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**Economic Commission for Europe**

## Conference of European Statisticians

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**Migration and ethno-cultural characteristics****Migration and ethno-cultural characteristics - Draft text for  
the Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations  
for the 2020 census round****Note by the UNECE Task Force on Migration and ethno-cultural  
characteristics***Summary*

This document presents the draft text on migration and ethno-cultural characteristics for the new Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Censuses. It was prepared by the UNECE Task Force on Migration and ethno-cultural characteristics based on the first proposal discussed at the September 2013 meeting of the UNECE-Eurostat Group of Experts on Population and Housing Censuses, and on further discussion within the task force and with the UNECE Steering Group on Population and Housing Censuses.

**NOTE:** The present version of the document shows, using the “track changes” function, the changes between the text of the CES Recommendations for the 2010 census round, and the draft text of the CES Recommendations for the 2020 census round. It should be noted that the order of some topics within the chapter was changed between the 2010 and the 2020 census round recommendations. I

## I. International and internal migration

### A. Introduction

~~359. Two~~ 1. International and internal migratory movements are generally increasing in both complexity and volume. Particularly in the case of international migration, measurement of the stocks and flows of migrants may need to take account of multiple movements between source and host country or circular movements involving more than one foreign country. International migration also brings diversity resulting in multi-ethnic, multi-racial and multi-linguistic societies.

2. National legal frameworks and specific country contexts need to be considered when planning and conducting the enumeration of migratory populations, and when developing concepts to capture their characteristics and attributes.

3. In general, the recommendations for the 2020 census round are intended to provide a comprehensive guide to collecting information on the key migration characteristics: country of birth, country of citizenship, country of previous usual residence, time of arrival, and reason for migration, as well as a range of other information on internal migration. This is regardless of whether countries are collecting census data using questionnaires, data from registers or other sources.

4. There are two different aspects relevant for migration that can be identified through the census:

(a) Measurement of stocks and in-flows of international migrants and other groups relevant to international migration, with information on timing and geographical patterns of their international migrations; and

(b) Measurement of stocks and flows of internal migrants, with information on timing and geographical patterns of their internal migrations.

#### 1. Population Groups Relevant to International Migration

~~3605.~~ Two population groups relevant for international migration are usually identified in population censuses: among the persons having usual residence in the country: the foreign-born population and foreigners~~the foreign population~~<sup>1</sup>.

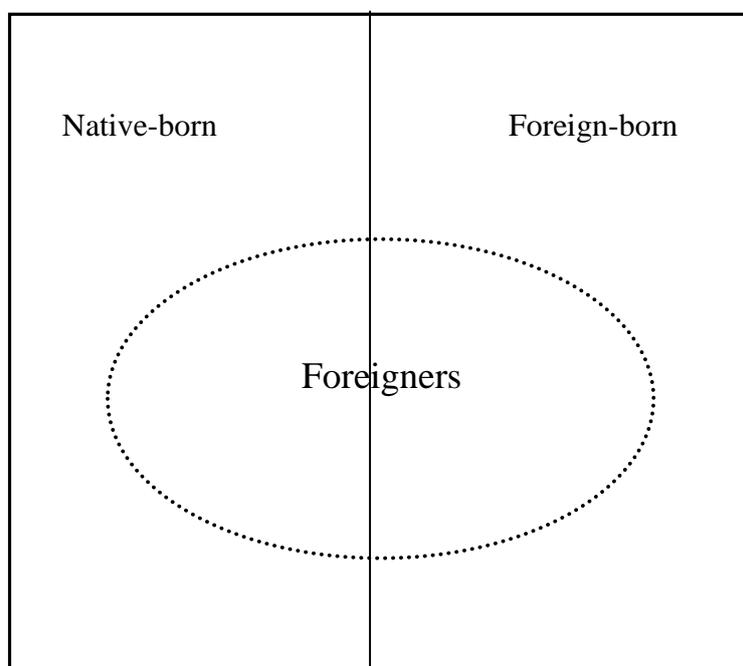
~~3646.~~ Foreign-born population: this is the group of persons ~~who were born~~whose place of birth is located in another ~~country~~country. This group corresponds to the stock of international migrants that migrated at least once in their life and reside outside of their country of birth at the time of the Census. Persons born in the country are defined as "native-born:"

~~362. Foreigners~~<sup>7</sup>. Foreign population: this is the group of persons who do not have the citizenship of the country. ~~Foreigners can be~~ and are citizens of another country, or are stateless. The foreign population is predominantly foreign born-or. ~~However, depending on the citizenship laws of certain countries, some children born in the country to foreign citizens parents may be legally classified as part of the foreign population; alternatively they may automatically be granted the right of citizenship of the country and considered to~~

<sup>1</sup>Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration – Revision 1, United Nations, 1998, ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/58/Rev.1, paragraphs 188 and 189. In particular, Chapter VI, Stock of Data Relevant for the Study of International Migration, has been consulted as the basis of the recommendations for this chapter.

be 'native-born, born' and therefore not part of the foreign population. Persons having the citizenship of the country are defined as "citizens" or "nationals."

**Chart 1: Native-born, foreign-born and foreigners**



363. The population groups that are identified on the basis of place of birth and citizenship are represented in Chart 1.

**Population groups relevant to international migration (derived non-core topic)**

4038. This topic provides a classification of the population groups that can be identified by on the basis of the following topics:

\_\_\_\_\_ (a)- \_\_\_\_\_ Joint use of place of birth and citizenship; and

\_\_\_\_\_ (b)- \_\_\_\_\_ Joint use of place of birth, citizenship and place of birth of parents.

4049. On the basis of the two-core topics, place of birth and citizenship, the following population groups can be identified:

\_\_\_\_\_ (1) Foreign-born foreigners, foreign population: persons born abroad without the citizenship of the country. This group will include the foreign-born immigrants who ~~did have~~ not ~~acquire~~ acquired the citizenship of the host country.

\_\_\_\_\_ (2) Native-born foreigners, foreign population: persons born in the country without the citizenship of the country. This group will be in the large part formed by those consist of descendants of the foreign-born who ~~did have~~ not ~~get~~ acquired the citizenship of the host country. In most countries this population groups will represent a very small proportion of the overall total population.

\_\_\_\_\_ (3) Foreign-born nationals: persons born abroad and having the citizenship of the host country. This group will in the large part formed by consist either of persons with parents of national background who were born abroad ~~and by, or of~~ persons with foreign background who ~~eventually go~~ have acquired the citizenship of the host country.

