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Planning, and the implementation of such plans, requires full knowledge and a clear vision of today's realities. This will enable us to continue on the path that leads to comprehensive development.

Qaboos Bin Said
30/11/1993



CENSUS

A monthly bulletin issued by the Department of General Census of Population, Housing and Establishments, Ministry of National Economy.

Royal Decree 31/2010

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, May Allah preserve him, Decreed that the Population, Housing and Establishments Census be conducted in December 2010.

Royal Decree No 31/2010 amends some provisions of the Royal Decree No 84/2007 on conducting the 2010 Census on Population, Housing and Establishments Census.

Royal Decree No 31/2010

Amending some provisions of the Royal Decree No. 84/2007 pertaining to conducting the General Census of Population, Housing and Establishments for the year 2010

We, Qaboos bin Said, Sultan of Oman

Having perused the Basic Law of State promulgated as per Royal Decree No. 101/96,

The Statistical Law promulgated by Royal Decree No. 29/2001 and Royal Decree No. 84/ 2007 for the 2010- General Census of Population, Housing and Establishments

And in the exigencies of the public interest:

Have decreed as follows

Article (1): Text of provisions of Article (1) attached to Royal Decree No. 84/2007 pertaining to conducting of the 2010- General Census of Population, Housing and Establishments shall be replaced with the following text "A comprehensive Census of Population, Housing and Establishments shall be conducted. The procedures of the census will be completed and the actual count shall start in December 2010."

Article (2) : The Decree comes into force the next day of its publication.

Qaboos bin Said
Sultan Oman

Issued on : 21 Rabie Al-thani 1431 A.H.

Corresponding to: 6 April 2010

Foreword

Details of Statistical Law Issued by the Royal Decree 29/2001

Article (2) of the decreed Statistical Law states "A census is carried out once every 10 years on basis of Royal Decree that fix the enumeration timing and procedures necessary for the census. The article also states that statistical surveys may be conducted in support of economic development and in accordance with the plan of action articulated by the Directorate General."

Accordingly, undertaking the census must be based on a Royal Decree specifying the timing and procedures of its implementation. The Royal Decree is therefore the legal authority by which main assignments and month of enumeration are set, as well as census budget is earmarked and secured. Equally important, the Statistical Law tasks the people to legally declare the required information with transparency and accuracy. At the same time, the Statistical Law clearly assures the protection of confidentiality of the declared information under the penalty of Law and thus enforcing a balanced relation between the people and the census takers that is based on mutual confidence.

Continued (page: 2)

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Royal Decree 31/2010 (Cont. from page 1)

The issuance of the Royal Decree number 31/2010 amending the census enumeration from April to December 2010 is an august support by His Majesty, May Allah preserve him, for conducting the Omani census at the highest quality commensurate with the globally recognized advanced statistical status of the Sultanate.

This recognition is based on the Sultanate's successful implementation of two censuses since Oman's blessed renaissance. The first census was conducted in 1993 and is considered the precursor of statistical work and system in Oman. For the first time in Oman, a comprehensive data base covering the population, housing and establishments resulted from this first census.

The 1993 census achievements were crowned by the 2003 census. Paramount achievements were realized by the 2003 census at the national, regional and global levels. New advanced methods and approaches to census data collection were articulated and employed. First at global level was the Sultanate's deployment of the Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) for data collection, capture and correction, thus introducing major time, error and cost reduction in census and survey data collection. This of course is in addition to contributing to the Green environment by using the PDA technology in lieu of paper questionnaire.

Setting back the 2010 census enumeration date from April to December, as originally planned, is based on results obtained from the field listing operations. These results did not measure good enough to the total quality standards set for the census. This was seen as essential as all other electronic systems and operations are based on the listing results. Basically, the international company contacted to develop the electronic system reflecting the census Administration methodology and implement it in four months from September to December 2009 did not deliver the results within the agreed time frame and the quality standards set. This in turn impacted on the census time table and the consecutive operations for systems development and testing.

