

**UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT
Statistics Division**

**ESA/STAT/AC.91/6
4 November 2003**

English only

**Expert Group Meeting to
Review the United Nations Demographic Yearbook System
10-14 November 2003
New York**

**The collection and dissemination of statistics on disability at the
United Nations Statistics Division: Proposals for the future**

By

**The Social and Housing Statistics Section
UNITED NATIONS STATISTICS DIVISION**

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations Statistics Division is responsible for international collection and dissemination of population and vital statistics. The data collection process involves collecting national demographic and social statistics through a series of questionnaires.¹ To date, efforts to collect and disseminate national disability statistics from censuses, surveys and administrative records has been, mainly from national publications, with the exception of a data collection exercise through a questionnaire on aging that included questions on disability.² The results of this exercise were published in 1991.

2. This report reviews past and current activities of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) with regard to the collection and dissemination of disability statistics, which have been collected on an ad hoc basis from national publications. It proposes the integration of disability statistics into the regular collection and dissemination of national statistics through the *Demographic Yearbook* Programme. Finally it provides recommendations on what type of data and other information may be collected from countries in the future.

II. DISABILITY DATA COLLECTION ACTIVITIES AT THE UNITED NATIONS STATISTICS DIVISION

3. The UNSD collection and dissemination of statistics on disability began in the early 1980s. This coincided with increased international interest in disability issues. These include the declaration in 1983 of the International Year of Disabled Persons and of the Decade of Disabled Persons that followed from 1983-1992, as well as the development of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons³ as an international guide to monitor the situation of persons with disabilities. The World Programme of Action called upon the United Nations to develop, on a continuing basis, suitable systems for the collection and dissemination of information on disability necessary for programme evaluation at all levels.⁴ The Statistical Commission, at its 34th Session, supported the collection of disability statistics on a regular basis through the *Demographic Yearbook* system.⁵

¹ There are three annual questionnaires (Questionnaire on population estimates; Questionnaire on vital statistics; and Questionnaire on migration and travel statistics) and three population census questionnaires which are sent out when a country is known to have carried out a census (Population census questionnaire; Population census questionnaire on economic characteristics; and Population census questionnaire on households). See also "The United Nations *Demographic Yearbook* Data Collection Process", ESA/STAT/AC.91/2, for further details.

² See also Data collection and dissemination through the *Demographic Yearbook*, p.8

³ The World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session on 3 December 1982 by its resolution 37/52. See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session. Supplement No. 51 (A/37/51)*.

⁴ *Ibid.* para. 195.

⁵ Report on the thirty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission, 4-7 March 2003. E/2003/24 and E/CN.3/2003/34

4. The compilation of disability statistics was based on a reviewing of published reports available in the United Nations and other statistical libraries, or received upon request through direct communication with national statistical offices and other government ministries. The collection has therefore been made on an ad hoc basis. Efforts within the Statistics Division, to collect and disseminate data on disability have covered the following activities: (1) the Development of statistics of disabled persons: Case studies⁶; (2) the United Nations Disability Statistics Database, version 1, and the Disability Statistics Compendium⁷; (3) the United Nations Disability Database, version 2; and (4) data collection and dissemination through the Demographic Yearbook.

A. The Development of Statistics of Disabled Persons: Case Studies

5. The United Nations Statistical Office (now known as the United Nations Statistics Division) produced the publication *Development of Statistics of Disabled Persons: Case Studies* using data from population censuses and surveys following the request of the World Programme of Action. The case studies represent 14 studies - 8 censuses and 6 surveys - spanning the period from 1947 to 1981 undertaken in five countries namely, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic.

6. The publication examines methods used in the case study countries to collect statistics on disability by reviewing the strengths and weaknesses of each data source (census, survey and registration), the definitions and classifications. It also presents detailed tables of statistics on persons with disabilities. The report presents a total fifty-two tables prepared from these studies, with a varying number of tables by country. Furthermore, there are differences among the countries with regard to the topics covered in the tabulations.

(a) The age groupings used also vary greatly between studies. Cross-classification of information by age and also by sex is only available for impairments for selected countries. Iraq and Jordan, for instance, did not cross-classify any of the information by age.

(b) The two countries (Egypt and the Syrian Arab Republic) with data on the educational attainment, occupation and employment status of persons with disabilities tabulated this information by sex but not by age.