(4) Native-born nationals: persons born in the country with the citizenship of the country. This group will be in large part formed by native-born with national background. It will also include those descendants of foreign-born who ~~got the~~acquired citizenship of the country after birth.

405.—Based on the two core topics, place of birth and citizenship, and the non-core topic place of birth of parents the population groups identified in Table 1 can be derived-

~~Though being very important, information on these groups is in many countries not sufficient to monitor and analyse the impact of international migration. It is therefore recommended that the census should attempt to identify two additional population groups:~~

36410. Descendants of foreign born: This is the group of persons born in the country whose parents were with at least one parent born abroad. ~~Several generations of descendants can theoretically be distinguished, that is: persons whose parents, grandparents, etc, were born abroad. However, in~~In population censuses the focus is generally restricted to those persons whose parents were born abroad (this group is often referred to as the “second generation”). Third generations of the foreign-born parents can only be distinguished if the place of birth of grandparents is also collected in addition to birthplace of parents.

368.—11. Persons of mixed parental background: These are defined as persons having one parent born in the country and the other ~~one parent~~ born abroad ~~represent a special case.~~ This group can represent a significant and growing share of the population in some countries. It is suggested that ~~a separate counting is provided for if possible~~ this group should be shown separately in census outputs (see paragraph 401).17). Alternatively, this group could be considered part of the “second-generation” that is the population with at least one parent born outside the country.

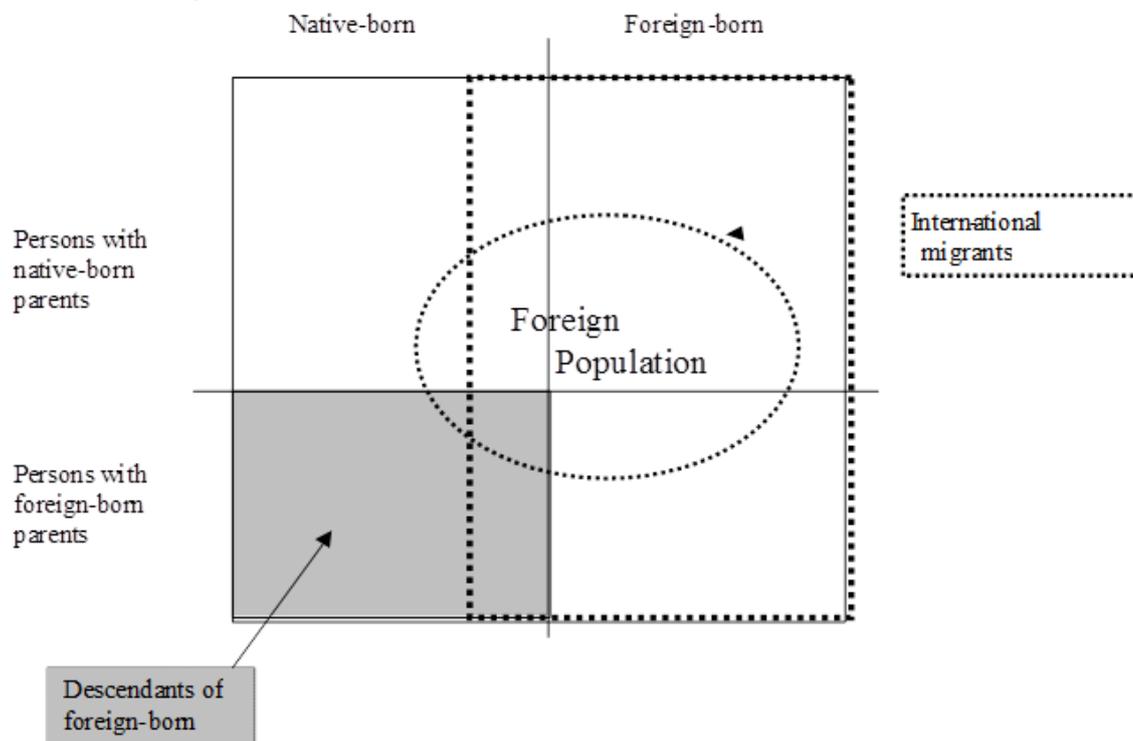
365.—~~Ever-international~~<sup>12</sup>. International migrants: The Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration<sup>2</sup> define an *international migrant* as “any person who changes his or her country of usual residence”. According to this definition, the stock of ~~ever~~-international migrants present in a country is “the set of persons who have ~~ever~~ changed their country of usual residence-, that is to say, persons who have spent at least one consecutive year of their lives in a country other than the one in which they live at the time the data are collected.” The Recommendations further define a person’s country of usual residence as “the country where the person usually lives, that is to say, the country in which the person has a place to live where he or she normally spends the daily period of rest.” This group includes all foreign-\_born plus those native-\_born who have ever resided abroad<sup>3</sup>. Included in this group are recent arrivals, as well as persons who may have migrated to a country (called the host country) and have resided in this country for many years. Some may have obtained the citizenship of the host country, while others may still be considered foreign citizens

<sup>2</sup> Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration – Revision 1, United Nations, 1998, ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/58/Rev.1, paragraph 32.

<sup>3</sup> It is assumed that all foreign born are international migrants and that they all resided or were expected to reside in the country of birth for at least one year. Also included should be children under the age of one year who migrate with their parents and who may not have resided abroad for at least one year.

Chart 21

Native born, foreign born, ~~foreigners~~foreign citizens, descendants of foreign born and international migrants



36613. The groups defined above are not mutually exclusive and they can overlap to a great extent, as shown in Chart 21. However, each group is relevant for different aspects of the migration and integration process and represents a possible target of different programmes and policies. The size of each group clearly depends on the country, its legislation and its migration history.

