate in the 1966 issue on that field rather than on population, and the eighteenth issue, published in October 1967, reflects this change. Moreover, because of the large amount of mortality data available, it was not possible to accommodate all of them in the number of pages authorized by the Publications Board for the eighteenth issue and it will, therefore, be necessary to feature mortality statistics again in the nineteenth (1967) issue. Special emphasis will be given in the 1967 issue to seasonal mortality and to urban/rural differentials in so far as the latter are available (see para. 42).

(b) Future plans for dissemination

55. The rotation policy used in the Demographic Yearbook, provides for featuring natality, mortality, nuptiality or census results periodically, ideally every five years, while each issue carries time trends, age/sex distributions, deaths by cause, expectation of life and area. However, it has become increasingly clear that this policy is not adequate to meet the need. Results of population censuses, being available only periodically, can usefully be published on a rotation basis but justice cannot be done to vital statistics which are available annually. It appears necessary, therefore, to find a way of incorporating additional data of more complexity in each Demographic Yearbook

or to find another solution. The Demographic Yearbook as presently constituted cannot meet the need, but a solution may be found in a subscription-type service which might be possible when data are fully computerized.

56. In such a scheme, print-outs of the most recent data available as well as trends on selected subjects could be made available periodically (perhaps monthly) on either a subscription or an ad hoc basis to accredited institutions and persons. This type of service is completely impossible under present circumstances, with the result that users of fertility, mortality or nuptiality statistics, for example, who depend on the Demographic Yearbook, have access to detailed cross-classifications only once in five years. Moreover, if collection could be made by exchange of national tapes (see para.46), it would be possible to increase the types of data which could be made available.

57. The role of the Demographic Yearbook in the dissemination programme would then need to be reconsidered.

(c) Compendium of Social Statistics : 1967

58. The Commission was informed at its thirteenth session that the Compendium of Social Statistics : 1963^{54/} was published in April 1963 in concert with, though not part of, the Report on the World Social Situation - 1963.^{55/} At an interagency statistical co-ordination meeting held in New York, 11-12 May 1964, where the question of future issues of the Compendium was raised, it was suggested that the next issue be co-ordinated with the 1967 Report on the World Social Situation. The Statistical Commission approved this time-table at its thirteenth session and plans were made for a second issue, scheduled for

^{54/} Compendium of Social Statistics : 1963 (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 63.XVII.3).

^{55/} Report on the World Social Situation 1963 (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 63.IV.4).

publication in October 1967. Unfortunately, delays in preparation of fair copy have postponed publication until 1968.

59. The primary purpose of the Compendium, as expressed by the Statistical Commission at its eleventh session, was to bring together "the basic statistical data required for describing the major aspects of the social situation in the world and the regions" and to "serve to a certain extent as a guide to the objectives which it would be desirable for the less developed Member States to attain in the field of statistics for social programmes".^{56/} Hence, the content of the second (1967) edition of the Compendium is approximately the same as the 1963 issue, suitably up-dated and country coverage extended in so far as possible. Population base data and indicators are shown in 15 of the 62 tables while vital statistics appear in 6 more; the names of the 15 demographic statistics tables are given in annex II.

D. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

60. Both the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1054 B (XXXIX) on the 1970 World Population and Housing Census Programmes^{57/} and the Statistical Commission in resolution 14 (XIII) on Vital Records and Statistics^{58/} called upon the United Nations to provide assistance to countries which require or request technical help in developing or improving demographic statistics systems. These resolutions have guided the formulation of technical assistance

^{56/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No.12, (E/3375) para. 90.

^{57/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No.1, (E/4117).

^{58/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No.13, (E/4045).

projects in demographic statistics provided by the United Nations during 1965, 1966 and 1967. This assistance has taken various forms including inter alia (1) organization of regional meetings and seminars for exchange of information, (2) provision of regional advisers and resident experts, (3) assistance in connexion with training activities and (4) provision of fellowships for training abroad. Activities in these areas carried out during 1965, 1966 and 1967 are set forth below. Inter-regional activities are described first, followed by those organized for each region.

