ANNEX I

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE STEERING GROUP ON POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES

I. BACKGROUND

1. Between 2012 and 2015 the UNECE Steering Group on Population and Housing Censuses coordinated the preparation of the Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2020 Censuses of Population and Housing. Nine Task Forces were working together with the Steering Group on the recommendations.


3. As an outcome of an in-depth review of diversification of population census methodology and sources in October 2015, the CES Bureau requested the Secretariat to prepare new terms of reference for the Steering Group on Population and Housing Censuses. The Bureau also supported the preparation of new guidelines on the use of registers for population and housing censuses, and the organization of regional training workshops in the following areas: internet response; use of geographic information systems (GIS), mobile devices and other technology; data protection methods for disseminating small area data; methods to give access to microdata to researchers; and assessing quality of administrative sources.

4. This note presents the Terms of Reference for the Steering Group for the period 2016-2019.

II. MANDATE

6. The Steering Group works under the mandate of the CES, and reports to the CES and its Bureau (at least every 18 months).

7. The Terms of Reference of the Steering Group will be reviewed by the CES Bureau in autumn 2019.

III. OBJECTIVE

8. The main objective of the Steering Group is to coordinate, provide advice and contribute to the UNECE programme on population and housing censuses, aimed at supporting UNECE member countries in the preparations for the censuses of the 2020 round and the implementation of the CES Recommendations for the 2020 censuses of population and housing.

2 http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41398&L=0
IV. PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

9. The following activities and outputs are planned:

(a) Act as organizing committee for the Joint UNECE-Eurostat expert meetings on Censuses, aimed at facilitating the exchange of experiences among countries on census methodology, technology, census content, and other issues related to the implementation of the CES Recommendations for the 2020 census round;

(b) Guide and support the Secretariat in the organization (in cooperation with CIS-Stat and possibly other organizations) of regional workshops for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA), and South-East Europe, primarily in the following areas: internet response; use of GIS, mobile devices and other technology; data protection methods for disseminating small area data; methods to give access to microdata to researchers; and assessing quality of administrative sources. The workshops should preferably take place back-to-back to the UNECE-Eurostat expert meetings to facilitate the participation of national experts in all events;

(c) Oversee the work of the new Task Force on Register-Based and Combined Censuses whose expected output is a publication with provisional title “UNECE Guidelines on Register-Based and Combined Censuses” (see Annex II);

(d) Ensure coordination and avoid duplication with the activities of the 2020 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses, promoted by the United Nations Statistics Division, and those of Eurostat for the 2021 EU Census Programme.

V. METHOD OF WORK

10. The Steering Group is expected to work in English only, mainly by e-mail and occasionally by telephone conferences. The UNECE Census Wiki can be used by the Steering Group to share material, develop documents, and organize discussion forums.

11. Informal meetings of the Steering Group can be organized on the occasion of expert meetings attended by a significant number of members of the Steering Group, such as the Joint UNECE-Eurostat Expert Meetings on Censuses.

VI. MEMBERSHIP

12. The Steering Group includes representatives of the following countries and international organizations: Armenia, Canada (Chair), Finland, France, Georgia, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, Eurostat, CIS-STAT, UNECE, UNSD, UNFPA. The secretariat is provided by UNECE.