Table 1  
**Classification of population according to country of birth of parents, country of birth and citizenship**

<i>Place of birth of parents</i>	<i>Place of birth</i>	<i>Citizen-ship</i>	<i>Description of the population group</i>		
Country of census	Country of census	National	1. <i>Native-born nationals with national background</i> : persons with the country's citizenship and whose parents were born in the country. This group usually includes the large majority of the population.		
		Foreigner Foreign Citizen	2. <i>Native-born foreigners with national background</i> : foreign citizens who were born in the country and whose parents were also born in the country. In principle this is a small population group. It may include members of the so-called third generation, persons with double citizenship who report only the foreign one or other persons with special cases.		
	Abroad	National	3. <i>Foreign-born nationals with national background</i> : nationals who were born abroad but whose parents were born in the country. This group usually includes children of emigrants returned to the country of origin of their parents. This group can be sizeable, especially in countries that in the past experienced large emigration flows. Foreign born adopted children will also be part of this group.		
		Foreigner Foreign Citizen	4. <i>Foreign-born foreigners with national background</i> : foreign citizens who were born abroad but whose parents were born in the country. Children of former emigrants can also be included in this group, if not entitled to national citizenship. This group is in principle very small.		
Abroad	Country of census	National	5. <i>Native-born nationals with foreign background</i> : persons born in the country whose parents were born abroad. This group includes children of international immigrants who have got the citizenship of the host country, either at birth or by naturalization.	These two groups jointly form the group of <i>descendants of foreign born</i> . This group is also defined as <i>native-born with foreign background</i>	These groups jointly form the group of <i>persons with foreign background</i>
		Foreigner Foreign Citizen	6. <i>Native-born foreigners with foreign background</i> : foreign citizens born in the country but whose parents were born abroad. In this group there are children of immigrants who did not get the citizenship of the host country.		
	Abroad	National	7. <i>Foreign-born nationals with foreign background</i> : nationals born abroad whose parents were also born abroad. This group includes the foreign born immigrants who got naturalized.	These two groups jointly form the <i>foreign-born with foreign background</i> . This group is often referred to as the first generation	
		Foreigner Foreign Citizen	8. <i>Foreign-born foreigners with foreign background</i> : foreign-born foreigners with foreign background. This group includes the foreign-born immigrants living in the host countries and keeping their original citizenship. In many countries this is the largest group among all those with foreign background.		

~~369~~14. In all topics related to international borders (country of birth, country of birth of parents, country of citizenship, country of previous/current residence) reference should be made to ~~the~~ boundaries existing at the time of the census. If there have been boundary changes that affected the person's country of birth, it may be necessary to make an allowance for them, and record the person's country of birth<sup>4</sup>. This can have important implications in countries that originated from the splitting of a former country, since many persons that moved within the borders of the former country can now be counted as international migrants, if reference is made to their country of birth or their country of previous residence. It is therefore important to pay attention to the interpretation of data from these countries, particularly in relation to country of birth or country of previous residence.

~~370.~~—15. Wherever possible, complementary tabulations on ~~the~~ population stocks relevant to international migration should be provided, distinguishing ~~the~~ persons who migrated before the break-up of the former country from those who did so after the break-up. Persons who were born in a particular territory but whose country of birth has changed because of boundary changes should not be counted as foreign-born.

#### **Persons with foreign/national background (derived non-core topic)**

~~398~~16. The group of persons with a foreign background is composed of those persons whose parents were born outside the country. The persons in this group may or may not have directly experienced an international migration.

~~399~~17. Persons whose parents were born in the country form the group of persons with a national background. Those persons who have one parent born in the country and the other ~~one~~ born abroad form the group of persons with a mixed parental background.

~~400~~18. Countries that do not ask for country of birth of parents but for acquisition of citizenship can approximate information on ~~the~~ foreign/national background by using the following rules: —

- (a) Persons having national citizenship since birth will be considered as having national background;
- (b) Persons who have ~~got there~~received national citizenship by naturalization or other means will be considered as having foreign background;
- (c) Persons without national citizenship (that is all foreign citizens) will be considered as having foreign background.

~~401~~19. When using the topic on citizenship acquisition to identify national/foreign background, the following issues should be considered:

- (a) Persons with foreign background cannot be identified if, by the time of their birth, their foreign-born parents had already acquired the citizenship of the country;
- (b) Persons with mixed parental background cannot be identified using the topic of citizenship acquisition.

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<sup>4</sup> Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration – Revision 1, United Nations, 1998, ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/58/Rev.1, paragraph 189.

~~402-20.~~ Persons with national/foreign background cannot be identified through ~~a question~~ information on citizenship acquisition in countries where granting of citizenship is based on the country of birth (*jus soli* principle).

~~367-21.~~ Analytical classifications can be built by using jointly place of birth, citizenship and place of birth of parents. The classifications built using respectively place of birth/citizenship and place of birth/place of birth of parents/citizenship are particularly important since they allow the identification of various population groups relevant to international migration. A full description of these classifications is given in ~~paragraphs 398-405~~ Table 1.

#### 374. Country of birth (core topic)

Country of birth is relevant for the analysis of international migration (NOTE: Add reference to the discussion of place of birth in relation to internal migration)

22. The country of birth is the country in which the place of birth of a person (see paragraph 54) is located. Country of birth is used to distinguish between native-born and foreign-born residents. It should be noted that the country of birth of a person is not necessarily the same as his or her country of citizenship, which is a separate census topic dealt with in paragraph 23. It is recommended that country of birth be collected of all persons to distinguish the native born from the foreign born population. For the foreign born population, the collection of information on the specific country of birth is recommended so as to permit the classification of the foreign born population by country of birth. For respondents who were born outside of the country of enumeration and cannot identify their country of birth, at least the continent or region where that country is located should be collected.

23. For purposes of international comparability, as well as for internal use, information on country of birth should be collected on the basis of international boundaries existing at the time of the census. It is recommended that the information on this topic be collected and coded in the most feasible detailed manner. For the foreign-born, the country of birth should be coded, based on the three-digit alphabetical codes presented in the classification issued by the UN Statistical Division<sup>5</sup>.

24. Countries may wish to add a category of “born in the country” according to the boundaries at the time of the event for those countries where it is sensitive to consider some respondents as foreign born if they had to leave their place of residence because of war or because of dissolution of countries. In general, the foreign born category should be considered where there is an act of physically crossing a border.

#### **Country of birth of parents (non-core topic)**

392-25. Countries with a significant number of immigrants may want to collect information on the country of birth of parents. Information on the country of birth of parents (father and mother) should be ~~asked~~ collected of all resident persons ~~following adopting~~ the same ~~indications~~ criteria given for ~~the~~ country of birth. This topic permits the identification of the group of descendants of foreign-born. Special attention should be paid in collecting this topic in countries where boundaries have undergone major changes (see paragraph ~~369~~ 24).