Specifically, results obtained from the listing operation showed a number of undesirable duplications and errors. Careful review of the results by the census Administration revealed that around 20,000 buildings were duplicated, representing 4 per cent of all buildings. Notwithstanding the relatively low error rate, it was decided, and rightly so, to undertake a thorough operation to verify these errors, their scope and sources. The reason for these errors was the electronic programme developed by the company, perhaps due mainly to the short time available to the company to develop a 360 degree system meeting the set standards.

Considering that the listing operation and its results are critical for proper implementation of census, coupled with the Omani census total quality approach and reliance on advanced methodologies and technology such as electronic systems and devices as well as National Geographic Information System based on space photography, a brave decision was made to call for setting back the enumeration date to its originally planned timing being December 2010 rather than April. This decision was motivated by providing data users; officials, private sector, and academia with highest quality and detail data for maximizing the returns of census data. This is particularly important as census systems, results and products (GIS) will be used by many government agencies, thus accruing savings at the national development level. Developments of such systems required partnership with international companies, noting that contrary to the 2003 census that utilized one electronic system in Muscat Governorate, multitude of electronic and advanced systems are being employed nation-wide in the 2010 census.

Specifically, the 2010 census relies on space photography and programmes for converting these photographs into digital maps being basis for the National GIS, and uploading these digital maps on the corresponding PDAs. Other electronic systems cover statistical applications for developing the GIS, internal data consistency and error detection, electronic questionnaire for self-reporting using the internet, total quality programmes including systems for the "Quality Assurance and Call Centre", census administration and financial system, the "Total Quality and Operations Room Systems", results dissemination systems, and many other systems. It is to be noted that all these systems must be harmonized and tested to work well collectively prior to the 10-day enumeration phase.

We would like to assure that currently we, and the company, have been able to clean and correct errors contained in the results of the listing operation. Notwithstanding this reality, we are still determined to double check the results by means of field quality assurance operations in May and June. Currently, all census operations and systems are re-planned based on the originally set time table. Census equipment and requirements such as the PDAs, field headquarters, system for equipment support and maintenance are fully received and developed. With this status, we assure the implementation of a most modern census on time and with highest quality, well in line with His Majesty's aspirations and in keeping with the August Royal Decree.

Ali bin Mahboob bin Hassan
Census Director General

Dear Citizen / Expatriate

You are the object of the sustainable human development, and its tool. You are a direct beneficiary of developmental achievements and services it provide. Your positive and unflinching cooperation with the census staff carries direct personal and societal benefits. For census results are utilized by development planners in all spheres of life such as planning for new schools, hospitals, road networks, town planning, and planning of all other services. Census results will also contribute to inviting investments into the country, a matter most beneficial to our beloved Oman.

For more information
Call the toll-free number
80072010

Foreword (Cont. from page 1)

Therefore, the Royal Decree number 31/2010 specified the census enumeration date to allow the census implementation in keeping with the plans and development objectives set for the 2010 census. Some of these are: Adoption of the «Total Quality and Improvements» methodology, for assuring comprehensive coverage of census elements covering census units, buildings, establishments, housing units, households and individuals on the one hand, and the quality of the information collected on the other hand; developing a robust and comprehensive National Geographic statistical Information System that would facilitate data analysis for utilization in decision making on public policies; and disseminating census preliminary results in a week-time and the final results within 30 days from the completion date of the census enumeration.

Ensuring total quality of the census operations and results in accordance with globally approved standards is the «Goal» pursued as census results will serve as benchmark against which development plans and future projects for next generation depend.

days. During this visit, the delegation met with a number of key senior officers of the 2010 census with the view of exchanging ideas and sharing experiences within the framework of joint cooperation among the GCC countries.

H.E. Dr. Sahar announced that the 2010 Kuwaiti census is based on two complementary censuses, the first being based on administrative records while the second is based on field enquiry. Major benefits would be accrued by merging the information of both censuses together, in an attempt to bridge the paucity in population data in the very near future.

Gulf news

Qatar Launches Electronic Questionnaire for Self-Reporting

Statistical Authority of Qatar launched on 20 April 2010 the electronic questionnaire self-reporting service for households willing to use the internet for providing their 2010 census information on the website <http://www.qsa.gov.qa>.

