

1998/7. Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1995/7 of 19 July 1995 in which it urged Member States to carry out population and housing censuses during the period 1995–2004,

Taking into account the report of the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination on its nineteenth session, held in New York from 10 to 12 February 1998,²¹ which, *inter alia*, addressed the prospects for the 2000 round of population and housing censuses,

Emphasizing the importance of up-to-date population and housing census information for the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development²² at the country level and for decision-making by Governments on a wide range of policy issues,

Mindful of the technical limitations of sample surveys as vehicles for the collection of data on adult mortality, and recognizing that methods exist for the collection of data on deaths in households in the course of a population census,

1. *Invites* Governments to give priority to the planning and undertaking of the next population and housing census;

2. *Recommends* that countries lacking adequate vital-statistics systems give due consideration to the collection and analysis of data in the 2000 round of population censuses for the estimation of levels of mortality;

3. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, donor Governments, through multilateral and bilateral mechanisms, and non-governmental organizations to

provide the necessary support to those countries in need in respect of undertaking such censuses, including the building of national capacity in this field.

*40th plenary meeting
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²⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 17 (E/1997/37)*, chap. IV.

²¹ E/CN.3/1999/20.

²² *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.