<sup>5</sup> Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use, ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/49/Rev.4/  
(<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49.htm>)

~~393. The use of 26. Information on~~ country of birth of parents ~~is suggested~~ can be used, in order combination with information on country of birth of the enumerated person, to identify ~~the group of descendants~~ native born children of immigrants since it is based on objective and reliable information. This topic is recommended in order to collect valuable information on the foreign born population (i.e., the so-called second generation) as well as study the integration processes and outcomes of ~~immigrants~~ migrants and their descendants. Moreover, in countries that have experienced return migration, information on this topic allows the identification of foreign born children of native born parents.

~~394.27.~~ In case of adopted children, reference should always be made to the legal parents.

### Country of citizenship (core topic)

~~375.28.~~ Citizenship is defined as the particular legal bond between an individual and his/her State, acquired by birth or naturalization, whether by declaration, option, marriage or other means according to ~~the~~ national legislation. Citizenship is used to identify the foreign ~~resident~~ citizens' population, that is ~~the resident~~ persons resident in the country but who do not hold the citizenship of the country of enumeration.

~~376.29.~~ Country of citizenship should be collected separately from information on country of birth as the two are not necessarily the same.

~~30.~~ Information on country of citizenship should be collected for all persons and coded in the most feasible detailed manner, based on the three-digit alphabetical codes presented in the classification issued by the UN Statistical Division (Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use, ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/49/Rev.4/). This classification of countries and areas is a useful tool for developing a classification of citizenships ~~but attention.~~ Attention should be paid in considering the dependent territories ~~that are~~ included in the classification above but that may not have their own citizenship. For reasons of international comparability, countries of citizenship should be collected according to the list of countries recognized by the United Nations, and not according to whether the country of enumeration recognizes a country.

~~377.31.~~ Provisions should be made in order to ~~obtain separate data for~~ identify stateless persons, that is, persons ~~without a recognized~~ who are not considered as nationals by any State under the operation of its law.<sup>6</sup> In collecting information on citizenship ~~of a state,~~ the option 'no citizenship' should be included.<sup>7</sup>

~~378.32.~~ Information on all citizenships held by respondents should be collected, in order to identify the ~~portion of~~ population with dual or multiple ~~citizenship~~ citizenships.

~~33.~~ It is recommended that when collecting information on dual citizenships that consideration be given to which is the first and the second country of citizenship with the

<sup>6</sup> See UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Measuring Statelessness through Population Census. Note by the Secretariat of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 13 May 2008, ECE/CES/AC.6/2008/SP/5, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4a705e4b2.html>

<sup>7</sup> To better assess the profile of the stateless population, countries may wish to collect - for persons who declare not having a citizenship or are unsure - information on country of birth of parents (non-core topic, paragraph 25), country of previous usual residence abroad (non-core topic, paragraph 42), and total duration of residence in the country (non-core topic, paragraph 44).

first being the reporting country, that is the country of citizenship where the respondent lives<sup>8</sup>.

#### Citizenship acquisition (non-core topic)

~~395~~34. Countries with a significant number of naturalized persons may want to collect information on the way ~~the~~ national citizenship was acquired, either at birth or by naturalization or other means according to the national legislation.

~~396~~35. Some countries may also wish to ~~include~~collect, for naturalized citizens, ~~questions~~information on the year of acquisition of citizenship and the type of naturalization (by marriage, by residence, by legal status, etc.).

~~397~~36. In countries that have emerged from the break-up of former ~~States~~states, an additional typology of citizenship acquisition may be added which should refer to those who received ~~the~~ national citizenship when the new state was created. This typology should include those who were recognized as national citizens when the regulation on citizenship of the newly created state came into force.

#### Ever ~~resided~~Resided abroad and year of arrival in the country (core topic)

~~379~~37. This topic focuses on all persons who have ever resided outside the current country of usual residence, regardless of country of birth or citizenship, and regardless of other changes of usual residence that may have occurred inside the country. In order to collect information on this topic, individuals should be ~~asked~~classified depending on whether ~~or not~~ they have ever had a usual residence abroad. Information on this topic ~~also~~ allows ~~to~~ identifying the ~~group~~identification of ~~ever~~international migrants (see paragraph ~~365~~12). For those who ever resided abroad, the year of arrival in the current country of residence should also be collected.

~~380~~38. The purpose of this topic is to measure ~~the~~ duration of residence of international migrants in the host country. It is preferable to measure duration using the ~~time~~year of arrival, rather than the number of years elapsed since arrival in the country, because time of arrival is likely to yield more accurate information<sup>9</sup>. In order to have more detailed information on the time of arrival, information may be collected also on the month of arrival.

~~381. The year of last arrival to the country is recommended rather than the year of first arrival since it can provide unequivocal information. When using year of last arrival, the derived duration of residence refers to an uninterrupted stay in the country, whereas no information is available on periods of residence abroad when the year of first arrival is used. The year of last arrival can also provide useful information on recent immigration flows. Guidance to enumerators and respondents should emphasise~~39. The year of arrival should be the calendar year when the person most recently established usual residence in the country.

<sup>8</sup> Countries part of the European Union may wish to consult the Eurostat guidelines, "Implementing core variables in EU social surveys, Draft Methodological Guidelines, 2011, for determining how to report dual citizenships.

<sup>9</sup> For those arrived in recent years the individual calendar year should be recorded while broader time intervals could be used for those arrived in previous periods.

40. Guidance to enumerators and respondents should emphasize that this item relates only to the most recent immigration to the country since difficulties of understanding may occur where a person has established residence in the country on more than one occasion. Recording the year of arrival provides an alternative to pre-coded answers in terms of time intervals<sup>10</sup> for most recent arrival.

41. Some countries may also wish to collect information on the year that permanent residency was granted for international migrants, according to policy needs. This may be different than the year of arrival, and provides a measure of the duration of the time permanent residency (that is the legal right to live in a country as a permanent resident) was granted. Likewise, some countries may choose to collect the year of first arrival to capture the entire duration in the country which is useful to conduct studies on immigrant integration.

#### **Country of previous usual residence abroad (non-core topic)**

382-42. For persons that have ever resided abroad, the country of previous residence may also be recorded. For purposes of international comparability, as well as for internal use, information on country of previous residence should be collected on the basis of international boundaries existing at the time of the census. It is recommended that the information on this topic be collected and coded in the most feasible detailed manner, based on the three-digit alphabetical codes presented in the classification issued by the UN Statistical Division (Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use, ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/49/Rev.4/).

