FOREWORD

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Population Commission, the United Nations Secretariat has been preparing several manuals describing methods of demographic analysis, estimation and projection needed for economic and social policy purposes and suitable for use in many countries, including those where demographic statistics and methods of analysis are not yet well advanced. Some of those manuals deal with the analysis and evaluation of basic statistics, notably those of population censuses, and others are concerned with the projection of various population quantities which are needed in diverse fields of economic and social planning. This manual, concerned with the projection of urban and rural population, is part of this longer-range programme.

The following manuals have been published so far in the *Manuals on Methods of Estimating Population* series:

Manual I: Methods of Estimating Total Population for Current Dates; [1]

Manual II: Methods of Appraisal of Quality of Basic Data for Population Estimates; [2]

Manual III: Methods for Population Projections by Sex and Age; [3]

Manual IV: Methods of Estimating Basic Demographic Measures from Incomplete Data; [4]

Manual V: Methods of Projecting the Economically Active Population; [5]

Manual VI: Methods of Measuring Internal Migration; [6]

Manual VII: Methods of Projecting Households and Families; [7] and, related to this series,

Methods of Analysing Census Data on Economic Activities of the Population. [8]

[1] United Nations publication, Sales No. 52.XIII.5.

[2] United Nations publication, Sales No. 56.XIII.2.

[3] United Nations publication, Sales No. 56.XIII.3.

[4] United Nations publication, Sales No. 67.XIII.2.

[5] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.70.XIII.2 (in co-operation with the ILO).

[6] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.70.XIII.3.

[7] United Nations publication, Sales No. 73.XIII.2.

[8] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.69.XIII.2.

Also, within the context of this coherent and cumulative programme, two other publications should be mentioned; namely, *Estimating Future School Enrolment in Developing Countries, a Manual of Methodology*, published jointly by the United Nations and UNESCO, [9] and a technical report entitled *The Concept of a Stable Population: Application to the Study of Populations of Countries with Incomplete Demographic Statistics*, [10] which presents the theoretical background of part of the aforementioned *Manual IV*.

In this manual, projections of urban and rural population are dealt with on the assumption that methods of projection of a country's total population, or its total population by groups of sex and age, are already known, and that such projections have in fact already been carried out. Those methods have been dealt with in *Manual III* of the present series. It is also assumed here that the reader is somewhat familiar with the appraisal of accuracy in basic statistics, a subject developed at some length in the previous *Manual II*.

This manual has been drawn up especially with a view to its uses in less developed countries or countries whose population statistics are not very detailed. It is addressed mainly to population analysts possessing limited technical means, and it does not consider the possible uses of computer methodology. The methods are accordingly simple, but, depending on opportunities, may be elaborated further.

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[9] United Nations publication, Sales No. 66.XIII.3.

[10] United Nations publication, Sales No. 65.XIII.3.

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