7. This report, which pioneered the United Nations Statistics Division's efforts in the area of disability, demonstrated that data on disability exists. But it also highlighted problems inherent in cross-national comparisons of the data due to differences among the countries in methodologies used. The findings of this historical report helped shape efforts of the Division to improve methods of disability measurement as well as the development

⁶ *Development of statistics of disabled persons: Case studies*, United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.XVII.17.

⁷ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XVII.17.

of classification schemes for standardized presentation and interpretation of data on disability at the international level.

B. The United Nations Disability Statistics Database, version 1

8. In 1988, the first version of the United Nations Disability Statistics Database (DISTAT version 1) was published. DISTAT is the first international database of its kind that consolidates and standardizes data on selected issues on disability based upon published national data from population censuses, household surveys, and registration systems. The database contains national data on disability status of the population as well as on the socio-economic characteristics of persons with and without disabilities; such as marital status, education, and economic characteristics. DISTAT also contains metadata on the type of study.

9. DISTAT version 1 presents data on disability from 67 studies representing 55 countries, from 1975 to 1987. The database is divided into six topical areas that cover 22 tables (5 tables of descriptive information and 17 data files).⁸ The six broad areas are:

- (i) General description of the census or survey methodology in each data source;
- (ii) Demographic characteristics and urban/rural residence (2 data file tables);
- (iii) Assessing the equalization of opportunities, i.e., socio-economic characteristics such as educational attainment, economic activity, occupation, industry and employment (3 data file tables);
- (iv) Social integration, household and family membership (4 data file tables);
- (v) Describing the disability experience (7 data file tables); and
- (vi) Other special topics (1 data file table).

10. Twelve tables derived from this database are published in the *Disability Statistics Compendium*.⁹ The tables range from the most basic ones, such as disability status of the population that distinguish those with disabilities from the total population surveyed, to tables on more specialized topics such as living arrangements of the population with disabilities and use of technical aids. Thus the data from the different national studies are organized by topic and within topics international standard classifications are used when applicable. For instance, the *International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities, and Handicaps*¹⁰ is used to present statistics on the different types of impairments, disabilities and handicaps. Standardization in the presentation of the data makes it easier to compare the different studies.

⁸ *United Nations Disability Statistics Database, 1975-1986: Technical Manual*, United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.XVII.12, p.2.

⁹ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XVII.17. See <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs>

¹⁰ *International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities, and Handicaps* (Geneva, World Health Organization, 1980).

C. The United Nations Disability Statistics Database, version 2

11. DISTAT version 2 covers 179 national studies on disability across all regions of the world. DISTAT-2 was developed using existing data in DISTAT, version 1, other data available at the office (from the library and data collected through the *Demographic Yearbook Special Questionnaire on Ageing*) as well as through requests made to countries that were known to have collected data on disability mainly through censuses. The letters to countries requested both statistics as well as information on the studies such as the question(s) used, the coverage of the study, etc. In terms of statistical data, countries were requested to send information on the population with and without disabilities by age and sex and also tabulations on the social, economic and living conditions of persons with disabilities and also of the total population in terms of school attendance, educational attainment, employment and marital status. The corresponding tabulations for the total population are useful in analyses of the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities compared to those without disabilities.

12. Currently, published statistics from DISTAT, version 2 refer only to the prevalence of disability (per 100) by age and sex and by country. Where available, information on the question(s) used is also provided to aid in the interpretation of the rates and particularly to understand why there are such large differences between countries in the prevalence rates of disability. This information is available on the United Nations Statistics Division website at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/disability/>. Statistics in DISTAT-2 show wide variations in estimates of the prevalence of disability obtained in various studies, ranging between 0.2 per cent and 20 per cent. This wide variation in rates can be attributed mainly to the differences in the conceptual approaches and also in the questions used to identify the population with disabilities. While some countries have defined disability in terms of impairments some have used an activity limitations approach to define the population with disabilities. Furthermore, most studies are from censuses and have used questions that refer to only a few specific types of impairments while some of the countries have used sample surveys and detailed questionnaires on activity limitations to identify the population of interest. These methodological differences in the measurement of disability hamper the comparability of disability prevalence rates between studies.

13. The information in DISTAT-2 shows, as does the DISTAT-1, major differences among the countries with regard to the coverage of their studies. In some cases, only the population 10 years and over or 15 years and over is included in the study. Differences in coverage and also the classification of the data affect the comparison of the data between countries. Such differences make it difficult to make judicious comparisons among countries.

