

# STATUS OF PHILIPPINE CENSUS PLANS AND FUTURE PLANNING ACTIVITIES INVOLVED FOR THE NEXT CENSUSES OF POPULATION AND AGRICULTURE

*By*

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Before taking up the subject assigned to me this morning, I should like to mention briefly the underlying causes that prompted me to suggest and make plans for the census to be taken in 1960. When Director Bernardino G. Bantegui of the Office of Statistical Coordination and Standards and I attended the 5th Regional Conference of Statisticians in Bangkok, 8-20 April 1957, the delegates then present made the commitment to interest their respective governments to take the censuses of population and agriculture around 1960, if only to make the figures internationally comparable. Since then the Philippine Delegation has been entertaining the opinion that 1960 will be an ideal year to take the said censuses for reasons which I am about to state.

- (1) It was felt that there was a need for a benchmark to check up certain surveys by sampling methods, based on the 1948 census figures in order to find out how close the said sampling figures hit the mark.
- (2) It was also felt that there was a need for a benchmark for future surveys via sampling to provide businessmen and government executives with up-to-date estimates necessary in evolving national economic policies.
- (3) The imperative need for a census of population to be used as basis in reorganizing congressional districts to reach the statutory requirement of 120 provided for in the Constitution.

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\* Director, Bureau of the Census and Statistics. Paper read at the Fifth Annual Conference of the Philippine Statistical Association, Manila, June 22, 1957.

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- (4) General need for detailed and up-to-date data for the use of businessmen and industrialists as well as researchers.
- (5) To implement our commitment in the First Session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians held in Bangkok, 8-20 April 1957 relative to the 1960 world censuses of population and agriculture.
- (6) For international comparability.

To carry out the plan to undertake the two censuses in 1960, an estimated appropriation of ₱11,218,550 is required. There are three stages involved in census-taking; the preparatory stage, which will require ₱1,939,080; the enumeration period, which will carry an appropriation of ₱4,296,280; and the post enumeration stage which will involve an appropriation of ₱3,983,190. Printing and binding of all census data will cost ₱1,000,000. The following is an outline of the program:

### PART I—Preparatory Steps:

1. Creation of a Sub-Committee on Population charged with the following functions:
  - 1.1 Go over the schedules and instructions adopted by the Bureau of the Census and Statistics in the taking of the census of population in 1948.
  - 1.2 Ascertain which items in the schedules suggested by the FAO, as amended in the recent conference in Bangkok, may be consistently included in the new form to be adopted for census-taking in 1960, in order to make the data internationally comparable.
  - 1.3 Prepare and submit within two weeks a draft of proposed schedule for census of population in 1960 for consideration of the other agencies or instrumentalities directly concerned with the need for exhaustive data on population.

2. Creation of a Sub-Committee on Census of Agriculture charged with the following functions:

2.1 Go over the schedules and instructions adopted by the Bureau of the Census and Statistics in the taking of the census of agriculture in 1948.

2.2 Ascertain which items in the schedules suggested by the FAO, as amended in the recent conference in Bangkok, may be consistently included in the new form to be adopted for census taking in 1960 in order to make the data internationally comparable.

2.3 Prepare and submit within two weeks a draft of a proposed schedule for census of agriculture in 1960 for consideration of the other agencies or instrumentalities directly concerned with the need for exhaustive data on agriculture.

3. Reports of the sub-committees:

3.1 The sub-committee on census of population submitted two forms: one is in conformity with instructions referred to in 1.3 (See Form Nos. P-1 and P-2); and the other one is a separate sheet referring only to farm population (See Form No. P-3).

3.2 The sub-committee on agriculture submitted the attached report in conformity with instructions referred to in 2.3 (See Forms A-1 and A-2).

PART II — Programming of Activities in connection with the proposed censuses of Population and Agriculture in 1960.

1. Summary

1.1 Preparatory Work .....	P 1,939,080
1.2 Enumeration .....	4,296,280
1.3 Post Enumeration .....	3,983,190
Printing and binding of Census Reports .....	1,000,000
	P11,218,550

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### 2. Time Table

#### 2.1 *Pre-Enumeration*

Preparatory (legal basis, budget estimates, preparation of schedules and instructions, establishment of field offices, etc.) — Jan. 1, 1958 — Mar. 30, 1959

Printing of schedules, forms, etc. — April 1, '59 — Sept. 30, '59

Shipping of schedules, forms, supplies, etc. — Oct. 1, '59 — Nov. 15, 1959

#### Training:

Staff and Regional Supervisors	November 16-21, 1959
District Supervisors	December 7 -12, 1959
Municipal Supervisors	December 17-22, 1959
Enumerators	December 26-30, 1959

2.2 *Enumeration* ..... Jan. 1, 1960-Jan. 20, 1960

#### 2.3 *Post Enumeration*

Receipt and control of schedules ..... Jan. 21, 1960—Sept. 30, '61  
Editing (12 months) .. Feb. 1, 1960—Jan. 31, '61  
Coding (12 months) . March 1, 1960—Feb. 28, '61  
Tabulation (15 months) .... July 1, 1960—Sept. 30, '61

#### Table Preparation

(18 months) ..... Oct. 1, 1960—March 31, '62  
Publication (24 months) Jan. 1, 1960—Dec. 31, '62

PART III—Preparation of a bill for submittal, through the Office of the President, to Congress to secure the necessary appropriation, indicated in Part II of the Report.

Considering the cost of living now which is more than three times that of 1948, the estimated expense of ₱11,218,550 is relatively more economical than in 1948 when we spent a total of more than ₱8,000,000. If the plan to undertake the Census in 1960 is approved, the preparatory work must start on January 1, 1958 and continue up to December 30, 1959. The enumeration period will cover from January 1, 1960 to January 20, 1960 and post enumeration will be from January 21, 1960 to December 31, 1962.