43. Place of previous usual residence within the country (paragraph 58) should be collected as a separate topic. It is an important topic for analysis of internal migration as well as to capture information on returning nationals to the home country.

#### **Total duration of residence in the country (non-core topic)**

383-44. This topic focuses on the total duration of residence in the country of ~~ever-~~international migrants (see paragraph 365-12). Total duration is defined as the total number of years that the ~~ever-~~international ~~Migrant~~migrant has resided in the country, taking into account all periods of residence including the last one. This topic provides additional information with respect to the year of last arrival (see ~~paragraphs 380-381~~paragraph 37) only for those persons who established residence in the country on more than one occasion.

#### **Reason for migration (non-core topic)**

391-45. Some countries may wish to collect information on reasons for international and/or internal migration- (see paragraph 5 & 52). This topic should refer to the main reason that drove the respondent to undertake the most recent migratory move. It is recommended that only one main reason for migration ~~should~~ be recorded. Some examples of migration categories are: employment, education and training, family reunification or family formation, admittance for humanitarian reasons, and housing reasons<sup>11</sup>. A category for

<sup>10</sup> Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration – Revision 1, United Nations, 1998, ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/58/Rev.1, paragraph 199.

<sup>11</sup> Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration – Revision 1, United Nations, 1998, ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/58/Rev.1, Box 4, pages 45-46.

“Other” reasons should also be included as there are many reasons for international and internal migrations. It may be most appropriate to include this topic as a sub-~~question~~topic of the item on residence abroad (see paragraph ~~382~~42) or as a sub-~~question~~topic of the item on the previous place of usual residence (see paragraph ~~384~~43).

#### **Population with refugee background (derived non-core topic)**

~~406~~46. *Population with refugee background* includes foreign citizens who were “forced migrants” and ~~immediate family members~~their dependents living in the same household at the time of the census, including children born after the forced ~~migrants~~migration. The population with refugee background can only be identified if the topic on reason for international migration is included.

~~407~~47. The ~~count of the~~ stock of refugees (persons being granted asylum under national regulations and/or international conventions<sup>12</sup>) and asylum-seekers (persons seeking international protection and whose claim for refugee status has not yet been determined) living in a country is often difficult to measure because of mobility of persons and administrative procedures, like changes in the formal status of the refugee. Countries may use different definitions of the stock of refugees, with specific legal and administrative implications. How individuals perceive themselves may be different again from ~~the~~their legal situation within a country. At the international level, it is suggested to use the common definition of population with refugee background, a group of persons having experienced (directly or indirectly) a forced international migration. This group can be useful for cross-country and across time analyses.

~~408~~48. The narrow definition of this population group includes:

(A) Persons who declared that their main reason for migration ~~was ‘Forced migration.’~~international migration was ‘forced migration.’ Some examples of categories that would qualify as ‘forced migration’ are: armed conflict, situations of general violence, violations of human rights, natural or human-made disasters.

~~409~~49. The broad definition of this population group also includes (in addition to group A above):

(B) Foreign-born persons who declared that their main reason for migration was ‘Family’ and are members of the same family nucleus of a person of the group A.

(C) Native-born children members of the same family nucleus of the parents and having both parents of the group A or one parent in the group A and the other parent of the group B.

~~410~~50. Further relevant details, such as country of birth, citizenship or date of arrival in the country can be obtained by tabulating the population with a refugee background according to other relevant topics.

<sup>12</sup> The 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees defines a refugee as a person who “owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country.” Two regional instruments in Africa and the Americas, respectively, enlarged the concept of refugee to include not only individual persecution, but also armed conflict and massive violations of human rights.

## 2. Population Groups Relevant to Internal Migrants

~~371.—51.~~ Internal migrants are broadly defined as persons who are usually resident in a particular geographical area and who have previously been resident in another geographical area in the country. ~~In operational terms the geographical area is identified as the smallest civil division.~~ Internal migrants are, therefore, defined as those who are usually resident in a civil division at the time of the census and who have previously been resident in another civil division within the country, ~~where the civil division is identified at the smallest civil level.~~ In order to provide relevant information on internal migrants, a detailed classification should distinguish local, intra-regional or inter-regional moves. ~~Movements~~ Geographic areas and civil divisions are defined by each country, but movements within smallest civil divisions should be considered as residential mobility, not ~~as~~ internal migrations.

~~372.—52.~~ Persons who are international ~~immigrants~~ migrants – who, regardless of country of birth or citizenship, have at some point in their lives been usually resident in another country – may also be counted as internal migrants if, in addition to their international move, they have also moved internally and they were resident elsewhere in the country prior to the census.

### **Country/Place of birth (core topic)**

~~373.—53.~~ Place of birth is relevant for the analysis of internal migrants. Place of birth can be collected according to either the geographical unit in which the birth took place or to the place of usual residence of the mother at the time of the birth. Countries should collect ~~the~~ information according to the criterion that better best suits their ~~data output~~ information needs. Some countries may collect information according to both criteria. For persons born in the country, information on the smallest civil division should be collected. For persons born outside the country, it is sufficient to collect information on the country of birth. ~~Country of birth is used to distinguish between native-born and foreign-born residents.~~

~~54.~~ Information on place of birth of the native population is used primarily for the investigation of internal migration. For countries that have been recently formed from parts of previously separate entities, however, such information may be of use in assessing the relative size of population segments from each of those entities and their distribution throughout the country.

~~55.~~ For the latter purpose, it is usually sufficient to collect information only on the major civil division (state, province or department, for example) in which the place of birth is located. If desired, more detailed information on smaller civil divisions can be collected and used for accurate coding of the major division or for presenting data for smaller areas.

~~56.~~ For studies of internal migration, data on place of birth in terms of major civil divisions are not adequate in themselves. For an understanding of movements of people since birth it is necessary to collect information as required according to the information needs of a country, bearing in mind that (a) the boundaries of administrative units such as cities and other civil divisions may change over time, which will give rise to ambiguity in data reported; and (b) the costs of coding reported data to these smaller units may be prohibitive especially where there are many units and the population is highly mobile. To overcome the first problem, to the extent possible both national and sub-national boundaries should refer to the boundaries applying at the time of the census. Countries should address the second problem in the light of their own circumstances.

