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BASIC INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS - A PROGRESS REPORT

(a Memorandum by the Secretary-General)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. Introduction	2
II. Revision of the International Standards in Basic Industrial Statistics	2
III. World-Wide Industrial Census Programme	3
IV. Conclusion	4
Annex - Year closest to 1963 for which a basic inquiry may be taken	

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BASIC INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS - A PROGRESS REPORT

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its ninth session, the Statistical Commission requested the Secretary-General "to consult with Member States, through regional meetings and other means with regard to the revisions that are required in the recommendations of the Statistical Commission concerning basic industrial statistics and with regard to a world-wide industrial census programme".^{1/} It is the purpose of this paper to summarize the work that has been undertaken to comply with the Commission's request and to suggest a programme of future action in the field of basic industrial statistics.

II. REVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS IN BASIC INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS

2. Since the ninth session of the Commission, the previously adopted standards in basic industrial statistics^{2/} were reviewed in the light of developing country practices and experience. On the basis of the review, a working paper^{3/} was prepared setting out a revised set of standards in basic industrial statistics. Comments were obtained regarding these proposed revisions from approximately twenty Governments and from the International Labour Office, to whom, among all Member Governments and international bodies, the working paper was distributed. In addition, these revisions were a subject of discussion at the seminar on industrial statistics held in Athens, Greece, in May 1957 under the auspices of the Technical Assistance Administration, the United Nations Statistical Office and the Conference of European Statisticians. As a result of the comments from countries, the proposals of the working paper have been revised and clarified at

1/ See E/2876, Report of the Ninth Session, Resolution 8, para. 2, p. 9.

2/ See Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 17, International Standards in Basic Industrial Statistics.

3/ E/CN.3/L.40, Draft Revisions to the International Standards in Basic Industrial Statistics.

E/CN.3/L.40/Add.1, Recent Basic Industrial Inquiries.

E/CN.3/L.40/Add.2, Methods of Obtaining Industrial Statistics.

a number of points. These newly revised proposals, together with some explanatory comments, are presented in the addendum to this paper.

3. It should be noted that in the limited time available, detailed comments and suggestions have not been received from a number of countries. Further, a number of countries are now developing plans for industrial inquiries for the period 1958-1959 out of which much valuable information may be expected in terms of testing some of the changes proposed in the international standards. In addition, the twin problems of enterprise statistics and the interrelations between enterprise-based and establishment-based inquiries are under study, and the direction in which this study develops will have a bearing on some of the proposals in basic industrial statistics. Moreover, standards have not yet been proposed concerning the tabulation of industrial data and an examination of tabulation requirements may influence the choice and definition of the items of data. For these reasons it seems desirable to delay the adoption of revised standards in basic industrial statistics.

4. The addendum to this paper containing the draft revised standards is being presented to the Commission with a view to obtaining its comments and reactions. In the light of these, the proposals will be reviewed and recirculated together with draft proposals regarding standards for the tabulation of industrial data for the comments of Member Governments.

III. WORLD-WIDE INDUSTRIAL CENSUS PROGRAMME

5. In connexion with the circulation of the Draft Revisions to the International Standards in Basic Industrial Statistics, Governments were asked to indicate whether 1962 would be, from their point of view, a convenient or feasible year for a world-wide industrial census. Such a programme, if carried out in all or a large number of countries on a basis that permitted international comparison of the final data, would greatly facilitate international economic analysis as well as provide each country with a yardstick against which to measure its own industrial progress.^{2/}

4/ E/CN.3/242/Add.1, Draft Revisions to the International Standards in Basic Industrial Statistics.

5/ See also: E/CN.3/L.40/Add.1, Recent Basic Industrial Inquiries, para. 2-3.

6. Although a few countries felt that such a census could not, for one or another reason, be undertaken in 1962 or a proximate year and some others stated that their plans for future censuses were yet too indefinite to give a final answer, nearly all countries responding to the query indicated a strong desire to co-operate in a world industrial census programme, if it were at all possible. There is, however, reason to believe, based both on specific replies and on examination of the usual cycle of the various national industrial inquiries, that 1963 would be a better choice than 1962 for the conduct of the world census of industry.

7. Set out in the attached Annex is a list of countries for which information is available regarding their ~~industrial statistics~~ programme. Of the seventy-one countries there listed, forty-eight are indicated as having plans for a basic industrial inquiry relating to the year 1963. This information is based both on direct replies to the recent ~~car~~ or a knowledge of the usual cycle of annual and infrequent industrial inquiries in each country. In this connexion it is of interest that the Committee on the Improvement of National Statistics (COINS) of the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI) has recommended to their member Governments that economic censuses be taken in or around years ending in three and eight. A programme for the censuses to be taken in or around 1963 will be discussed at the 1959 meeting of COINS.

IV. CONCLUSION

8. In view of the fact that consultation with Governments indicates that it is both desirable and feasible to have a world-wide industrial census programme, the Statistical Commission may wish:

1. To recommend to the Economic and Social Council that the attention of member Governments be drawn to the desirability of collecting and compiling comprehensive data relating to mining, manufacturing, construction, and the production of electricity, gas and steam for the year 1963 or for a year as close to 1963 as practicable.
2. To indicate the direction in which further revisions to the International Standards in Basic Industrial Statistics are required.

