

**High-level Seminar
on Population Censuses and Migration Statistics in CIS Countries**

**Overview of the 2010 census round in the UNECE region and the process of
preparation for the 2020 round**

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In the framework of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses, all countries were asked to conduct at least one population and housing census in the period from 2005 to 2014. In the UNECE region it is expected that by the end of 2014, all countries will have successfully conducted a census, with the exceptions of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine (where a census is planned in 2016) and Uzbekistan.

With regard to census methodology many UNECE countries, particularly in the European Union, are moving away from the traditional census to alternative methods like register-based or combined census, that is based on data from registers plus a partial field data collection. The internet census is increasingly used to complement or even replace the traditional paper questionnaires as part of traditional or combined censuses. The alternative census methodologies may help improving data quality and coverage, and reducing processing time. Some of them in the medium or long term may also result in costs savings.

The UNECE has promoted a regional review of the 2010 census round and started the preparations for the 2020 round, aimed at producing by 2015 new Recommendations of the Conference of European Statisticians. An online survey on national practices in the 2010 round was conducted in early 2013. The results were used by the UNECE Steering Group on censuses and nine Task Forces to prepare a series of papers on the review of the 2010 round and proposals for the new census recommendations. These papers were discussed at an expert meeting in Geneva in early October 2013. Based on the outcome of this discussion, the draft new census recommendations will be prepared and discussed at a new expert meeting in October 2014. This work is promoted by UNECE in close coordination with the United Nations Statistics Division that is responsible for the preparation of the global Principles and Recommendations for the 2020 round of censuses.