**Previous place of usual residence and date of arrival in the current place (core topic)**

**38457.** This topic provides information on geographic and time patterns of migration moves to the current place of residence. It is recommended that the place of previous residence should be identified in terms of the smallest civil division.

**38558.** In operational terms this topic can be implemented in two modes:

(a) **Extensive mode:** by enquiring into year and month of arrival in the current place of usual residence plus previous place of usual residence; or

(b) **Reduced mode:** by enquiring into place of usual residence one year prior to the census.

**Year and month of arrival in the current place**

**38659.** In the extensive mode year and month of arrival should be the calendar year and month when the person most recently established residence in the current place of usual residence. The information is important for measuring long- and short-term internal migration. In order to reduce the burden on respondents' (when information is collected in the field), month of arrival could be asked only of those who arrived in the calendar year before the census<sup>13</sup>. The previous place of usual residence is defined in terms of the smallest civil division. From the joint use of the two questionstotics it is possible to analyse patterns and timing of internal migration. If ~~the~~ previous place of usual residence was outside the country, the country of residence should be collected- (see paragraph 42).

**Place of usual residence one year prior to the census**

**38760.** The reduced mode is primarily intended to allow patterns of recent migration to be studied. If the place of usual residence one year prior to the census was inside the country, this should be identified as the smallest civil division. If the place of usual residence one year prior to the census was outside the country, the country of residence should be collected- (see paragraph 42)

**38861.** The reduced mode gives information on persons that arrived in the current place of residence during the last year, and this information can be compared to the corresponding information provided by the extended mode. However, the extensive mode also provides important information on migrations events that took place in previous years. Countries should select either one or the other of the two modes on the basis of their information needs.

**38962.** Both extensive and reduced mode provide only partial information on international migrationsmigration and it is therefore recommended to use the topic 'Ever resided abroad and year of arrival in the country' (see paragraph 37937) to collect precise information on the timing of international immigrationsmigration.

**Place of usual residence five years prior to the census (non-core topic)**

**39063.** If ~~the question~~information on the place of usual residence one year prior to the census is askedcollected (that is the reduced mode is selected for the topic 'Previous place of usual residence and date of arrival in the current place'), the place of usual residence five years prior to the census could also be askedcollected. This extension of the time interval allows the capture of a larger number of moves at the cost of an increased uncertainty about

<sup>13</sup> For those arrived in recent years the individual calendar year should be recorded while broader time intervals could be used for those arrived in previous periods

the exact timing of the migration. If the place of usual residence five years prior to the census was inside the country, it is intended to be the smallest civil division. If the place of usual residence five years prior to the census was outside the country, the country of residence should be collected.

### Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) (derived non-core topic)

~~41+64.~~ Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) refers to nationals or citizens who were “forced migrants” within their country of residence and their dependents living in the same household at the time of the census, including children born after the forced migration took place<sup>14</sup>. The internally displaced person population can only be identified if the topic of reason for internal migration is included.

~~65.~~ In countries where massive flows of internal migration occurred as a consequence of dramatic events like wars, social unrests, natural or environmental disasters, it is important to measure the ~~size of the group of IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons). In countries having experienced such phenomena, it can be important to include a question on the reason for internal migrations. The group of IDPs includes the persons who declared that their main reason for internal migration was ‘Forced migration’ and their dependants living in the same household at the time of the census, including children born after the forced migration. The magnitude of such movements. The count of stock of internally displaced persons is often difficult to enumerate because of multiple occurrence of movements and diversity of causes of mobility, as well as because of protection concerns or risks attached to such movements. Countries may have specific legal and administrative implications for IDPs in place. At the international level, it is suggested to use the common definition of IDPs, a group or persons having experienced (directly or indirectly) a forced internal migration. This group can be useful for cross-country and across time analyses.~~

~~66.~~ Further relevant details, such as date of arrival and the place of previous residence are important characteristics of IDPs and may be obtained ~~by~~ cross-tabulation with other topics.

## II. Ethno-cultural characteristics

### A. Introduction

~~412.—67.~~ Data on ethno-cultural characteristics of the population are of increasing relevance to countries of the UNECE region in the context of migration, integration and minority policies.

~~413.—68.~~ Countries with a culturally diverse population may wish to collect information on the ethnic identity (or composition) of the population, ~~an~~ mother tongue, the knowledge and practice of languages as well as on religious communities and denominations. They are all characteristics which allow people the flexibility to express their ethno-cultural identity in the way that they recognize and choose.

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<sup>14</sup> The 1998 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement define IDPs as “persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border”

~~414. They~~<sup>69.</sup> Countries may also wish to collect information on the ethno-cultural characteristics of parents and grand-parents (ancestry) to gain a deeper understanding of the origins of the population and of integration processes.

~~415.70.~~ Ethno-cultural characteristics ~~have~~ generally have a subjective dimension, ~~they~~ as there is often no common understanding as to what 'characteristic' or 'concept' is really being measured in a particular census. ~~Moreover, different countries will adopt different concepts. The ethno-cultural characteristics can also be politically sensitive and may apply to very small, yet identifiable population sub-groups are often small. The free and open declaration of the respondents is therefore of essential importance.~~ Members of certain minority groups may be particularly vulnerable to discrimination on the grounds of ethnic group ~~or religion, religion or language. However, the free and open declaration of the respondents should be of essential importance.~~ Special care, therefore, may be required in census procedures and outputs relating to ethnic group and religion in order to demonstrate to respondents that appropriate data protection and disclosure control measures are in place. In some cases, countries may even wish to collect such data on a voluntary basis if this is permitted by national legislation.

~~416. Register based data are only of limited relevance to the topic and can at best cover certain aspects, for example the formal membership of a church or religious community or the official language of communication between the government and households in a multilingual setting.~~

~~417. It is recommended that representatives of ethnic, language and religious groups be consulted in the drafting of census questions, the definition of classification procedures and the conduct of censuses among minority populations to assure transparency, the correct understanding of the questions and the full participation of the population.~~

~~418.71.~~ Countries may wish to implement special monitoring mechanisms in relation with the collection of data on ethno-cultural characteristics to guarantee the free declaration of the respondents and data protection:

72. For these reasons, together with the fact that the collection of information on topics such as ethnicity and religion may be prohibited by law in some UNECE countries, the topics covered in this Chapter are all included as non-core.