D. Data collection and dissemination through the *Demographic Yearbook*

14. As part of the 1991 *Demographic Yearbook – Special Questionnaire on Ageing*¹¹, statistical data and information on disability were requested from countries. This is the only time that data on disability were collected as part of the *Demographic Yearbook* data collection process. Information from the most recent study was requested on the “Disabled population by age, sex and disability, impairment, or handicap status”. In addition, countries were asked to provide the definitions used as well as the question(s) used to identify the population with disabilities.

15. With regard to disability, impairment or handicap status, the following categories were included:

1. Mental, intellectual or other psychological
2. Language (speaking)
3. Aural (hearing)
4. Ocular (seeing)
5. Skeletal (limb loss, paralysis)
6. Disfigurement
7. Situational
8. Other

In the instructions to the part on disability, countries were requested to provide additional tabulations, if available, on the following topics:

1. Educational attainment
2. School attendance
3. Literacy
4. Economic activity
5. Occupation
6. Cause of disability
7. Marital status
8. Housing
9. Other

III. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF STATISTICS ON DISABILITY

16. There are several reasons why there is a need for an international systematic collection and dissemination of statistics on disability, as discussed below:

- (a) The collection and dissemination of statistics on disability, at the international level, can be made part of the *Demographic Yearbook* data collection

¹¹ Data from the Special Questionnaire on Ageing were disseminated in the *United Nations Demographic Yearbook Special Issue: Population Ageing and the Situation of Elderly Persons*, United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F.92.XIII.9

process given that the United Nations Statistics Division has the mandate to collect national data on population, vital and other statistics. It was approved at the 34th United Nations Statistical Commission that disability statistics be collected on a regular basis.¹² This activity will be made part of the *Demographic Yearbook* process.

(b) National and international interest in the situation of persons with disabilities has increased significantly over the past several decades. During the same period, there has been an increase in national efforts to collect data on disability in both developed and developing countries. Increased attention to disability issues and demand for statistics on persons with disabilities may be a result of increased awareness about disability issues due to the International Year of Disabled Persons in 1981, the World Programme of Action¹³, the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons from 1983 to 1992, and *The Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities* in 1993.¹⁴ These international events and policy documents call for the production of statistics on a broad spectrum of topics necessary for the evaluation and monitoring of the situation of persons with disabilities through programmes and policies.

(c) The United Nations, through the development of guidelines for the collection and tabulation of data on disability through population censuses and sample surveys is encouraging countries to collect this type of information. The *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Rev. 1*¹⁵ and the *Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics*¹⁶ provide guidance on how to define the population with disabilities, how to develop the question(s) to be used, and on possible tabulations. The recommendations for tabulations of data on disabilities emphasize the need for countries to go beyond tabulations that show only prevalence rates by gender and age and type of disability, to include also tabulations on key social and economic characteristics, such as marital status, school attendance, educational attainment, activity status, and occupation (see annex 2 for a list of the recommended tabulations on disability). The tabulations on the social and economic characteristics should have for comparison purpose both persons with and without disability. One would argue that calls for increases in data production should be followed up with a mechanism by the United Nations Statistics Division to launch a systematic collection and dissemination of disability statistics from countries.

¹² See para. 3

¹³ The World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session on 3 December 1982 by its resolution 37/52. See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 51(A/37/51)*.

¹⁴ *The Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities*, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/96 of 20 December 1993 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.DPI/1454).

¹⁵ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.XVII.8.

¹⁶ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XVII.15.

(d) The *International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)*¹⁷, published in late 2001, provides a common conceptual framework for collecting and classifying data on disability through standardized concepts and terminology. The use of a common framework contributes to greater comparability of data at both national and international levels, thereby increasing the relevance of the data to a wide set of users. Data collection and dissemination on recent studies based on the ICF framework, through the *Demographic Yearbook* would, therefore, make available comparable statistics at the global level.

(e) Work is going on at the international level to improve the measurement of disability and harmonize the methods used by the countries with a view to improving the international comparability of statistics on disability. This international endeavour is taking place under the auspices of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics. An immediate objective of the Washington Group is to develop, for international use, both a short set of disability questions for use in censuses as well as a long set of questions for use in surveys. Both sets should be based on the ICF framework. For more information see <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/citygroup.htm>. When the Washington Group completes its work, it is anticipated that there will be more cross-nationally comparable statistics on disability available.

