

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**  
**CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS**

**Workshop on Population and Housing Censuses**  
(Geneva, 4 October 2013)

**INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS**

The Workshop will be held in room VII at the Palais des Nations, Geneva

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) are organising a Workshop on Population and Housing Censuses for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia, in partnership with the Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat) and with financial support from the Russian Federation and UNFPA.
2. The Workshop will take place on 4 October 2013, back-to-back to the meeting of the UNECE-Eurostat Group of Experts on Population and Housing Censuses planned from 30 September to 3 October 2013.
3. The Workshop will be held in room VII (third floor, nearest entrance Door A11 and C6) at the Palais des Nations, Avenue de la Paix 8, Geneva. Information on the purpose and agenda of the Workshop is given in sections II and III below.

**II. PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP**

4. The main purpose of the Workshop is to provide an opportunity to census managers and experts from countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia to discuss their experiences with the census of the 2010 round, the difficulties they found in implementing the CES Recommendations, and their needs in view of the preparations for the 2020 census round. The target audience of the workshop includes managers and experts responsible for census planning and management in national statistical offices. The participants need to be familiar with census management processes in their respective agencies. The training workshop will be a combination of presentations and discussions where all participants are expected to participate actively. Participants will be required to provide general information on the population and housing census in their country.

**III. CONTENT AND AGENDA OF THE WORKSHOP**

5. In the first part of the workshop, the participating countries will be invited to share their experiences in the 2010 census round, highlighting in particular the difficulties they found, and problems in implementing the CES Recommendations. International experts will facilitate the discussion, helping finding possible solutions to the problems emerged also based on the experience of other countries.

6. In the second part, countries will be invited to share their plans or even tentative ideas for the next census of the 2020 round, with particular attention to the possible adoption of alternative census methodologies, or the introduction of new census technologies.

7. Finally, the participating countries will have an opportunity to discuss common issues relevant for the preparation of the new CES Recommendations for the 2020 census round. This session will complement the discussion that will take place at the meeting of the Group of Experts on Population and Housing Censuses (from 30 September to 3 October 2013), but it will be more focused on the particular context of the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia.

8. The tentative agenda of the workshop includes the following substantive items:

Morning:

- Opening, presentation of workshop's objectives
- Overview of 2010 census round in countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
- Short report by participating countries on 2010 round census, including innovations, successes, problems and lessons learnt
- General discussion

Afternoon:

- Tentative plans for next (2020 round) census
- General discussion about plans for 2020 round census
- Issues relevant for the preparation of the new CES Recommendations for the 2020 census round
- Countries' needs in view of the 2020 census round
- Conclusions

9. The updated version of the agenda and other documents related to the workshop will be posted on the UNECE website at: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2013.10.census2.html>

#### **IV. PARTICIPATION, ACCREDITATION AND REGISTRATION FOR THE WORKSHOP**

10. The workshop is organised primarily for experts from countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. Participants from other member countries of the United Nations, specialized agencies of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations may also participate, according to the terms of reference of UNECE (E/ECE/778/Rev.3, paras. 11, 12 and 13). All delegates must be accredited by the competent authority of their country or international organization.

11. All participants should register for the workshop by completing the attached registration form and sending it to the UNECE secretariat (email: [social.stats@unece.org](mailto:social.stats@unece.org) or fax: +41 22 917 0040) **by 30 August 2013**.

12. All participants attending the workshop are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas should be made as soon as possible at the Embassy of Switzerland in the country in which the participants reside, with reference to the Workshop on Population and Housing Censuses. If necessary, the UNECE secretariat can provide a letter to facilitate obtaining a visa (fax: +41 22 917 0040 or e-mail: [social.stats@unece.org](mailto:social.stats@unece.org)).

13. In order to enter the Palais des Nations, all participants need to obtain a security pass (ID badge). For this purpose, please present yourself with your passport and the original registration

form at the UN Security Identification Office at the Pregny Gate of the Palais des Nations (Avenue de la Paix 14, 1210 Geneva; buses 8, F, V, Z and 28, stop Appia). The Security Identification Office is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (non-stop). For identification and security reasons, delegates are requested to wear their security badges at all times while inside the Palais des Nations.

14. Maps of Geneva and information for visitors to the Palais des Nations are available on the following web page: <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>. The same web page includes a map of the Palais des Nations (click on “UN Map”) with indication of the UN Security Identification Office at the Pregny Gate entrance.

## **V. DOCUMENTATION, METHODS OF WORK AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE MEETINGS**

15. The working languages of the workshop are English and Russian, simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the two languages.

16. The documents for the workshop will be made available as soon as received on the web page of the workshop: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2013.10.census2.html> .

17. Participants in the workshop are encouraged to download the papers from the website and bring their own copies to the workshop. Documents posted on the website before the workshop will not be distributed in the conference room.

## **VI. ACCOMMODATION**

18. Participants are requested to make their own accommodation arrangements. The UNECE secretariat in Geneva is not in a position to provide such services to participants. Participants are advised to book hotel accommodation well in advance of the meeting since available rooms are limited due to other meetings and events taking place in Geneva during the month of October. The following information is also available:

- The closest hotel to Palais des Nations is the 5-Star Intercontinental.
- Cornavin, Suisse, Les Nations are four-star hotels and within 7-10 minutes to the Palais des Nations by buses 8, 5, 28, F, V, Z and tram 15.

19. There are several three-star and four-star hotels near Cornavin, the main train station. These hotels are moderate in price and are 10 minutes by bus or tram and 25-30 minutes on foot from the Palais des Nations. Examples include: Eden, Manotel, Mon Repos, des Alpes, International and Terminus, Montana, Savoy, Suisse, and Windsor. Newly opened hotel Ibis Geneve Centre Nations is in Grand Pre is in 5 minutes by bus.

## **VII. FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN GENEVA**

20. Geneva International Airport now offers incoming passengers a free ticket for public transport. The free tickets are available from a machine in the airport’s baggage collection area and allow you to use any public transport (train, tram, bus) in Geneva and surrounding areas for a period of 80 minutes. Look for the machine pictured below after collecting your luggage and before walking out through the customs area.



21. The Geneva Airport is approximately 4 kilometres from the city centre. The train is the most efficient way to get into the city. Follow the signs to the airport railway station from the arrivals area. All trains leaving from the airport stop at the central Geneva-Cornavin station. The journey takes six minutes. The buses 5 and 28 will bring you from the airport to the Place des Nations.

22. Taxis are readily available from the airport. They are metered, so costs will vary, the journey from the airport into the city centre will usually cost around CHF 30.

23. When checking-in at your hotel you should receive a free [Geneva Transport Card](#), enabling you to use the entire Geneva public transport system free of charge throughout your stay.

24. Tourist and public transport information is available at the [Unireso](#) information desk in the airport arrival hall after you go through customs. More information on Geneva's free public transport initiative is available from:

- Public transport from Geneva Airport: <http://www.gva.ch/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-62/>
- Free Geneva Transport Card: <http://www.geneve-tourisme.ch/en/useful-information/how-to-get-around/geneva-transport-card/>

## VIII. CURRENCY

25. The exchange rate of the euro and the Swiss franc is now around 1.20 francs per 1 euro and is subject to daily market fluctuations. For conversion rate please consult <http://www.ubs.com/1/e/index/bcqv/calculator.html>. Currency exchange facilities are available in the city centre and at the UBS bank branch at Palais des Nations, located on the ground floor of C building (door C6). It is open from 08:30 to 16:30, with no lunch break, from Monday to Friday.

## IX. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

26. Should you have any questions regarding the information provided above, please contact:

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