taking

agricultural censuses



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guidelines supplementing the programme for the 1980 world census of agriculture

statistics division economic and social development department

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FOREWORD

In Resolution No. 14/75 on the 1980 World Census of Agriculture, the 18th Session of the FAO Conference held in November 1975, besides urging member nations to carry out their national census of agriculture, requested FAO to (a) take steps to encourage the widest possible participation of countries in the census of agriculture especially in the developing regions; (b) to provide technical assistance to countries to enable them to conduct the census and to process the census data. Earlier, the Seventh Session of the FAO Statistics Advisory Committee of Experts held in March 1975, after reviewing the Programme for the 1980 World Census of Agriculture, recommended the preparation and dissemination of guidelines for use by developing countries on the taking of a census of agriculture. In compliance with these recommendations the FAO Statistics Division has prepared these guidelines as supplement to the Programme for the 1980 World Census of Agriculture, to promote and encourage the participation of all member countries in the World Census. It is hoped that countries taking their censuses within the framework of the FAO Programme for the 1980 World Census of Agriculture will find these guidelines useful.

These guidelines contain information based mainly on the experiences of selected international and national agricultural census experts working and/or having worked in the developing countries. FAO wishes to acknowledge with thanks the following national agricultural census experts - Mr. P. Gadegbeku (Liberia), Miss. M. Lomelf (Mexico), Dr. T.A. Mijares (Philippines), Mr. W.A.A.S. Peiris (Sri Lanka), Dr. A.A. Sarhan (Egypt), Dr. D. Singh (India) and Mr. S. Soenardi (Indonesia); and international agricultural census experts - Mr. P. Delorme (Cameroon, Chad, Central African Empire, Congo and Gabon), Mr. M.R. Ghazi (Guinea), Mr. R. Giri (Swaziland), Dr. J.S. Gutierrez (Brazil), Mr. J. Jansonius (Ivory Coast), Mr. P. Sahota (Ecuador), Dr. R.G. Seth (Haiti), Mr. A. Telang (Bangladesh), Mr. Duong Huu Nghia (Madagascar), Dr. M.D. Mostafa (Syria) and Mr. J.J. Wagner (Togo), for their cooperation in providing FAO with their valuable experience in taking censuses of agriculture. The task of putting together the various information received from these experts in the form given in this publication was undertaken by Dr. Daroga Singh, Director of the Institute of Agricultural Research

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