(f) Although limited in scope, the collection and dissemination of statistics on disability through the *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaire on Ageing demonstrated that it can be done (only one table on “Disabled population by age, sex and disability, impairment, or handicap status” was included). What is being proposed here, although much more detailed is, therefore, not entirely new.

17. In conclusion, making the collection of statistics on disability part of the *Demographic Yearbook* collection and dissemination system would:

- (i) Regularize the collection of these data by establishing a timetable for making the requests to the countries;
- (ii) Make the statistics on disability part of a larger database (the *Demographic Yearbook* database), thereby improving their utility by relating them with statistics on other topics; and
- (iii) Improve the dissemination of the data by making them available on a regular basis to an international audience.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

18. The implementation phase of the proposal entails the determination of the information to be collected, the design of statistical tables to be sent to countries to collect

¹⁷ *International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health: ICF*, World Health Organization, 2001. Geneva.

the data, as well as a discussion of a roadmap of actions leading to the finalization and sending of the questionnaire as part of the *Demographic Yearbook* data collection process.

A. Information to be requested

19. Two types of information will be requested from the countries: (1) statistical information as specified in the list of tables below, and (2) meta data, i.e., methodological information on questions used to identify the population with disabilities and how the population with disabilities was defined.

(a) Statistical information

20. Three tables listed below and in sketches in annex 3 are proposed. These tables cover the basic information on population with disabilities by age and sex, as well as some on selected socio-economic characteristics of the population with disabilities. Information from these tables can be used to estimate the prevalence rate of disability in the countries concerned and also to provide a socio-economic profile of the population with disabilities compared to those without. It should be noted that the table headings refer to the population with disabilities because similar tabulations for the whole population are already collected in other relevant *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaires, particularly those related to census data.

21. Statistical information to be requested relates to:

- (a) Persons with disabilities by age, sex and urban/rural residence;
- (b) Persons with disabilities 5¹⁸ to 29 years of age by school attendance, single years of age and sex;
- (c) Persons with disabilities 15 years and over by usual (or current) activity status, age and sex.

(b) Metadata

22. Countries will be requested to provide methodological information so as to facilitate the interpretation of the data and also its comparability between studies. Information available in DISTAT shows that national practices differ with regard to questions and conceptual definitions used in the measurement of disability. These methodological differences result in different estimates of disability and need to be taken into account when data are presented and interpreted. Metadata to be requested includes (see annex 4 for details of what will be requested):

¹⁸ The lower age-limit should be the usual age for entrance into school.

- (a) Definitions of the population with disabilities used in the study;
- (b) Questions used to identify the population with disabilities; and
- (c) Sources of data, i.e., whether from a census, survey, or administrative records.

B. Two alternative approaches

23. Two alternatives are proposed to facilitate the collection of disability data.

(a) Proposal 1

24. The four proposed tables could be sent as part of an existing *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaire as part of the Population Census Questionnaire. A drawback of this proposal is that the census questionnaire already has 18 tables. Furthermore, while this proposal would work well for countries that depend on the population census to collect data on disability, it would not work for those that do not. The latter would need more additional tables.

25. Experience from DISTAT shows that for many countries, surveys are the main source of data on disability. In some of these countries the periodicity of the census and that of the surveys collecting data on disability may not be the same.

(b) Proposal 2

26. The tables on disability could form a stand-alone questionnaire that would periodically be sent to countries. An advantage of this option is that it gives more prominence to the disability tables rather than having them as part of another questionnaire. This option, however, would increase the number of questionnaires to be sent to countries.

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27. The Expert Group Meeting may wish to advise how to best collect disability data from countries including:

- (a) Number of key variables to send to countries for data collection;
- (b) Frequency of the data collection exercise;
- (c) How best to get high response rates from countries;
- (d) The best way national statistical offices can coordinate the collection of disability data.