I. Inter-regional

(a) Inter-regional meetings

(1) World Population Conference

61. The second World Population Conference held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia from 30 August to 10 September 1965 under United Nations auspices discussed methods of improving demographic statistics at a number of sessions, chief of which were meetings B-6 "Methods of obtaining basic demographic measures where data are lacking or defective", and B-7 "New developments in measurement and analysis of factors of population growth and structure". These discussions are summarized in Volume I of the Proceedings;^{59/} a fuller presentation is found in Volume III.^{60/}

(b) Advisory services

(1) Inter-regional statistical adviser (demographic statistics)

62. On 1 February 1967, the services of an inter-regional adviser in demographic statistics were made available for short-term missions (up to

^{59/} Proceedings of the World Population Conference, Belgrade, 30 August-10 September 1965. Volume I: Summary Report (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 66.XIII.5), pp.65-73 and 88-102.

^{60/} Op.cit., Volume III: Projections, Measurement of Population Trends (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 66.XIII.7), pp.121-266.

three months) as requested. For the first year, this adviser will concentrate on requests from Africa and the Middle East and will, therefore, have his temporary headquarters in Addis Ababa. As of 31 December 1967, the adviser had completed missions to Cameroon, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Ethiopia, Lebanon, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Zambia and United Arab Republic.

(2) Inter-regional adviser on computer methods

63. Beginning January 1967, an inter-regional adviser on data processing by computer has been in post, with duty station in New York. His services are available to assist countries inter alia in processing population and vital statistics.

II. Africa

(1) Fourth Conference of African Statisticians

64. In addition to the recommendations made on the 1970 census programme described in E/CN.3/378, the fourth Conference of African Statisticians, meeting from 8 to 16 November 1965, adopted the recommendations of the African Seminar on Vital Statistics which were brought to the attention of the Statistical Commission at its thirteenth session (E/CN.3/334, paras. 20-23 and annex II). The Conference felt that registration of all vital events should be compulsory and that the registration of births and deaths should be given priority although that of other events should not be discouraged.^{61/}

65. The fourth Conference of African Statisticians also considered a working paper entitled "Statistical Development in Africa" (E/CN.4/CAS.4/17/Dev/1) which

^{61/} E/CN.4/CAS.4/17, paras.95-100.

had in appendix II a list of statistical series basic for planning purposes. Among these are a number of demographic series.

(2) Fifth Conference of African Statisticians

66. The fifth Conference, which met 30 October-10 November 1967, approved the "African Recommendations for the 1970 Population and Housing Censuses"^{62/} and, in addition, discussed vital and migration statistics. They re-iterated their belief that complete and accurate civil registration should remain the ultimate goal, but pending this, the Conference considered it desirable to use alternative methods as interim means of obtaining vital statistics. They also recommended that a second African seminar on civil registration and vital statistics be held around 1969.^{63/}

(3) Seminar on Housing Statistics and Programmes for Africa

67. The fourth regional seminar on housing statistics and programmes sponsored by the United Nations and the Government of Denmark was held in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 1 to 16 September 1966. It was attended by thirty-two participants from twenty-three countries in Africa. At this Seminar a list of the statistics required for the formulation and execution of housing programmes was drawn up and, among the statistics discussed, demographic statistics had a prominent part.

68. It was brought out that the role of demographic statistics in housing programmes is primarily to serve as benchmark and background figures from which other developments are projected. In its recommendations, the 1966 African seminar, while recognizing the importance of these, noted that there are serious gaps in the basic demographic data in many parts of the African

^{62/} E/CN.14/CAS.5/CPH/9 and E/CN.14/CAS.5/CPH/10, respectively.

^{63/} E/CN.14/405, paras. 138-139.

region and that there is also a major question of the reliability of the data which are available. They recommended that improvement in standards go hand in hand with extension of the scope of demographic inquiries in the region. The draft report of the seminar is available as E/CN.14/CAS.5/16.

(4) Expert group on education and training of statisticians (Africa)

69. An expert group on education and training of statisticians in Africa met from 13 to 21 January 1966 in Addis Ababa to discuss training of official statisticians to meet the needs of the African countries in the administration and planning of their economic and social development. Recognizing the urgent need for additional training facilities, the group's basic recommendations were first that an institute of economic and social statistics should be established for English-speaking trainees attached to one of the universities, preferably in East Africa, and secondly that existing facilities should be extended.^{64/} A proposal to establish the institute at Makerere University College in Kampala, Uganda, is now being prepared for submission to the United Nations Development Programme.