73. It is generally the case that data on these topics taken solely from registers and/or administrative sources are limited and can at best cover only certain dimensions, such as the formal membership of a church or religious community or the official language of communication between the government and households in a multilingual environment.

74. It is recommended that in drafting and testing census questions, defining classifications and designing statistical outputs, consultations should be undertaken with representatives of ethnic, language and religious communities. This is important as engaging with such groups on the procedures, reasons for, and the conduct of, the census among minority populations promotes transparency, equality of treatment, a better understanding of the reasons for collecting such information, and the full participation of the population.

**Ethnicity (non core topic)**

~~419.75.~~ Ethnicity, as broadly defined, is based on a shared understanding of the history and territorial origins (regional, national) of an ethnic group or community as well as on particular cultural characteristics, such as language and/or religion and/or specific customs and ways of life.

~~420. Multi-ethnic countries~~<sup>76.</sup> Countries with long-established ~~minorities~~multi-ethnic minority communities and/or recently arrived immigrant populations may wish to collect information on the ethnic composition of the population or of certain subgroups of the population. The data are relevant for the understanding of the cultural diversity of the population, the position of ethnic groups in society as well as for the definition and monitoring of ~~anti-discrimination policies~~equality and anti-discrimination policies. Ethnicity provides a more accurate picture of the stock of immigrant populations, than can be obtained from information on country of birth or country of parents' birth alone, which will not be relevant for second and third generation immigrants. However, respondents' understanding or views about ethnicity, awareness of their family background, the number of generations that have lived in a country, and the length of time since immigration are all possible factors affecting the reporting of ethnicity in a census.

~~421. Affiliation~~<sup>77.</sup> Moreover, ethnicity is multi-dimensional and is considered to be more of a process than a static concept, and so ethnic classification should be treated as dynamic with movable boundaries. This may mean that classifications of ethnic categories will change between censuses which, while mirroring society at any one time, may lead to a degree of non-comparability between one census and another.

78. Ethnic identity can be measured using a variety of concepts, including ethnic ancestry or origin, ethnic group, cultural origins, nationality, race, colour, minority status, tribe, language, religion or various combinations of these concepts. But for census purposes an affiliation with certain ethnic groups~~group~~ is distinct from an affiliation with a language and/or religious ~~groups~~group, although ~~overlaps are~~overlap may be frequent. The combined collection and analysis of data on several ethno-cultural characteristics is particularly informative for the understanding of a country's cultural diversity.

~~422. 79.~~ In some countries, ethnicity is also related to physical or racial characteristics of the population (in particular colour, for example ~~white, black~~White, Black). Data on physical or racial characteristics ~~are~~can be used in this way to identify "visible minorities".

~~423.80.~~ Some countries may consider collecting data on ancestry and ethnic origin of parents and grandparents, but generally it is not recommended that the census should seek to collect information on persons other than the data subject and other household members.

~~424.81.~~ Data on ethnicity should not be confounded with data on country of citizenship or country of birth. The use of the term nationality in place of ethnicity should be avoided.

~~425. Ethnicity has necessarily a subjective dimension and some ethnic groups are very small. Information on ethnicity should therefore always be based on the free self-declaration of a person, questionnaires should include an open question and interviewers should refrain from suggesting answers to the respondents.~~

~~426. Respondents should be free to indicate more than one ethnic affiliation or a combination of ethnic affiliations if they wish so.~~

~~427. In order~~<sup>82.</sup> The method and the wording of the question used to collect ethnicity data can influence the choices that respondents make regarding their ethnic identity and

current ethnic identification. The subjective nature of the topic, together with the requirement to allow increasing numbers of persons of mixed ethnicity to identify themselves (and/or their children) as such, requires that information on ethnicity be acquired through self-declaration of a respondent, and also that respondents have the option of describing their identity in their own words. Census questions should therefore provide, in addition to any pre-coded response options, the facility for write-in (open) responses. Also, to guarantee the free self-declaration of ethnicity, respondents should be allowed to indicate “none” or “not declared” when asked for their ethnicity.

83. Respondents should be free to indicate more than one ethnic affiliation or a combination of ethnic affiliations if they wish so. Countries should explain in the census instructions and the census documentations how the ethnicity of children from mixed couples is determined to be reported (for example, explicit instructions to allow respondents to provide multiple responses and/or to allow for responses such as bi-racial).

428.84. When producing classifications of ethnic groups for the purposes of outputs, census agencies will need to be aware of the sensitivity and potential disclosiveness of the data, particularly at the lower geographic levels. While small numbers for certain groups may be subject to disclosure risks, countries should be careful in not setting a release threshold so high as to mask the reporting of minorities in census outputs.

85. Classifications on ethnicity, including the concepts and uses for the information, will depend essentially on national conditions. Consequently, the ethno-cultural composition of countries will vary widely and internationally comparable classification is not recommended.

86. Countries should document the basic criteria and classification procedures for ethnicity and inform the data users about the scientific and socio-political concepts on which they are based.

~~429. Classifications of ethnic groups should be comprehensive and include at the finest level, ethnic groups, self-perceived groups, regional and local groups as well as groups that are usually not considered to be ethnic groups (for example religious groups, groups based on nationality in the sense of citizenship etc.). Classifications at the highest level depend on national conditions and concepts and no internationally comparable classification is recommended.~~

87. In countries where it is relevant, ethnicity questions can be used to collect information on indigenous populations. Generally, indigenous peoples of a particular country are social groups with an identity (or even in some cases legal status) that are distinct from the social and cultural identity of the dominant society in that country (such as people of Inuit, First Nations, Celtic or Roma origins.)

#### **Religion (non core topic)**

437.88. Religion is generally regarded as a set of beliefs and practices, usually involving acknowledgment of a divine or higher being, power or principle, by which people order the conduct of their lives both practically and in a moral sense. For the purposes of collecting information in a census, this concept may be defined as either: (a) a religious or spiritual belief or faith, regardless of whether or not this belief or faith is represented by an organised group or body; or (b) an affiliation with, or membership of, an organised group or body having specific religious or spiritual tenets and/or practices.

438.89. Countries that are traditionally multi-denominational or have significant immigrant populations with different religions may wish to collect data on religion- (in addition to, or instead of, data on ethnicity).

