

CONCEPT NOTE AND DRAFT PROGRAMME

Regional Workshop on the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Censuses International Standards and Contemporary Technologies

12-15 March 2019 SESRIC Headquarters, Ankara – Turkey

1 **Background**

The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) has been implementing the 2020 Programme of Population and Housing Censuses which acknowledges population and housing censuses as one of the main sources of data for effective development planning and objective decision-making, particularly in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This programme aims to improve the capacity of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) in planning and management of population and housing censuses. In this context, *SESRIC* and *UNSD* are collaborating to provide a technical support to OIC member countries in conducting population and housing censuses according to international recommendations and guidelines.

The UNSD has been undertaking the process of revising and updating the major international standards for population and housing censuses. The UNSD has revised the following three main international guidelines: (i) *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 3*; (ii) *Handbook on Management of Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2* and (iii) *Handbook for Population and Housing Census Editing Revision 2*. These revised international guidelines aim to introduce new concepts, definitions and classifications related to population and housing topics and contemporary methodologies and technologies used in conducting censuses.

Furthermore, taking into consideration the significant change in the way that population and housing censuses are conducted due to the use of electronic data collection technologies, the UNSD, in close collaboration with the United Nations Regional Commissions and the NSOs that have implemented these technologies in their censuses, prepared *Guidelines on the Use of Electronic Data Collection Technologies in Population and Housing Censuses*. This document aims to strengthen the capacity of NSOs on efficient use of electronic data collection technologies, particularly the use tablets and the Internet, for improving data quality and timely dissemination of census results. The Guidelines would help countries to get better understanding of the cons and pros of adoption of these technologies in conducting censuses, how to make informed decisions on appropriate technologies and efficiently use these technologies in census data collection and monitoring.

2 **Purpose and Expected Outcomes**

For providing a technical support in the implementation of the 2020 round of censuses, UNSD organized and conducted a series of regional workshops to promote the revised principles and recommendations and methodological guidelines on conducting population and housing censuses. In this context, *SESRIC* and *UNSD* will organize a series of *Regional Workshops on the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Censuses: International Standards and Contemporary Technologies* in the course of 2019 and 2020. The current Workshop aims to help OIC member countries in achieving a common and improved understanding of the process of adopting new technologies/methodologies in conducting population and housing censuses and collecting data according to internationally recommended definitions and classifications. This Workshop will also provide a platform to discuss good practices among OIC member countries and potential challenges and risks that have to be taken into consideration for the successful adoption of contemporary technologies in censuses.

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3 **Target Groups**

The Regional Workshop targets two types of audiences; census operational managers and IT experts responsible in planning, designing and management of census operations. SESRIC will extend invitations to two participants from selected NSOs of OIC member countries.

4 **Draft Programme of the Regional Workshop**

The 4-day workshop will cover the following substantive topics:

- Essential features, basic definitions and census methodologies
- Key considerations for planning and management of census operations
- Definitions and classifications of the recommended population and housing topics
- Planning and implementing a census geospatial programme
- Adoption of electronic data collection technologies
 - Main drivers and decision-making process
 - Data collection with handheld devices
 - Data collection with Internet
 - Multi-mode data collection
- Management Information System
- Data processing with a focus on editing process and applications

5 **Working Language**

The working language of the Regional Workshop is English only.