(5) African Population Conference

70. A population conference was held in Ibadan, Nigeria, 3-7 January 1966, sponsored by the University of Ibadan and the Population Council with the participation of the United Nations. It served to stress the need for improvement in African demographic statistics to 115 delegates from all parts of the world. A report will be published in February 1968 under the title "The Population of Tropical Africa".

^{64/} "Report of the Expert Group on Education and Training of Statisticians in Africa" (United Nations document E/CN.14/353 - E/CN.14/CAS.5/2), para.29.

(b) Advisory services

(1) Regional statistical advisers

71. A regional statistical adviser (demographic statistics) has been in post, attached to the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), since 1961. During 1965, 1966 and 1967, she gave assistance once or more on request to the following countries: Algeria, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, Tunisia, United Arab Republic and United Republic of Tanzania. A second adviser joined ECA, 15 October 1967, primarily to assist Governments to train national personnel for the 1970 censuses of population and housing.

72. A regional statistical adviser (sampling) has been attached to ECA since 1961. He has been active in helping to design sample surveys throughout the region.

(2) National advisers

73. A total of approximately 470 man-months of assistance in demographic statistics was provided in long-term (one year or more) missions during 1965-1967 to 15 countries in Africa, as follows:^{65/}

Algeria:	Expert in population census methods.
Dahomey:	Expert in vital and health statistics supplied by WHO.
Ethiopia:	Three experts in sample household surveys. Expert in vital and health statistics supplied by WHO.
Ghana:	Expert in vital statistics.
Guinea:	Expert in population census.

^{65/} This does not include the services of 26 United Nations experts in statistical organization in the region who are concerned inter alia with demographic statistics.

Ivory Coast:	Expert in vital and health statistics supplied by WHO.
Kenya:	Expert in sample surveys.
Morocco:	Expert in demographic statistics. Two experts in vital and health statistics supplied by WHO.
Niger:	Expert in vital and health statistics supplied by WHO.
Nigeria:	Expert in demographic statistics.
Senegal:	Expert in vital and health statistics supplied by WHO.
Somalia:	Expert in sample surveys and two associate experts.
Sudan:	Expert in population and housing censuses. Two experts in household sample surveys and two associate experts.
Tunisia:	Expert in population census.
United Republic of Tanzania:	Expert in population census. Two experts in vital and health statistics supplied by WHO.

74. Requests for expert assistance are at hand for 1968 from Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Togo, Upper Volta and Zambia.

(c) Training centres

(1) Regional

Cameroon:	Centre International de Formation Statistique in Yaoundé; director, fellowships and lecturer provided by the United Nations.
Ethiopia:	Statistical Training Centre at Addis Ababa; director and fellowships provided by the United Nations.
Ghana:	Statistical Training Centre at Achimote; director and fellowships provided by the United Nations.

United Arab Republic: North African Centre for Demographic Research and Training in Cairo; sponsored by the United Nations.

United Republic of Tanzania: East African Statistical (Middle Level) Training Centre at Dar es Salaam; director and two lecturers provided by the United Nations.

(2) National

Ivory Coast: Ecole Nationale de Statistique d'Abidjan.

Morocco: National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics in Rabat; project manager, consultant, and seven lecturers (of which one is in demographic statistics) and fellowships provided by the United Nations.

(d) Fellowships

Madagascar: Fellowship in population census methods.

United Arab Republic: Fellowship in household surveys for standard of living.

III. Asia and the Far East

(a) Regional meetings

(1) Sixth Conference of Asian Statisticians

75. In the area of demographic statistics, the sixth session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians, 16-29 March 1965, was concerned primarily with the report of its Working Group on Censuses of Population and Housing. After a thorough discussion, the Conference approved the report and endorsed inter alia a number of recommendations on the 1970 census programme described in E/CN.3/378 and two on other demographic statistics, which are as follows:

"(f) That steps be taken to improve current population and vital statistics in the region;

"(g) That a working group be convened to discuss migration statistics".

