Annex 36  
Population Census Council: The First Meeting of the Council

The Presidency

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Date: 7 March, 2006-03-07  
Venue: The Presidency

1] The meeting has highly appreciated what have been done by CBS and SSCCES for the period 15/9 – 7/3. That includes the approval of the Census documents by the MOF and MDTF and the good administration of the listing in both the northern and southern states.

2] The meeting has urged Ministry of Finance to assure regular transfer of funds, for the remaining nine months as scheduled, to enable CBS and SSCCES execute the census operations time table. The meeting has been informed that the MDTF had put the commitment of the government share as condition for transferring its share.

3] The meeting has approved the proposal of the TWG about the Geocoding, the coding of the ethnic groups and the Mapping to be based on the 1956 Census.

4] The meeting has agreed to allow the civil registration unit in the Ministry of Interior to use the microdata in the coming census nationality and migration purposes.

5] The meeting has approved the proposal of the organizational setup of the census endorsed by the TWG with the following amendments:

A) National technical committee (NTC)

The membership of this committee should only be form the CBS and SSCCES and the consultants. Other users or producers of data can be consulted directly or through the statistics national council or may attend certain meetings where their advice is needed. This is because the TC used to conduct its meetings in different states in the north and south in order to observe some field activities. Members other than CBS and SSCCES may not have the time to avail themselves for such periods of times.

B) Monitoring and observers committee (MOC)
The meeting has suggested to add members from the private sector to this committee.

C) States population council

The meeting has amended the proposal to add heads of localities councils instead of tribes chiefs in this stage. The meeting has also noticed that the presence of the political parties and civil society organizations may not be advisable this to be in council.

D) Population census councils in other levels

For the levels of the locality (county) and administrative council (payam) and popular council (boma) the meeting has requested the Minister of Federal Governance Bureau Austaz Abdel Basit Subdrat to make a proposed that includes members from county councils and popular committees in the Rural areas.

6] The presidency should issue a decree for the formation of the PCC in the south of Sudan and also the PCC at the states level beside a guideline for establishing the councils at the county, administrative councils, and popular councils as requested in para (D).

7] The meeting requested the MOF to support the programs of satellite mappings as suggested by CBS and SSCCSE so as to assure the full coverage of the sahara and harsh areas in the south. The budget of the mappings is not a part of the census budget.

8] The council has requested any of his members or any other technical body who have any technical observations to submit them, to be considered by the TC before the final printing of the questionnaires.

9] The council has raised up concerns on the advocacy and publicity campaign in the coming period for awareness about the census and its importance in distribution the powers and wealth. That can be done through the different media (TV, Radio, Newspapers), meetings with different administrative and popular levels and also made use of the experience on the previous censuses.

10] The council has approved the suggested station with an amendment to allow state ministers to replace ministers in their absence. The council has also accepted the suggestion to take the decisions with simple majority.

11] The council has asked the convenor to arrange the budget of the council in consultancy with the minister of finance.