

2008 GENERAL POPULATION CENSUS OF CAMBODIA

Minute of the height Census Technical Committee Meeting Thursday 13 March 2008, 10:00 AM

Attendance:

H.E. Chhay Than	Senior Minister, Minister of Planning, Chairman of CTC
H.E. San Sy Than	Director General, NIS, MOP
H.E. Rong Chhorn	Secretary General, NCPD
Mr. Mey Tum	UNFPA Representative and his colleagues
Mr. F. Nishi	JICA Expert and his colleagues
H.E. Ms. Hang Lina	Deputy Director General, NIS, MOP
Mr. Seng Soeurn	Deputy Director General, NIS, MOP
Mr. Has Bunton	Deputy Director General, NIS, MOP
Mr. Hor Darith	Director of Census Department
All Member of Census Technical Committee working group.	

Agenda of the meeting

- 1- Welcome speech by H.E. Senior Minister, Minister of Planning
 - 2- Report by H.E. San Sy Than, Director General, NIS, MOP
 - 3- Report by Ms. Hang Lina, DDG, NIS
 - 4- Report on the outcome of the meeting among NIS, UNFPA, and JICA on Monday, 10th March 2008 by Mr. Has Bunton, DDG, NIS
 - 5- Report on Census Enumeration and the Post Enumeration Survey by Mr. Nott Rama Rao, Census Consultant, UNFPA
 - 6- Report on data quality and editing by Mr. Harry Lode, Data Processing Consultant, UNFPA
 - 7- Report on Census Coding by Mr. Shibanuma Akira, JICA Expert
 - 8- Report on Census enumeration, analytical reports, and Priority tables by Mr. F. Nishi, JICA Expert.
 - 9- Other Business
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- 1- H.E. Senior Minister welcomed the meeting and thanked to UNFPA, JICA, and NIS staff for their effort to do the census till the day of ending census operation (13 March 2008).
 - 2- H.E. San Sy Than, reported in detail regarding to the census field operation, then Ms. Hang Lina and Mr. Has Bunton reported further on the following:
 - About 40,000 enumerator and supervisor involving in the census
 - The interviewed with homeless, transience, hotels, hospital in the night of 2nd March 2008 had been conducted smoothly
 - The interviewed from 3 to 13 March 2008 also good. It was not serious problem. All the problems had been solved. It was satisfied by our partners. Speed of interview had been increased day to day according to their experiences.
 - Good census organized good census publicity, and good involvement from the people.
 - The census of the institutional population and military were very nice.

- The census publicity even though we had a little amount of budget but we made it very effective we had the announcement from SAMDACH Prime Minister during the census field operation.
- However, we had some problem encounter such as number of household has increased rather than whatever planned in mapping. Nevertheless, we had used the reservation and the additional enumerators as well as the budget in the plan.
- Some mistake in the filling questionnaires had been corrected.
- Two agreements between NIS, UNFPA, and JICA in the meeting on Monday 10 March 2008:
 - i. In the absent of the value of key variables such as Age and Sex, editor would have to make assumption based on other information such as Relationship to head of household, Education level, age of children, etc. For record, NIS agreed to seek the possibility to add additional fields for making whether the field was blank.
 - ii. To facilitate the processing, for Mother Tongue, code 29 shall remain as “other language” and recode others.
- The system checking and monitoring on the flow of editing and data processing had been set up in networking in whole building.

What to do next:

- Received completed census questionnaires.
- Recruited and train PES staff
- Field work for PES from 24 March to 04 April 2008
- Trained for editing and entering data of Form 2
- Edited and entered data Form 2 for releasing preliminary
- Trained for editing and entering data of Form B
- Edited and entered data Form B for releasing the final census result in September 2009
- Released the preliminary result in Sept 2008

Mr. Nott Rama Rao said that he agreed with H.E San Sy Than and Ms. Hang Lina that census operation was good as he also observed in Phnom Penh and Kampong Cham. He had trained to PES TOT 24 People recruited from NIS. He noted that there were some problems in the census operation like household increased which was our experience in Pilot census. The other problems such as difficulty in meeting with household to interview but the enumerators had adjusted time according to the available of household. He observed one strange problem in Kampong Cham, one khmer village, Vietnam did not allow to interview. The manual editing should change according to the different filling form from place to place. Be careful in receiving the completed census questionnaire not to loss any of them. Do not tell the result first to any one, should wait the final result. He raised that the census always had errors so we have to conduct a PES and will release the result together with the final census results.

Mr. Harry Lode observed in Phnom Penh and Kandal. The census operation was good, and congratulation to NIS staff. However, He found the number household in maps lower than the actual. In some places the household increase to 3 or 4 times, some places had been ob-missed during mapping. So, difficult to print more and send more form to every places. Some enumerator keep filling blank column such as column literacy, level of education and said they will fill up at home. One more point enumerator always put (-) refer to same same and it confused skip pattern. In part 3 of form B also keep blank . In general the enumerator difficult in filling the economic activities. Therefore, the manual editing should revise for improving the questionnaires.

Mr. Shibanuma Akira stated that he would revised the Manual Editing according to Mr. Rama Rao and Harry Lode. He would prepare for receiving the completed questionnaires, the editing and coding. He noted that most problem in filling part 2 and part 3 of form B. However, we had enough time to revise the manual editing base on data processing program. Editing, coding and data processing were closely related. Therefore, the cooperation must be needed. Currently, the ILO had finalized the occupation code. He would have a meeting with NIS to make a final decision. NIS requested to him to train on editing form 2 on Monday 17 March 2008. In this case JICA can provide training without budget. So, NIS should manage by themselves.

Mr. F. Nishi said: Embassy of Japan and JICA office were very happy and very satisfied to see the banner publicity with the Logo of Japan and JICA. He requested to the meeting to approve on the analytical reports as in the list, the priority tables, and the creation of quality management team (QM). He raised that for the next Cambodia population census the de-jure method is better and use de-facto method only for the homeless and transience. If we use de-jure method, it will be easier for the enumerators.

H.E Senior Minister concluded: The census enumeration was good. Thank to the donors, UNFPA and JICA for supporting census including technical and budget especially a new building and others materials. Census had been interested by Samdach Prime Minister who had been followed up all the time. All province and municipalities governors also interested in census and supported every things. All leaders of the Ministries were member of census committee. Therefore, it would be much easier than in census 1998. The problems had been solved. According to the estimation the population currently 14.5 million compare to 1998 11.4 million it was increased 3 million but the expenditure for the census was less than 1998. The problem raised by Mr. Harry Lode regarding to the filling blank whether we could go to fill up again or could call for completing. The Post enumeration survey cover all the province or not. Please check which province had the best result? How many percent error? All the requests from Mr. F. Nishi, he would accept all. He admire to the NIS staff, provincial census staff, UNFPA and JICA for their cooperation. He wished, to the member of meeting with five Buddhist bless.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Phnom Penh, 20 March 2008
Minute Taker

Hang Lina