This comes as a step towards implementing the national strategy for statistical development in Qatar aiming at improving further the data quality in terms of coverage and content in accordance with international standards by applying the most modern approaches to data collection using modern technology.

Electronic self-reporting is the most advanced data collection method used in censuses and surveys, and is being implemented for the first time in Qatar for collecting information from Qatari and expatriate individuals in Qatar by means of the electronic questionnaire.

This option is now available to households and individuals to choose between self-reporting and visit by the enumerator who is supplied with the hand-held PDA, thus ensuring a comprehensive coverage of Qatari and expatriate population.

Local News

Census Administration Hosts a High level Kuwaiti Delegation



His Excellency Dr. Abdullah Sahar, Statistical Affairs Adviser to H.E. Deputy Prime minister for Economic Affairs and State Minister for Housing Affairs in Kuwait led a delegation to the Omani Census Administration at the end of March 2010 for two





Gulf news (Cont. from page 3)

Enumeration Starts in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Census field enumeration commenced in the evening of Tuesday 27 April, 2010 in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Carried out by the Saudi Statistics and Information Authority, the population census enumeration operation is the most complex data collection operation witnessed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Some 45,000 enumerators supplied with 35,000 digital maps for updating the information and for enumerating the population and their housing units and agglomerations in Governorates, cities and villages covering the territory of the Kingdom commenced their field activities.

The Statistical authority initiated census implementation in Shawal 1428 AH, by listing population agglomerations, numbering city blocks, and numbering buildings and housing units. This was in addition to a training programme for census cadre centrally organized in Riyadh.

Mr. Mhana Almohana, Census supervisor General and the Director General of the statistics and Information Authority announced that preparations for the Census started three years back. He also stated that the census shall cover mobile population like hotel residents, hospital in-patients, and passengers at border crossings and rest areas – land, sea and air, as well as those in ships docking in Saudi water territory.

Census Definitions

In this issue we continue to provide some of the concepts, hoping to show you what you will encounter when they census officials visit you in your home during counter counting the actual days.

Apartment: A building or part of a building composed of one room or more with facilities like bathroom and kitchen and has a door. Usually, the apartment is part of a building, villa or Arabic building.

Room: There are two types of rooms as follows:

First type: A separate building made of cement or clay or stone, forming a housing unit, and may include toilet facility, provided it does not exceed one floor. Usually, these rooms are found in farms and is used for housing farm workers.

Second type: Space with roof and side walls forming part of a housing unit, and is used as dining space or as bedroom or sitting room or multi-purpose. It should be noted that balcony, toilet, kitchen, food storage space and space for keeping animals are not considered a room.

Towards Development Horizons

Quality Assurance and Call Centre:

Introduction:

There is a multitude of errors and sources in census operation. Correcting such errors and drying out their sources is what the total quality and improvement approach stands for. Sources and kinds of errors are:

First- Coverage errors: These are errors of omissions and duplications of the census elements such as agglomerations, blocks, buildings, establishments, housing units, households or individuals.

Second- Content errors such as: questionnaire design, enumerators, response, data review and correction, classification and coding, data capture, computer-based corrections, and tabulation errors.

Purpose of the Quality Assurance and Call Centre:

This centre is a direct response to dire need for assuring quality of the census data in accordance with internationally

recommended approaches. Canada and the United States of America rely on the Quality Assurance and Call centre for reminding the population about the deadlines for sending their completed questionnaires by mail, and to respond to people's queries about the census and questionnaire content. However, it is for the first time that the methodology of "Total Quality and Improvements" is applied in the various activities of the census, especially the enumeration with the view of achieving highest standards of quality at the most economical cost.

To deal with data related to households and individuals during the enumeration period (Review and Edit) concurrently with data collection operation.

Role of the Quality Assurance and Call Centre:

The Quality Assurance and Call Centre has a number of functions. These are as follows:

First- Self-reporting :

1. Making sure of the serious intent of those preferring self-

Dear Citizen / Expatriate

Please be assured of the strict and utmost confidentiality of your personal information and that of the establishments. Census results will be made available at the aggregate level for statistical purposes. Census and all other statistical data collected are governed by the confidentiality clause of the Statistical Act issued by the Royal Decree number (29/2001).