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3. To request the Secretary-General to continue consultation with countries, through regional meetings and other means with regard to the further revision of the standards in basic industrial statistics, and with regard to standards that might be adopted for the tabulation of the recommended items of data.

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ANNEX

YEAR CLOSEST TO 1963 FOR WHICH A BASIC INQUIRY MAY BE TAKEN

The year closest to 1963 indicated in this table is based on information provided by countries or derived from the usual cycle of industrial inquiries. The year was omitted when such information was not available.

Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year	Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year
AFRICA			
Egypt		Libya	
Establishment Enumeration Triennial, 1954	1963	Census of Employment and Production in Urban Areas, First, 1956	
Census of Industrial Production Biennial, 1954	1962	Mozambique	
Ethiopia		Industrial Statistics, Annual, 1954	1963
Industrial Census, Annual, 1952	1963	Southern Rhodesia	
Ghana		Census of Industrial Production, Annual, 1953	1963
Enterprise Survey, Annual, 1955	1963	Union of South Africa	
Kenya; Tanganyika		Industrial Census, Annual, 1954/1955	1963/61
Census of Industry, First, 1954	1963		
AMERICA, NORTH			
Canada		Costa Rica	
Mining Statistics, Annual, 195-	1963	Commercial and Industrial Census, Quinquennial, 1958 2/	1963
Manufacturing Industries Survey of Production, Annual, 1954	1963	Dominican Republic	
Central Electric Stations, Annual Survey, 1954	1963	National Industrial and Commercial Census, First, 1955 2/	
Capital Expenditure Survey, Annual, 1954	1963	El Salvador	
		Industrial and Commercial Census, Quinquennial, 1956	1961

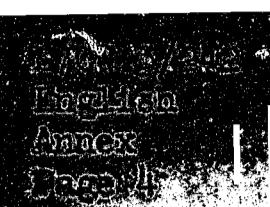
Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year	Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year
AMERICA, NORTH (continued)			
Guatemala Industrial Census, Quinquennial, 1953	1963	Panama Industrial Survey, First, 1955	1960
Honduras Industrial Census, Annual, 1954 and 1955	1963	Trinidad and Tobago, Industrial Census, First, 1953 2/	
Jamaica, B.W.I. Business Establishment Survey for 1953	1958	United States Census of Mineral Industries, Quinquennial, 1954	1963
Mexico Industrial and Commercial Census, Quinquennial, 1955	1965	Census of Manufacturing, Quinquennial, 1954	1963
Nicaragua Commercial and Industrial Census, First, 1953		Mineral Industries, Annual Survey, 195-	1962 3/
		Survey of Manufactures, Annual 1957	1962 3/
AMERICA, SOUTH			
Argentina Census of Mining, Industry and Business, Biennial, 1953	1963	Colombia Industrial Census, Quinquennial, 1953	1963
Brazil Industrial Census, Decennial, 1949	1959	Sample Survey of Manufactures, First, 1955	
		Ecuador Industrial Census, First, 1955	
Chile Industrial Census, Infrequent 1957 2/		Paraguay Industrial Census, First, 1955	1962
		Peru Industrial Inquiry, Annual, 1955	1963
Industrial Statistics, Annual, 1955	1963	Venezuela Industrial and Commercial Census, First, 1953	1963

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Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year	Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year
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ASIA

Afghanistan		Japan	
Census of Manufactures, First, 1954/55		Establishment Census, Triennial, 1957	1963
Burma		Census of Manufactures, Annual, 1955	1963
Industrial Census, First, 1952	1961	Construction Survey, Annual, 1955	1963
Survey of Manufactures, Annual, 1955-1956	1963		
Survey of Cottage Industry, 1957	1963		
Ceylon		Jordan	
Census of Industry, Quinquennial, 1952	1962 or 1963	Census of Mining and Manufacturing, First, 1954	
China, Republic of		Korea, South	
Census of Industry and Commerce, 1954, for the Province of Taiwan 2/		Census of Manufacturing Establishments, Infrequent, 1955	
India		Lebanon	
Census of Manufactures, Annual, 1957	1963	Industrial Census, First, 1955 2/	
National Sample Survey, 1954	1963	Pakistan	
Iran		Census of Manufacturing Industries, Annual, 1953	1963
Census of Industries, First, 1956 2/		Philippines	
Iraq		Economic Census, Decennial, 1948	1958
Industrial Census of Iraq, First, 1953		Survey of Manufactures, Annual, First, 1956 2/	1963
Israel		Thailand	
Census of Industry, Infrequent, 1952		Demographic and Economic Survey, 1953	
Sample Survey of Industries, Annual, First for 1956	1963		



Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year	Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year
EUROPE			
Austria		France	
Non-Agricultural Establishment Census, Decennial, First, 1953	1963	Card Index of Establishments, Permanent, 1954	
Electricity Production, Annual (and monthly), 1956	1963	Industrial Census, Infrequent, 1959	1959
Belgium		Germany, West	
Census of Industry and Commerce, Decennial, 1947	1957	Non-agricultural Establishment Census, Decennial, 1950	1960
Census of Production, Annual, 1955	1963	Handicraft Census, Infrequent, 1956	
Cyprus		Industry Reports, Annual, (and monthly), 1957	1963
Census of Industrial Production, Quadrennial, 1954	1962	Building Report, Annual, (and monthly), 1957	1963
Czechoslovakia		Net Product of Industry Report, Infrequent, 1954	1963
Industrial Undertakings, Statistical Reports, Annual, 1955	1963	Industry Report of Public Utilities, Annual, 1957	1963
Denmark		Inquiry of Public Utilities, Monthly, 1957	1963
Establishment Census, Decennial, 1948	1958	Greece	
Production Census, Annual, 1954	1963	Industrial and Commercial Census, Decennial, 1951	1961
Inventory Inquiry, Annual, 1954	1963	Inquiry on Value Added, Annual, 1954	1963
Finland		Hungary	
General Census of Business Establishments, First, 1953	1963 or 1967	Industrial Undertakings, Statistical Reports, Annual, 195- 2/	1963
Industrial Census, Annual, 1956	1963	Iceland	
		Industrial Census, Triennial, 1953	1962
		Ireland	
		Industrial Census, Annual, 1954	1963

Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year	Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year
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EUROPE (continued)

Italy		Spain	
Industrial and Commercial Census, Decennial, 1951	1961	Census of Industries, Infrequent, First 2/	1958
Value Added Inquiry, Annual, 1954	1963	Industrial Inquiry, Annual, 1957	1963
Luxembourg		Sweden	
Industrial Census, Annual, 1955	1963	Census of Establishments, Decennial, 1951	1961 or 1963
Netherlands		Industrial Census, Annual, 1954	1963
Census of Industries, Decennial, 1950	1960	Switzerland	
Industrial Census, Annual, 1955	1963	Census of Establishments, Decennial, 1955	1965
Norway		Turkey	
Census of Industrial Establishments, Decennial, 1953	1963	Census of Establishments, Decennial, 1950	1960
Industrial Census, Annual, 1954	1962	Industrial Census, Annual, 1954	1963
Poland		United Kingdom	
Statistical Returns, Industry, Annual, 1956	1963	Full Census of Production, Triennial, 1954	1963
Statistical Returns, Handicraft, 1956	1963	Sample Census of Production, 1956 (Annual alternate between full Census)	1962
Portugal		Yugoslavia	
Industrial Census, Infrequent, 2/	1958/60	Collieries Report, Annual, 1955	1963
Industrial Statistics, Annual, 1956	1963	Census of Arts and Crafts, Infrequent, 1954	
Romania		Inquiry on Structure and Value of Industrial Production, Annual, 1956	1963
Statistical Returns, Industry, Annual, 1957	1963		

1963
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Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year	Country, Basic Inquiry and Period for Which Data are Sought 1/	Year
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EUROPE (continued)

Yugoslavia (continued)	
Inquiry on Power Installed in Industry, Annual, 1956	1963
Inquiry on Electric Power Stations, Annual, 1956	1963
Construction Report, Annual and Monthly, 1956	1963

OCEANIA

Australia	New Zealand
Primary Non-rural Industries Census, Annual, 1952	Industrial Production Statistics, Annual, 1953/1954
Secondary Industries Census, Annual, 1953/1954	1963

- 1/ For coverage, source of information, statistical unit and data sought in the basic industrial inquiries listed, see E/CN.3/L.40/Add.1 and 2.
- 2/ Additional information received after completion of E/CN.3/L.40/Add.1 and 2.
- 3/ The annual census is suspended in years of quinquennial censuses.

ANNEX II

List of Countries,* Centres and Institutes from which
Comments on "General Principles for a Housing Census
(First Draft)" (ST/STAT/P/L.22, 30 August 1956) were
received:

Countries*

** Argentina
** Austria
** Belgium
** Bolivia
** Brazil
*** Bulgaria
** Canada
Ceylon
** Chile
** Colombia
** Costa Rica
** Cuba
** Czechoslovakia
** Dominican Republic
** Eastern Zone of Germany
** Ecuador
*** Federal Republic of Germany
** Finland
*** France
*** Greece
** Guatemala
** Honduras
** Haiti
India
** Italy
Jamaica

Countries (cont'd)

*** Luxembourg
** Mexico
*** Netherlands
New Zealand
*** Norway
** Panama
** Peru
*** Romania
** El Salvador
Southern Rhodesia
*** Spain
*** Sweden
*** Switzerland
*** United Kingdom
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
, * United States
** Venezuela
*** Yugoslavia
Centro Interamericano de Enseñanza
de Estadística Económica y
Financiera, Santiago, Chile
Indian Statistical Institute,
Calcutta, India
International Statistical Institute
The Hague, Netherlands
Regional Housing Centre, Bandung
Indonesia.

- * Unless otherwise indicated the comments were made by national statistical or census offices.
** Comments transmitted through IASI.
*** Participated in the second session of the Working Group on Census of Population and Housing of the Conference of European Statisticians.