76. The view was expressed that preparations for the 1970 censuses should include organizing and improving the collection of current data on population change, i.e., vital statistics and migration statistics which are complementary to the data collected at the census for computing various vital rates, indices of life expectancy and population estimates and projections. In view of their importance it was agreed that steps should be taken to improve vital statistics and migration statistics and, in so doing, to maintain a link with the censuses of population and housing through compatible definitions, concepts and classifications in order to promote their utilization for analytical and evaluation purposes.^{66/}

77. The importance of intercensal work on the estimation of population and its growth rate and the experience gained in organizing sample surveys or sample areas of registration of vital events as well as long-range measures toward improvement of the entire system of vital statistics, led the Conference to recommend that a seminar or working group be convened to discuss this subject.^{67/} Plans are being made to hold such a seminar in July 1968 in Copenhagen under the sponsorship of the Government of Denmark and the United Nations.

78. In addition to these specific references to demographic statistics, the Conference recommended the publication of Basic Statistics for Formulating and Implementing Plans of Economic and Social Development in the Countries of Asia and the Far East, and the publication was issued in 1965.^{68/} This list of statistical series and their uses was designed to assist countries in developing

^{66/} E/CN.11/686, paras.125-127.

^{67/} Ibid., para. 247.

^{68/} United Nations publication, Sales No.: 65.II.F.8.

an integrated system of statistics and it contains inter alia basic population and vital statistics.

(2) Seventh Conference of Asian Statisticians

79. The Conference, attended by fifty-five representatives from 24 ECAFE countries, was held 13-24 June 1966. In reviewing statistical development in the region, the Conference noted the advances in population census taking and also the efforts to initiate sample surveys and more adequate systems of data collection as a means of improving and extending more frequent collection of data. The Conference emphasized the importance of co-ordinating and linking these methods of collection in terms of coverage, concepts, classification, etc.

80. The Conference also recommended that a seminar on organization and conduct of population and housing censuses should be held in 1967 (held), a working group on migration statistics in 1967 (deferred) and a seminar on civil registration and vital statistics in 1968 (scheduled).^{69/}

(3) Eighth Conference of Asian Statisticians

81. The Conference held in Sydney, Australia from 11-21 September 1967, urged countries to participate in the 1970 World Population and Housing Census Programmes and to make continued and concerted efforts to improve registration of vital events. It also stressed that periodic demographic surveys should be carried out by countries to assess demographic changes.

82. Recognizing the importance of bringing together planners and statisticians, the Conference urged that a seminar to discuss statistics needed for economic and social development planning be organized in 1969.^{70/}

^{69/} E/CN.11/741, paras. 23, 24, 184.

^{70/} E/CN.11/801, paras. 138-141.

(4) Seminar on Sampling Methods

83. A Seminar on Sampling Methods which inter alia explored in depth the application of sampling to demographic statistics, was convened in Tokyo, Japan, 30 August to 11 September 1965, by the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) in co-operation with the Statistical Office, the International Labour Office, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations. In addition to the use of sampling in population censuses, the sample household survey approach to collecting demographic data was explored and recommendations were made also for the use of sampling in controlling the quality of census and survey data,^{71/} and application to the vital statistics registration system received considerable attention.^{72/}

(5) Expert group on education and training of statisticians (Asia)

84. An expert group on the education and training of statisticians in the ECAFE region met in Bangkok from 25 to 31 January 1966. After reviewing the current provisions for training, the group recommended that an Asian institute for the development of statistics should be established to supplement the flow of professional statisticians coming from national universities and other sources (E/CN.11/L.150, para.16). As of 8 April 1967, Tokyo had been chosen as the site for the Asian institute for training and research in statistics and a request is being prepared for submission to the United Nations Development Programme.

^{71/} Report of the Seminar on Sampling Methods (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 66.XVII.5), paras. 72-102 and 170-194.

^{72/} Ibid., paras. 103-119.

(b) Advisory services

(1) Regional statistical advisers

85. On 1 July 1966, the services of a statistical adviser (demographic statistics) were made available to the ECAFE region for short-term (up to three months) missions as requested. This adviser rendered assistance to Frunci, Cambodia and Nepal.