Success of the Housing, Population and Establishments Census is contingent on your full and positive cooperation; so stand tall and contribute to the success of this national undertaking. We urge you not to hesitate in furnishing the required information with care and diligence and encourage those who represent you at home or establishment to do so on your behalf and to cooperate fully with the census staff. May all our collective efforts be met with full success.

For more information
visit our website
<http://www.omancensus.net>

Towards Development Horizons (Cont...)

reporting approach through the internet to enumerator's visit, and to follow-up of those who are late in completing/sending their completed electronic questionnaires;

2. Provision of technical support and follow-up to self-reporting audience;

Second- Enumeration Phase:

1. Completing and coding field reported incomplete data, inconsistent data, or incompletely coded data. This is carried out by means of calling the respective households (for Households with telephone numbers).
2. Undertaking spontaneous spot checks and double checks for quality assurance purposes on the complete and internally consistent data reported by the field staff about households with telephone numbers. This process is carried out by means of a 5 to 10 percent sample of these records.
3. Reviewing the quality of results of the listing operation, particularly the establishments' data.
4. Providing timely technical support to field data collection staff by means of telephone calls.
5. Reviewing field coverage reports and feedback. Likewise, reviewing detail report on communication, completion rates and error rates per each enumerator and supervisor for timely interventions as needed.

Operational Method:

- Update phase:

Staff of the Quality Assurance and Call Centre call households who expressed intent for self-reporting in lieu of enumerator's visit. The purpose of calling these households is to double assure their commitment and readiness, as well as to securing additional information such as the email address and date of birth of the household head or designated reporter. These information are required for sending the user name and password required for accessing the self-reporting site.

- Enumeration Phase:

During this phase, staff of the Quality Assurance and Call Centre undertake a review of the field reported data and communicate with the households with telephone numbers as of the 2nd day of enumeration. Data put forward for review is fully automated and sent by the Central Data Base to the Centre by means of a special computer application

that sorts the records in accordance with the objective of the review and preferred language of communication as follows:

Households are divided into two groups. These are:

A) By language of communication:

1. Arabic
2. English

B) By purpose:

1. Incomplete data:

Calling is carried out in order to obtain complete answers from the person designated by the household to provide the information.

2. Internally inconsistent data:

In case when an answer is not consistent with a previous answer given to the enumerator, obtaining correct response is secured by posing the question again by the Call Centre staff.

3. Complete and consistent data:

For purposes of double assurance of data quality, spot checks are carried out by sampling for obtaining the answers and comparing response to the field enumerator with answers given to the Call Centre staff. Special computer application selects the household record and compares the responses for determining accuracy rates. When both responses are matched correctly, records are confirmed and added to the data base.

- Of the tasks assigned to the Editing Branch, is the coding responses – i.e.; converting data into numbers. Most data are coded by the field enumerator during the enumeration and in accordance with previously uploaded programme on the PDAs. However, responses not coded by the enumerator are written in words and coded later by the staff of the Quality Assurance and Call Centre. Likewise, responses not obtained by the enumerator are obtained by the staff of the Quality Assurance and Call Centre then coded accordingly. In case the newly introduced code reflects internal inconsistency and a stop remark is shown by the system, data need to be corrected directly from the household reporter then coded again. Fields where such errors are expected relate to educational stage, place of work, occupation, economic activity and current place of residence.

CENSUS 2010



World Statistics

Census History Around the World

	U.S.A	Canada	New Zealand	Australia
Periodic Census	10 years	5 years	5 years	5 years
First Census	1790	1871	1851	1828
Population	3.9	3.2	-----	2.0
Last Census	2000	2006	2006	2006
Population	281.5	31.6	4.2	19.9

• Population in Million

History of Census in Qatar

1904 : The first estimate of the population of Qatar was mentioned in the (Gulf Index) to the traveler J. G. Lorimer and the population of Qatar at that time was estimated on the basis of certain criteria as 27,000 people.



