

FOREWORD

In accordance with the recommendation of the Population Commission at its eighth session (E./CN.9/126), the Population Branch of the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs has undertaken to prepare a series of manuals on methods of estimating population. Manual I dealt with the methods of estimating total population for current dates. Manual II described the procedures for appraising the quality of basic demographic data.

The present report, which is the third of this series of manuals, deals with methods of calculating future population estimates. Its main objective is to facilitate the making of future population estimates by sex and age for as many countries as possible, including countries where the available statistics are defective. A detailed description of the methods developed by the United Nations staff for the future population estimates published by the United Nations is included. Such estimates for countries in two regions of the world have been published in the series of Population Studies¹ and computations relating to future population in other regions are in process.

¹ *The Population of Central America (including Mexico), 1950-1980*, and *The Population of South America, 1950-1980*. (Population Studies, Nos. 16 and 21.)

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