

**Statistical Commission
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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda

Items for information: Population and housing censuses

**Background document
Available in English only**

2006 AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

**“THE 2010 ROUND OF POPULATION AND HOUSING
CENSUSES”**

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

30 JANUARY - 2 FEBRUARY 2006

**COORDINATION FUNCTION OF THE UN ECONOMIC
COMMISSION FOR AFRICA (UNECA) IN THE 2010
ROUND OF POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES**



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The UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has the mandated responsibility to monitor and evaluate the implementation of internationally agreed development goals such as those outlined in the Millennium Declaration.

In line with the resolutions taken by the 2006 Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD) held in Cape Town, South Africa, 30 January – 2 February 2006 (refer to Document **ASSD2006/04**), the coordinating function and mandate of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has been outlined by Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, Executive Secretary of the UNECA at the Symposium.

The UNECA will endeavour to:

1. Be actively involved in regional and global process of strengthening population statistical capacity of member States;
2. Coordinate the regional review of a set of accepted international principles and recommendations governing the conduct of censuses in Africa;
3. Conduct expert group meetings and workshops in support of the implementation of these international principles and recommendations;
4. Lead member States to build consensus on critical issues relating to the 2010 round of population and housing censuses;
5. Assist member States, in collaboration with other UN agencies to prepare multi-pronged “Advocacy Strategies” that will sensitize and create interest in censuses among potential stakeholders;
6. Work with member States to sensitize international donors to the importance of valid statistics, gender disaggregated data, and census data in particular for the development of African countries. This will help mobilize that can be used to implement the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses;
7. Support member States in the areas of capacity building in the fields of data collection, utilization and dissemination;
8. Promote South-South cooperation and help member States to share experience and transfer knowledge at the regional level and sub-regional levels;
9. Assisting member States to conduct censuses on a regionally coordinated basis, i.e. jointly conducting preliminary preparations and the training of personnel; and

10. Promoting the use of new technologies in census operations.
11. ECA committed taking action in collaboration with regional and sub-regional organizations and other stakeholders to help establish reliable National Statistics Systems to meet increased demands for reliable statistics