86. A regional statistical adviser (sampling) has been attached to ECAFE since March 1965 and late in 1967, a regional adviser in data processing was provided under bilateral aid.

(2) National advisers

87. A total of approximately 100 man-months of assistance in demographic statistics was provided in long-term (one year or more) missions during 1965, 1966 and 1967 to five countries of the region as follows:^{73/}

Afghanistan:	Expert in population census methods. Associate expert in census methods.
Burma:	Expert in vital and health statistics provided by WHO.
Cambodia:	Expert in population census methods.
Indonesia:	Expert in population census methods.
Viet-Nam, Republic of:	Expert in vital and health statistics provided by WHO.

(c) Training centres

(1) Regional

India:	International Statistical Education Centre (ISEC), Calcutta, sponsored by the International Statistical Institute and UNESCO.
--------	--

^{73/} This does not include the services of five United Nations experts in statistical organization in the region who are concerned inter alia with demographic statistics.

- India (cont.): Demographic Training and Research Centre at Chembur, Bombay, assisted by the United Nations.
- Lebanon: International Statistical Education Centre (ISEC), Beirut, sponsored by the International Statistical Institute and UNESCO to serve the Middle East.
- Viet-Nam, Republic of: Sub-regional training centre for Laos, Cambodia and Viet-Nam, begun in 1967.
- (2) National
- Kuwait: Institute of Economic and Social Planning in the Middle East; one lecturer provided by the United Nations.
Planning Institute for Economic and Social Development; one instructor provided by the United Nations.
- (d) Fellowships
- China (Taiwan): Two fellowships awarded for study of population statistics.

IV. Europe

1. Regional meetings

(a) Thirteenth Conference of European Statisticians

88. The Conference, 18-22 October 1965, discussed preparations for the 1970 population and housing censuses, described in E/CN.3/378. It also drew attention to the need for and possibilities of greater co-ordination between concepts, definitions and classifications used in population censuses and those used in various types of current statistics. It pointed out that the development of a framework of demographic, labour force and employment statistics integrated with or related to a system of national accounts would facilitate the co-ordination of work on population and housing censuses.^{74/}

^{74/} Conf.Eur.Stats./230, para.40.

(b) Fourteenth Conference of European Statisticians

89. The Conference, 3-7 October 1966, approved the work on population censuses and also requested the Secretariat to investigate the possibilities of arranging a regional seminar for consultations between demographers and statisticians to study statistical requirements of demographers, the best methods of collecting the data needed and suitable priorities for statistical development in this field.^{75/} The Conference also discussed at length population registers and their statistical use as well as the possibility of using electronic data processing techniques for record linkage, i.e., to merge data from different sources with the aid of a common identification number.^{76/}

(c) Fifteenth Conference of European Statisticians

90. The discussion of the Conference, 19-23 June 1967, on population census matters is reviewed in E/CN.3/378; the gist of which was that the tabulation programme proposed by the group of rapporteurs should be reviewed by the working group to ensure that it constitutes a minimum which all countries will be able to carry out in full or to a large extent.

91. The Conference indicated priority topics and among these included the study of the integration of demographic, labour and social statistics in a comprehensive framework for planning purpose, including the relationship to systems of national accounts. The Conference approved a meeting on current population statistics tentatively scheduled for 1969/70 and also one on statistics of international movement of persons.^{77/}

^{75/} Conf.Eur.Stats/246, para.38. A proposal was made to the United Nations Development Programme to organize this seminar in 1968 but, because of lack of resources, it will be considered for 1969.

^{76/} Ibid., paras. 105-112.

^{77/} Conf.Eur.Stats/253, paras.41, 160 and annex III.

