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Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

March 2005

**TECHNICAL REVIEW MEETING ON  
WORLD PROGRAMME FOR THE CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE 2010  
Rome, Italy, 9-10 March 2005**

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**ANNOTATED AGENDA**

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**I. INTRODUCTORY ITEM**

**Item 1. Opening of the Meeting**

**II. TECHNICAL ISSUES BEFORE THE MEETING**

**Item 2. Overview of the New Agricultural Census Programme**

A new approach is being proposed, with greater emphasis being given to conducting agricultural censuses within the framework of the agricultural survey programme, and the agricultural census being used as a frame for the agricultural surveys. The aim is to help link agricultural censuses and surveys to enhance the usefulness of the data. It is envisioned that countries will undertake their agricultural censuses in modules, rather than as single one-off exercises. The core module, preferably based on complete enumeration, will provide a limited range of key data required by national policy-makers and for sample frame construction. One or more sample-based supplementary modules will also be implemented to provide more detailed data. This approach will reduce costs and allow countries to collect a greater range of data than in previous censuses. The new programme also provides for the collection of infrastructure data at the community level.

**Item 3. Data Items (Summary of Comments from Divisions)**

Technical divisions of FAO have been asked to review the items proposed for inclusion in the WCA2010, their concepts and definitions and their priorities for Complete Enumeration and Sample Enumeration. ESSS will present a summary of this review. (Divisional representatives will be invited to this session).

#### **Item 4. Co-ordination of Population and Agricultural Censuses**

The new programme emphasizes the need to consider the Agricultural Statistics Programme within the National Statistics Programme. There is also a need to coordinate the population and agricultural censuses to optimize the use of scarce resources and maximize the value of the data. Improved coordination can be achieved through (a) use of standard/common concepts and definitions (b) sharing operational materials (c) using the population census to provide a frame for the agricultural census (d) coordinating the 2 data collection operations (e) collecting key agricultural data in the population census (f) linking data between the two censuses.

#### **Item 5. Classifications for Agricultural Census**

This session will look at the use of international classification systems in the agricultural census programme and, in particular, the attention will be given to position of aquaculture in the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC). The objectives and principles of classifying crop, livestock, machinery and land use for the purpose of collecting and reporting data through the agricultural census will also be discussed.

#### **Item 6. Feasibility of Concept of Sub-holding/Sub-holder**

The Meeting will consider the introduction of these new concepts into the WCA2010 to provide greater detail on the day-to-day management and decision making process within the holding. In particular, these new concepts are designed to better define the role of women in agriculture.

#### **Item 7. Use of Cut-Offs for Defining Operational Holdings**

The question of cut-off size limits in defining the agricultural holding and other exclusions from the census will be discussed with a view to evolving a set of practices which will lead to generation of internationally comparable data.

#### **Item 8. Role of Agricultural Census in Monitoring of MDGs, and Measurement of Household Food Security and Poverty**

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and their associated targets and indicators provide a framework for sustainable economic growth, with the focus on reducing poverty, ensuring food security and enhancing human rights. This session will consider the extent to which the agricultural census can be used to help in monitoring the MDGs, and discusses issues in the design of agricultural censuses to meet MDG needs. It will also consider the role of the thematic modules in monitoring MDGs.

#### **Item 9. Community-Level Data**

Collection community-level data, usually at the village or the commune levels, can be especially useful, mainly for examining the infrastructure and services available to holdings. Data on whether the community is prone to natural disasters or subject to seasonal food shortages may also be of interest. A community-level collection may also cover agriculture-

related data not able to be collected from holdings, such as the area of communal land. Often, the community-level data complements the holding-level data; for example, data on the existence of farmers' associations may be collected at the community level to complement data on participation in those associations collected from each agricultural holding. This session will look at including at collecting community-level data as part of the agricultural census programme.

#### **Item 10. Inclusion of Aquaculture in the Agricultural Census**

Previous agricultural census programmes only recommended the inclusion of aquaculture activities carried out by those units that are also engaged in crop and livestock production. For the 2010 round of agricultural censuses, the option is provided to expand the scope of the census to cover all aquaculture production activities. Countries are urged to include aquaculture in their agricultural censuses, if there is a demand for such data.

#### **Item 11. Rural versus Agricultural Census**

The focus of traditional agricultural censuses has been to cover the agricultural holdings, economic units carrying out agricultural production activities. This session discusses the issues to be considered by countries if they wish to widen the scope of the agricultural census to include other households, such as households living in rural areas or households working in the agricultural industry. Items for discussion are: the importance of considering the use of the population census or existing surveys to provide these data and the conceptual and operational problems in extending the scope of the agricultural census.

#### **Item 12. Themes for Agricultural Survey Programme**

The WCA2010 envisions the agricultural census being the central component of the national system of agricultural surveys. The agricultural survey programme would, therefore, be developed around the agricultural census. This session will look at possible thematic areas and discuss how these can best be integrated into the system of agricultural surveys.

### **III. CONCLUDING ITEMS**

#### **Item 13. Summary and Conclusions of the Meeting**

The experts will consider and adopt the summary and conclusions of the Meeting.

#### **Item 14. Closing of the Meeting**