Annex 1: Topic areas covered in the United Nations Disability Statistics Database (DISTAT)

Area 1: General description of the census or survey methodology in each data source

- Table 1. Censuses and surveys having a question indicating disability status by country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 2. Sources of data for censuses and surveys having a question indicating disability status by country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 3. Country classifications and approximate International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities and Handicaps (ICIDH) coded used in disability cross-tabulations for censuses and surveys having a question indicating disability status by country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 4. Censuses and surveys having a question indicating disability status at the sub national level by country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 5. Availability of data base topics in disability cross-tabulations for censuses and surveys having a question indicating disability status by country or area, year and type of data collection

Area 2: Demographic characteristics and urban/rural residence

- Table 6. Impairment and disability status of population by age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 7. Urban/rural residence by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection

Area 3: Assessing the equalization of opportunities

- Table 8. Educational attainment and current school attendance, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of study
- Table 9. Economic activity, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection

- Table 10. Occupation, industry, employment and status of the not economically active population, by impairment and disability status and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection

Area 4: Social integration, household and family membership

- Table 11. Marital status of the population, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 12. Type of household, type of living quarters and number of persons in household, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 13. Family composition, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 14. Household and personal income, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection

Area 5: Describing the disability experience

- Table 15. Presence of an additional impairment and disability, by impairment status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 16. Age at onset of impairment, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 17. Cause of impairment, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 18. Disability status of population, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 19. Severity of impairment or degree of disability, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection
- Table 20. Aids used for reducing disabilities, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection

Table 21. Services or treatment received, by impairment and disability status, age group and sex, country or area, year and type of data collection

Area 6: Other special topics

Table 22. Examples of special topic tables based on national data collection, including tables on social isolation, community attitudes towards disability and disabled persons, transportation and problems encountered in the home

Annex 2: Tables on disability in the United Nations census recommendations

1. Total population, by type of disability, geographical division, urban/rural residence, whether living in household or institution, age and sex
2. Households with one or more persons with disability, by type, size of household, urban/rural residence
3. Total population 15 years of age and over, by type of disability, marital status, urban/rural area, age and sex
4. Population with disability, by cause and type of disability, urban/rural area, age and sex
5. Population 5 to 29 years of age, by school attendance, type of disability, urban/rural area, age and sex
6. Population 5 years of age and over, by educational attainment, type of disability, urban/rural area, age and sex
7. Population 15 years and over, by activity status, type of disability, urban/rural area, age and sex

Annex 3. Time frame for the development of the proposal for the international data collection and dissemination on disability

1. Revised for presentation at the *Demographic Yearbook* review meeting October 2003
2. Revised versions for testing Early 2004
3. Pilot testing in selected countries Spring 2004
4. Workshop to test feasibility of providing the information and filling the tables May/June 2004
5. Send tables as part of the *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaire Fall 2005

Annex 4: Proposed tables for collecting data on disability through the DYB process

(Please see attached draft questionnaire including tables and instructions)

Statistics Division - United Nations
Demographic Yearbook

Country: _____

Draft Questionnaire on Disability Statistics

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The purpose of this questionnaire is to collect in an uniform manner information on disability for inclusion in the United Nations Demographic Yearbook system.
2. The questionnaire has **two** parts. The **first** part is intended to collect information on sources of data on disability in the country as well as more detailed information on the questions and definitions used. The **second** part includes the tables that are intended to collect information on the numbers and characteristics of persons with disabilities.
3. Please read the instructions for each part before providing the information.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE TABLES

1. In filling in the tables the following procedures are suggested:
 - a. Give all figures unrounded, i.e., to the last digit rather than rounded to the nearest tens or thousands.
 - b. Use the following symbols
--- when the total number is 0
... when the data are not available
* when data are preliminary or provisional
 - c. Compare all tables to be sure that, when applicable, totals agree. If there are differences between tables, please explain in notes.
2. If it is not possible to complete all cells in each table, please give whatever figures are available.
3. If it is not possible to supply figures classified or defined exactly as indicated in the tables, please provide the data that are available.
4. In the tables, the age definition desired is “age at last birthday” or completed years. If age definition is not age at last birthday but is given in other terms (such as age at nearest birthday, age at next birthday or difference between year of birth and the year the information was collected), please explain the definition for each table.

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

1. Are statistics on disability compiled by your organization?

Yes No

If **Yes**, go to Section I

If **No**, go to Section V

Section I. DATA SOURCES

Please indicate the source(s) of data on disability for your country (Please tick all boxes that apply)

	Yes	No	
Population census	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If Yes , go to Section I-A on page 1.
Sample survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If Yes , go to Section I-B on page 4.
Administrative sources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If Yes , go to Section I-C on page 6.