(d) Seminar on Organization and Conduct of Population Censuses

92. The European Regional Seminar on the Organization and Conduct of Population Censuses, which took place in Turkey in June 1965, discussed inter alia the application of sampling methods to the collection, tabulation and evaluation of population censuses and survey statistics and intercensal sample inquiries relating to population.^{78/}

(e) European Population Conference

93. The Conference, which met in Strasbourg, France, from 30 August to 6 September 1966 under sponsorship of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, had four terms of reference proposed by the Assembly of the Council in 1963, one of which [I.(d)] dealt with improvement of statistics, viz "In agreement with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, to put forward any practical suggestions for synchronizing population censuses in member countries of the Council of Europe and standardizing the definitions in general use for such surveys".^{79/}

94. The Conference also made a number of recommendations concerned with the need for demographic research and one recommendation No.9, on improvement of population statistics. This recommendation had four parts: part I was a recommendation on statistical data in general and was in terms of making available "fuller and more varied comparable data"; the second part recommended the inclusion in the census of population of a question on "children born alive to married, divorced and widowed women".^{80/}

^{78/} Report of the United Nations European Regional Seminar on Organization and Conduct of Population Censuses (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 67.II.E/Mim.13).

^{79/} Official documents of the European Population Conference, volume 1, p.6.

^{80/} Ibid., Recommendations, document CDE (66) Rec.9.

2. Fellowships

Greece: Four fellowships were awarded for study of population census methods and two for sample household survey methods.

V. Latin America

1. Regional meetings

(a) Subcommittee on Demographic and Housing Statistics

95. The first session of the Subcommittee on Demographic and Housing Statistics of the Committee on Improvement of National Statistics (COINS) of the Inter American Statistical Institute (IASI) met in Washington, D.C., 10-21 January 1966. The agenda of the meeting was concerned primarily with regional recommendations for the 1970 cycle of population and housing censuses (see E/CN.3/378), but it also included discussion of the application of sampling and national household sample surveys.^{81/}

(b) First Conference of Commonwealth Caribbean Government Statisticians

96. The Conference, which met 23-29 June 1966 in Trinidad and Tobago with participants from seven Governments in the subregion, promulgated four recommendations (numbers 9-12) on the 1970 censuses of population (see E/CN.3/378) and numbers 14-21 dealing with vital statistics, as follows: (14) training and supervision of district registrars, (15) training procedures and materials, (16) public information programmes on vital registration, (17) assistance to countries in the region in the preparation of their vital statistics reports, (18) data processing of vital statistics, (19) periodic assessments of the completeness of reliability of civil registration data, (20) the need for caution in considering changes to the registration system and (21) future regional projects in vital statistics. Two additional recommendations (22 and 23)

^{81/} Report on the first session of the Subcommittee on Demographic and Housing Statistics. Hectographed first draft, IASI document 5121a.

dealt with uniform procedures for the collection of international travel statistics and migration statistics.^{82/}

(c) Second Conference of Commonwealth Caribbean Government Statisticians
97. This Conference, held 11-13 May 1967 and 27 July-3 August 1967 in Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana, was attended by representatives of 12 countries in the sub-region. The first part was concerned with plans for the 1970 censuses of population and housing and the possibilities of area co-operation. Neither vital nor migration statistics were discussed.

(d) IX Session of the Committee on Improvement of National Statistics (COINS)
98. The ninth session of COINS (of the Inter-American Statistical Institute) which met 17-20 October 1967 in Caracas, was concerned inter alia with (a) the regional recommendations for the 1970 population and housing censuses, (b) the Inter-American Program of Basic Statistics (PIEB) and (c) national household sample surveys. Its actions in regard to the 1970 censuses are reported in E/CN.3/378, annex II. After consideration of changes in the sections on population and housing of PIEB proposed by the Subcommittee on Demographic and Housing Statistics, it was recommended that the IASI Secretariat revise sections I and II of PIEB so as to include those tabulations recommended as of highest priority for the 1970 population and housing censuses which were not already included in PIEB. Finally, stress was laid on the importance of household sample surveys in the region. It was recommended that countries of the region not using such surveys, or not using them for their entire territory, should begin, as soon as possible, the regular collection of up-to-date national information on the volume, change, characteristics and composition of the

^{82/} Report of the First Conference of Commonwealth Caribbean Government Statisticians, 23-29 June 1966, Port of Spain, Trinidad. (The C.S.O. Printing Unit, Trinidad and Tobago), pp.5-6.

population, employment and unemployment, income, education, housing and other social and economic attributes, by conducting regular sample household surveys, giving priority to the investigation of the matters contemplated in the "Urgent Program" recommended by the fifth Inter-American Statistical Conference.