~~439. Depending on 90. Each country that collects religion in its census should use the definition most appropriate to its specific circumstances and information needs and circumstances. Depending on those needs and circumstances, the following data on religion may be collected:~~

- (a) Formal membership of a church or a religious community;
- (b) Identification with a certain religion, religious community or denomination;
- (c) Religious belief whether practiced or not;
- (d) Religion in which a person was brought up; or
- (e) Religious attendance or observance.

~~440. In all approaches respondents should be allowed to declare "none". For privacy reasons, in some countries the questions may be voluntary.~~

~~441.91. The decision to collect and disseminate information on religion in a national census is dependent upon a number of considerations and national circumstances, including, for example, the national needs for such information, and the suitability and sensitivity of asking a religion question in a country's census.~~

~~92. Owing to the particular sensitive nature of a question on religion, special care may be required to demonstrate to respondents that appropriate data protection and disclosure control measures are in place. It is important that the responding public be informed of the potential uses and needs for this information. Census agencies should explain in the census instructions during collection the chosen concept(s) and definition(s) and where a question has been included on a voluntary basis, this should be made explicitly clear to the respondent at the time the data are collected. For privacy reasons, in some countries any question on religion may be voluntary.~~

~~93. Data should always be based on the free self-declaration of a person and questionnaires. Questionnaires should, as with ethnicity, include write-in (open questions) responses to allow small or obscure groups, break-off groups and of local denominations to identify freely. Whatever the mode of questions(s) used, respondents should have the option to declare "no religion" and/or be given the option not to provide the information (that is "no response"). Countries should explain in the census instructions and the census documentation how the religion of children from mixed couples is determined to be reported.~~

~~442.94. Countries should explain clearly, in the any census outputs or instructions and during data collection, the chosen concepts and definitions and document the classification procedures for religious groups(s) that has been used.~~

~~443.95. Classifications should be comprehensive. They should include at the finest level: groups of religions, religions, and subsets of religions, such as, religious denominations, administrative and organizational groupings, groups of churches, churches, and breakaway groups as well as belief systems that may not generally considered to be conventional religions.~~

~~444.96. To increase consistency and comparability of data, the following classification of world-wide religions is recommended on the highest level:—~~

- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ (1.0) Christianity
  - (1.1) Catholic
  - (1.2) Orthodox

(1.3) Protestant (including Anglican, Baptist, Brethren, Calvinist, Evangelical, Lutheran, Methodist, Pentecostal, Pietist, Presbyterian, Reformed, and other Protestant groups)

(1.4) Jehovah's Witnesses

(1.5) Oriental Christian

(1.6) Other Christian

(2.0) Islam

(2.1) Alawit (Nusayris)

(2.2) Ismaili (Seveners)

(2.3) Ithna'ashari (Twelvers)

(2.4) Shia

(2.5) Sufi

(2.6) Sunni

(2.7) Zaydi (Fivers)

(3.0) Judaism

(4.0) Buddhism

(5.0) Hinduism

(6.0) Sikhism

(7.0) Other religious groups

(8.0) No religion

The amount of detail collected and disseminated on this topic will be dependent upon the information needs and requirements of each country.

#### **Language (non core topic)**

430-97. Multilingual countries and countries with significant immigrant populations may wish to collect data on languages that are currently spoken and written, as an additional mode of measuring cultural identity and integration. In addition, where a country has more than one official language, it may be necessary to include questions on the use of the official languages for legislative or spoken-policy requirements. Depending on information needs, the collection of data on one or more of the following data may be collected concepts are recommended:

(a) "Mother tongue", defined as the first language spoken in early childhood at home;

(b) Main language, defined as the language which the person commands best;

(c) Language Usual language(s), defined as the ones most often currently spoken at home and/or work;

(d) Knowledge of language(s), defined as the ability to speak and/or write one or more designated languages.

431. — Data on a) and b) 98. Data relating to each concept is likely to meet different analytical purposes or information needs. Data on (a) to (c) are relevant to understand

processes of language change and to determine language regions and language groups. ~~Questions~~Such questions will generally refer to one language only. ~~Multiple languages may be required for the mother tongue and main languages of minority groups.~~

~~432.~~99. ~~Some countries may decide to permit and capture the reporting of multiple languages, according to the linguistic situation of a country. Explicit instructions should be provided on the questionnaire to indicate that respondents may provide more than one response to the language questions. The intent would be to capture information on respondents who have been exposed to and learned multiple languages, sometimes during childhood as a result of intermarriage. The capture of multiple languages provides a more complete picture of the linguistic situation of a country's residents where there are multiple language groups and more than one official language is recognized. Nevertheless, collecting multiple responses to the language questions does pose challenges on how to display the information in tabulations and census output, so careful consideration should be given to whether there are sufficient numbers to justify the collection of multiple responses.~~

~~100.~~ ~~In compiling data on the usual language or on the mother tongue, it is desirable to show each language that is numerically important in the country and not merely the dominant language.~~

~~101.~~ Data on ~~e) and~~ (d) are relevant to understand language practices and knowledge of languages, including official national languages and languages ~~learn~~learned at school. Questions will often refer to several languages and ~~have to~~should thus allow for multiple ~~answers~~responses.

~~433.~~ ~~It is recommended that at least two questions be asked about language. One should refer to topics a), b), or e) and the other should refer to topic d).~~

~~434.~~Many~~102.~~ ~~Each country should decide which, if any of these types of information, or variants of them, is relevant to its own information needs. International comparability should not necessarily be a major factor in determining the type of data collected on this subject. However, it is recommended that countries should ask more than one question regarding language, and to combine at least one question measure cultural identity ((a) to (c) with a question on literacy (d)).~~

~~103.~~ ~~As with ethnicity and religion, the population of many language groups are small. It is therefore recommended that ~~an~~ countries should include a write-in (open-answer box, at least, be included in questions for groups a) or b).) response in any census question in relation to (a) to (c). Questions in relation to (d) should attempt to measure different levels of literacy.~~

~~435.~~104. Countries should explain the chosen concepts and definitions and document the classification procedures for languages in the census documentation and reports.

~~436.~~105. Classifications should be comprehensive and include ~~on the finest level language groups, wherever possible (and subject to disclosure constraints)~~ separate languages to the finest level possible, regional dialects as well as the reporting of invented and sign languages. For those who are deaf, mute, or deaf-mute, special instructions may be needed to indicate that sign languages are accepted responses to the language questions. Special testing of the questions with these individuals may benefit the design of the language questions which might be seen as sensitive.