Section I-A. POPULATION CENSUSES

1. Please indicate the date of the latest census that was used to collect data on disability (day, month, year) _____

2. Indicate the population covered in collecting the information on disability

Complete count

On a sample basis (If so, please indicate the proportion of the sample to the total population and the sample size)

Adult population only (Please specify age range covered)

Population living in institutions¹

¹ The following are examples of institutions – military installations, correctional and penal institutions, dormitories of schools and universities, religious institutions, old people’s homes and hospitals.

Other (Please specify) _____

3. Please state the reason(s) why the information on disability was collected. (Write below or attach on a separate sheet)

4. Please indicate the primary method used to collect the information on disability

- Face-to-face interview
- Mail-back method
- Other method (Please explain)

5. Please indicate the respondent designated to answer the question(s) on disability

- Self-response (except for children, if covered by the study)
- One respondent per household/family (use of proxy respondents)
- Combination of respondents (Please specify)

7. Please provide a copy of the questionnaire, including all the questions asked on disability.

8. Is the census information on disability processed and published?

Yes No

Section I-B. SAMPLE SURVEYS

1. Title of the latest survey used to collect data on disability

2. Indicate the survey date (day, month, year) _____

3. Write below the proportion of the sample to the total population

4. Give the sample size

3. Indicate the population covered in collecting the information on disability

Complete count

On a sample basis (If so, please indicate the proportion of the sample to the total population and the sample size)

Adult population only (Please specify age range covered)

Population living in institutions²

Other (Please specify) _____

6. What was the reason that the survey was conducted?

² The following are examples of institutions – military installations, correctional and penal institutions, dormitories of schools and universities, religious institutions, old people’s homes and hospitals.

7. What was the purpose for collecting the information on disability in the survey?

8. Is the survey information on disability processed and published?

Yes No

9. Please indicate the primary method used to collect the information on disability.

- Face-to-face interview
- Telephone interview
- Mail-back method
- Other method (Please specify)

10. Please indicate the respondent designated to answer the question(s) on disability

- Self-response (except for children, if covered by the study)
- One respondent per household/family (use of proxy respondents)
- Combination of respondents (Please specify)

11. Please provide a copy of the questionnaire, including all the questions asked on disability.

Section I-C. ADMINISTRATIVE SOURCES

1. Does your country have registration for disability?

Yes No

If Yes, please indicate title of registration system

If **No**, please indicate the administrative source(s) for the information on disability

2. Reference date for the information being provided in the register (day, month, year) _____

3. Please specify whether the administrative source of information covers:

- Any type of disability
 Specific type(s) of disabilities (please specify)

4. Indicate if this source is a:

- One-time or ad hoc registration of persons with disabilities
 Continuous registration of persons with disabilities
 Periodic registration of persons with disabilities³

5. Indicate below the purpose(s) of this administrative registration system

6. Is data from this administrative source published?

Yes No

If **Yes**, give the title of the publication

³ Registration is not carried out continuously but is repeated after some time, such as after 5 or 10 years.

Section II. DEFINITION OF DISABILITY USED

In the *International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)*⁴ *disability* serves as an umbrella term for activity limitations, participation restrictions or impairments. Activity limitations and participation restrictions are disabilities related to Activity⁵ and Participation⁶ respectively while impairments are disabilities associated with Body Functions⁷ and Body Structures⁸.

Please give below or attach the definition of disability used in your country for the collection of data on disability or registration of persons with disabilities.

⁴ *International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)*, World Health Organization, Geneva, 2001.

⁵ *Activity* is the execution of a task or action by an individual.

⁶ *Participation* is involvement in life situations.

⁷ *Body Functions* are the physiological functions of body systems (including psychological functions).

⁸ *Body Structures* are anatomical parts of the body such as organs, limbs and their components.

Section III. INFORMATION RELATED TO THE QUESTIONS ON DISABILITY ASKED IN THE CENSUS OR SURVEY

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION IF THE DATA ON DISABILITY ARE FROM A CENSUS OR SURVEY

1. Please indicate if the definition of disability used for the study includes a minimum length of time of the experienced or expected duration of the disability, such as 6 months.

- Yes (Specify the length of time) _____
- No

2. Please indicate the type of response categories used for the questions on disability

- Dichotomous responses of either “Yes”, or “No” to a particular condition.
- Multiple response categories to a particular condition such as “Yes, very often”, “Yes, often”, “Yes, sometimes”, “No, not at all”.
- Open-ended questions

3. In the WHO International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF), disability is described from three perspectives, the body, the individual, and society as describe below. Please choose which of the following definitions of disability best describes the approach and essence of the questions used to identify persons with disabilities in your country. Please tick all the boxes that apply.