(e) Pan-American Assembly on Population

99. The first Pan-American Assembly on Population, sponsored by the Universidad del Valle (Colombia) and the American Assembly, Columbia University, New York City, met 11-14 August 1965 in Cali, Colombia, with seventy-five participants from twenty-three countries. The Assembly agreed on a statement which included a recommendation that "American Governments should assign high priority to the improvement of collection, processing and analysis of demographic and related data".^{83/}

2. Advisory services

(a) Regional statistical advisers

100. Since August 1962, the services of a regional statistical adviser (demographic statistics) has been available, attached to the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), for short-term (up to three months) missions as requested. During 1965, 1966 and 1967 this adviser worked in Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela.

101. A regional statistical adviser (sampling) has been attached to ECLA since September 1962, except for nine months of 1965.

(b) National advisers

102. A total of 44 man-months of assistance in demographic statistics was provided in long-term (one year or more) missions of experts during 1965, 1966

83/ Final Report of the First Pan-American Assembly on Population.
Recommendation (2).

and 1967 to four countries of the region as follows:^{84/}

Jamaica: Expert in demographic and social statistics.
Panama: Expert in civil registration and vital statistics.
Peru: Expert in civil registration and vital statistics.
Venezuela: Expert in census cartography.

103. A request for expert assistance in census methods is at hand from Mexico.

3. Training centres

(a) Regional

Chile: Inter-American Statistical Training Centre (CIENES) sponsored by the Inter-American Statistical Institute and the University of Chile, continues to offer courses in economic and social statistics.

Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE), in Santiago, assisted by the United Nations.

(b) National

Trinidad and Tobago: Training Course in Population Statistics; two lecturers provided by the United Nations.

4. Fellowships^{85/}

Trinidad and Tobago: One fellowship for study in census and survey methods.

VI. Oceania

104. National advisers

Western Samoa: Expert on population census methods who has served since August 1966.

^{84/} This does not include the services of two United Nations experts in statistical organization in the region who are concerned inter alia with demographic statistics.

^{85/} Excludes those provided for study at CELADE.

ANNEX I

List of countries which have provided the Statistical Office of the United Nations with estimates of population, crude birth rates and crude death rates obtained from sample surveys

An "x" indicates that the estimate was provided; a dash "-" indicates that an estimate was not provided; three dots "... " indicate that no information is available.

Continent, country and date of sample survey	Estimates provided		
	Population	Crude birth rate	Crude death rate
AFRICA			
1. Burundi			
African population			
1952	x	x	x
1954 . . . . .	...	x	-
1955 . . . . .	...	x	-
1956 . . . . .	...	x	-
1957 . . . . .	...	x	x
25 II-31 VII 1965	x	x	x
2. Cameroon			
African population			
East Cameroon			
North Cameroon Division			
1-VI 1960	x	x	x
East and Central Divisions			
III-XI 1962	x	x	x
West Cameroon			
I 1964-I 1965	x	x	x
3. Central African Republic			
African population			
1959-1960	x	x	x
4. Chad			
African population			
XII 1963-VIII 1964	x	x	x

...
/...

Continent, country and date of sample survey	Estimates provided		
	Population	Crude birth rate	Crude death rate
AFRICA (cont'd.)			
5. Congo (Brazzaville)			
African population			
IX 1960-II 1961	x	x	x
6. Congo (Democratic Rep. of)			
African population			
1950 . . . . .	...	x	x
1951 . . . . .	...	x	x
1952 . . . . .	...	x	x
1953 . . . . .	...	x	x
23 V 1955-II 1958	x	x	x
7. Dahomey			
African population			
25 V-30 IX 1961	x	x	x
8. Gabon			
1960-1961 ^{a/}	x	x	x
9. Ghana			
VI-VII 1960 ^{b/}	x	x	x
10. Guinea			
African population			
15 I-31 V 1955	x	x	x
11. Ivory Coast			
African population			
XI 1957-1958	x	x	x
12. Kenya			
African population			
1962 ^{c/}	-	x	x
13. Lesotho			
1956	-	x	x
14. Madagascar			
1966	x	-	-
15. Mali			
1957-1958 ^{d/}	-	x	x
15 VI 1960-V 1961	x	x	x