1970 : The first census was conducted in 1970 and it was implemented by a foreign company where the population was 111,133 as a result of the fast growth of the country. The number of males was 71,714 and females 39,419. The number of Qatari national individuals was 45,039 - 22,668 male and 22,371 females. The total number of those in the labor force (Ability to work) was 48,390 including (8168) Qatari nationals.

1986 : On 16th March this year, the first total census of buildings, housing units, households and establishments was conducted. This process is one of the largest statistical operations carried out by the Central Bureau of Statistics. It issued the first results containing results of a census of buildings, residential units, families and the other containing the results of the census facilities. The population at that time was 369,079 - 247,852 males and 121,227 females. This was followed by census in 1997 and 2004.

1997 : On 16th March this year, conducted a comprehensive census of the second census of buildings and housing units, households and establishments. The total population at that time was 522,023 of whom were males 342,459 and 179,564 females. The number of buildings was 79,549 and the number

of residential units was 92,302. The number of households was 73,342.

2004 : On 16th March this year, a third total census of buildings, housing units, households and establishments was conducted. The total population at that time was 744,029 of whom 496,382 were males, and 247,647 were females. The number of buildings was 99,217 the number of the residential units was 126,203, and the number of the households was 102,184.

<http://www.qsa.gov.qa/QatarCensus/Ar/HistoryOfCensus.aspx>

72 Per cent of American Households Participated in the 2010 Census by Mail

In his press conference of 1st of May 2010, Mr. Robert Groves, US Census Director announced that 72 per cent of households responded by sending their questionnaires by mail.



The same rate was observed in the 2000 census. This is seen as a success and is attributed to replacement forms, advertising and partnerships, short form.

The census isn't over; 600,000 workers will hit the field starting Saturday to visit 48 million households that haven't responded. This door-to-door operation will be between 1 May to 10 June 2010 and shall cost 1.5 billion US Dollars.

It was revealed that census takers will undertake six maximum number of contacts with each household – three in person and three by telephone to get complete census response.



Dear Citizen / Expatriate

Disaggregated and quality data for the population size, structure and distribution is critically needed for planning and implementing socio-economic development or any administrative activity or scientific research.

CENSUS 2010

World Statistics (Cont...)

Population of Turkey Rose to 72 Million

Within the last year, the population of Turkey rose by One Million People, to stand at 72.5 Million according to the official statistics published back in January.

In its report at the end of 2009, The Turkish Statistical Institute indicated an increase in population growth rate by 1.45 percent as compared with the year before, where total population stood at 71.5 million. Population increased by 1,044 million. 51 percent of this increase was females, the Institute added. According to the report, this population increase occurred in 67 of the 81 regions of Turkey, whereas the other 14 regions witnessed a population decline.

With this population increase, Turkey ranked the 17th populated country world-wide. This was a one step jump from being the 18th populated country in 2008. Accordingly, the Turkish population accounts for 1.1 percent of the World population.

According to the 2009 Turkish Statistical Institute, the mean average age of the Turkish population was 28.8 years, reflecting an increase from 28.5 years in 2008.

It was also revealed that the Turkish population is also aging as the global mean age is 28.4 years. Consequently, the life expectancy for Turkey, being 74 years, will remain higher than the global life expectancy of 67 years.

http://www.aleqt.com/2010/01/25/article_339566.html



Do you Know?

There is a close relation between the housing and the population censuses. Together, these two censuses form one statistical operation, or two separate yet closely coordinated activities. As such, these two censuses should not be thought of as completely separate and unrelated operations. In the population census for example, key characteristics relate to occupied housing units and the number of people living in them. Likewise in the housing census, key characteristics relate to kinds of housing units along with the characteristics of their inhabitants.

In many countries, population and housing censuses are carried out simultaneously and usually in one questionnaire. This approach allows for harmonizing the two sets of population and housing data. In addition, it allows for processing the information with ease and for the analysis. Analysis link demographic and economic characteristics of individuals within the household with housing characteristics.

Census Emblems



Brazil



Ghana



Cambodia



Ethiopia

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