- Activity Limitations* are difficulties an individual may have in executing activities.⁹ Examples of activity limitations include difficulties walking, sitting, standing, speaking and learning.
- Participation restrictions* are problems an individual may experience in involvement in life situations.¹⁰
- Impairments* are problems in body function¹¹ or structure¹² such as a significant deviation or loss. Examples of impairments include blindness, deafness, muteness, mental retardation, paralysis and loss of limbs.

⁹ *Activity* is the execution of a task or action by an individual.

¹⁰ *Participation* is involvement in life situations.

¹¹ *Body Functions* are the physiological functions of body systems (including psychological functions).

¹² *Body Structures* are anatomical parts of the body such as organs, limbs and their components.

Section IV. INSTRUCTIONS USED FOR COLLECTING INFORMATION ON DISABILITY

Please attach the instructions, if any, to enumerators, supervisors or persons filling in the questionnaire on questions on disability.

Section V. IF STATISTICS ON DISABILITY ARE NOT COMPILED IN THE COUNTRY

1. Please indicate reasons for not compiling statistics on disability in your country

- Lack of demand for statistics on disability
- Lack of resources/capacity for compiling statistics on disability
- Other reasons (please specify)

2. Does your country intend to compile statistics on disability in the near future?

- Yes No

If **Yes**, please provide approximate date when data will be available

UN Office use only									
Tbl	Yr	Mo	Da	E	U	S	L	R	A
460	00	04	05	0	0	0	0	1	0

Table 1. Persons with disabilities by age, sex and urban/rural residence

Age (in years)	Code	Population								
		T o t a l			U r b a n			R u r a l		
		Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
All ages..	00JJ									
Under 1..	0000									
1 - 4	0104									
5 - 9	0509									
10 - 14	1014									
15 - 19	1519									
20 - 24	2024									
25 - 29	2529									
30 - 34	3034									
35 - 39	3539									
40 - 44	4044									
45 - 49	4549									
50 - 54	5054									
55 - 59	5559									
60 - 64	6064									
65 - 69	6569									
70 - 74	7074									
75 - 79	7579									
80 - 84	8084									
85 - 89	8589									
90 - 94	9094									
95 - 99	9599									
100 +..	9898									
Unknown.	9999									

UN Office use only									
Tbl	Yr	Mo	Da	E	U	S	L	R	A
490	00	04	05	0	0	0	0	1	0

Table 2. Persons with disabilities 5¹ to 29 years of age by school attendance, single years of age and sex

BOTH SEXES

School attendance

Age (in years)	Code	Total 0000	Attending school 1000	Not attending school 2000	Not stated 9999
All Ages.....	0524				
5 ¹	0505				
6.....	0606				
7.....	0707				
8.....	0808				
9.....	0909				
10.....	1010				
11.....	1111				
12.....	1212				
13.....	1313				
14.....	1414				
15.....	1515				
16.....	1616				
17.....	1717				
18.....	1818				
19.....	1919				
20.....	2020				
21.....	2121				
22.....	2222				
23.....	2323				
24.....	2424				
25					
26					
27					
28					
29					
Not stated.....	9999				

¹ The lower age-limit should be the usual age for entrance into school.

UN Office use only									
Tbl	Yr	Mo	Da	E	U	S	L	R	A
980	00	04	05	0	0	0	0	1	0

Table 3. Persons with disabilities 15 years of age and over¹, by usual (or current) activity status, age and sex

BOTH SEXES

A G E (in years)

Usual (or current) activity status	Code	All Ages 0099	Under 15 0014	5 - 19 1519	20 - 24 2024	25 - 29 2529	30 - 34 3034	35 - 39 3539	40 - 44 4044	45 - 49 4549	50 - 54 5054	55 - 59 5559	60 - 64 6064	65 - 69 6569	70 - 74 7074	75 + 7500	Not stated 9999
Total population with disabilities	0000																
Employed																	
Unemployed	1011																
Total																	
Seeking work for the first time	1012																
Not economically active	0002																
Not stated	0004																

¹ Please specify minimum age-limit if data are not for all ages under 15. (_____) years