CONCLUSIONS AND SOME IDEAS FOR THE 2010 CENSUS ROUND

Everywhere in the world population censuses are highly necessary but expensive activities. The costs of the 2000 Population Census in Latvia constituted 2578 thsd lats (LVL) (4600 thsd Euro, exchange rate as of 31.12.2001). The census costs per capita were 1.08 lats or 1.93 Euro. This figure seems rather small if compared with other European countries. At the same time it serves as an evidence of the efficiency of the use of administrative registers' data in the census and advanced technologies for data capture and processing.

Thanks to the initiatives of participants of some international meetings that were accepted by the UN Economic Commission for Europe, we have started to elaborate the first visions for the forthcoming Population and Housing Census to be carried out in 2010 or 2011.

Our vision that is based on the experience of our neighbouring countries - Finland, Sweden, Denmark, and also the Netherlands, includes the register-based census without involving enumerators in the census field operations. If any component of our administrative registers' system will not reach sufficient data quality before the census day, the supplementary questionnaire will be distributed to the resident population using the mail-out and mail-back method.

The 2010 Census Programme certainly will be discussed with different groups of the potential data users. We shall keep the idea put in the title of this paper - Census methodology and technology - in favour of data users.

Annex 1

2000 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS IN LATVIA TABULATION PROGRAMME

№	Index of table	Tittle of table
UN/ECE-"Eurostat" Core Tabulation Programme		
I. Geographic characteristics of persons		
1	A1	Usually resident population
2	A2	Private households
II. Demographic characteristics of persons		
3	A3	Usually resident population by sex and single years of age
4	A4	Population aged 15 and over by sex, age group and legal marital status
5	A5	Population by sex, age group and household status