Continent, country and date of sample survey	Estimates provided		
	Population	Crude birth rate	Crude death rate
AFRICA (cont'd.)			
16. Mauritania			
XII 1964-XII 1965	x	x	x
17. Morocco			
1962	x	x	x
18. Niger			
X 1959-III 1960	x	x	x
19. Rwanda			
1952	x	-	x
1954 . . . . .	...	x	-
1955 . . . . .	...	x	-
1956 . . . . .	...	x	-
1957 . . . . .	...	x	x
20. Senegal			
1957-58 ^{e/}	x	x	x
IV 1960-VIII 1961	x	x	x
21. Southern Rhodesia			
1948	x	x	x
1953-55	x	x	x
22. Sudan			
17 I 1956	x	x	x
23. Togo			
1961	x	x	x
24. Uganda			
African population			
1948	-	x	x
1959	-	x	x
25. Upper Volta			
30 IX 1960-			
22 IV 1961	x	x	x
26. Zambia			
1950	x	x	x

Continent, country and date of sample survey	Estimates provided		
	Population	Crude birth rate	Crude death rate
ASIA			
27. Cambodia			
IV 1959	x	x	x
28. India			
1963-64 ^{f/}	-	x	x
29. Laos			
1965 . . . . .	...	x	x
30. Pakistan			
1962 ^{g/}	-	x	x
1963 ^{g/}	-	x	x
31. Sikkim			
1954 . . . . .	...	x	x
32. Thailand			
1964 ^{h/}	-	x	x
OCEANIA			
33. British Solomon Islands			
9 XI 1959	x	-	-
34. New Guinea			
20 VI-9 VII 1966	x	-	-
35. Papua			
20 VI-9 VII 1966	x	-	-

Foot-notes

- a/ Sample survey conducted at time of 8 X 1960-V 1961 census.
- b/ Post-censal sample survey.
- c/ Post-censal sample survey.
- d/ Sample survey of seventy-nine villages and three urban centres in Vallée du Niger.
- e/ Sample survey of seventy-seven rural villages and five urban centres in Esse Vallée.
- f/ National Sample Survey.
- g/ Population Growth Estimation Project (PGE).
- h/ Birth and death rates based on data collected by the Survey of Population Change in Thailand and application of the "Chandra-Deming Formula".

ANNEX II

Fifteen tables on demographic statistics in the Compendium of Social Statistics: 1967 a/

1. Population increase rates by urban and rural residence: latest intercensal period.
2. Percentage distribution of total, urban and rural population, by sex and age: two latest available censuses.
3. Percentage distribution of male and female population in selected age groups by marital status: two latest available censuses.
4. Percentage distribution of population by urban and rural residence: two latest available censuses.
5. Sex ratio of population by size of localities: two latest available censuses.
6. Percentage distribution of population by size of locality: two latest available censuses.
7. Population increase rates by size of locality: two latest available censuses.
8. Number and per cent of population dependent on agriculture: latest available data.
9. Birth, death and natural increase rates: annual averages 1950-1954, 1955-1959, 1960-1964; and 1965.
10. Infant, neo-natal and post-neonatal mortality rates: annual averages 1950-1954, 1955-1959, 1960-1964; 1965.
11. Expectation of life for males and females at birth and at ages one, fifteen and sixty-five: two latest decennial values.
12. Per cent of deaths which occur at fifty years of age and over (proportional mortality ratios): annual averages 1950-1952, 1957-1959, 1960-1962; 1963 and 1964.
13. Childhood death rates, age one to four years, by sex: annual averages 1950-1952, 1957-1959, 1960-1962; 1963 and 1964.
14. Per cent of deaths due to infectious and parasitic diseases: annual averages 1950-1952, 1957-1959, 1960-1962; 1963 and 1964.
15. Per cent of population economically active by age and sex: two latest available censuses.

a/ Compendium of Social Statistics: 1967 (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 67.XVII.9). In press.