# UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN - ECLAC



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REPORT OF THE REGIONAL SEMINAR ON THE ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION IN THE 1990 CENSUSES \*/

(Buence Aires, Argentina, 28 to 31 October, 1986)

<sup>\*/</sup> The Regional Seminar on the Economic Characteristics of the Population in the 1990 Censuses, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 28 to 31 October, 1986 was co-sponsored by the Argentine National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC); the Centre for Population Studies (CENEP); the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

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#### INTRODUCTION

The "Regional Seminar on the Economic Characteristics of the Population in the 1990 Censuses" was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 28 to 31 October 1986.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity to discuss the social and economic dimensions investigated by censuses in order to provide quidelines for the 1990 census round.

The meeting once again revealed the soundness of a process which seems well on the way to being definitively consolidated, where central feature has been the gradual convergence of views between users and producers of statistical data not only in terms of the adoption of common concerns, but also in a growing consensus with regard to the identification of key areas for discussion.

In this respect, while in the past the day-to-day activity of producing data together with the research carried out in those institutional spheres which produce statistics had their historical counterpart in the creation of a considerable volume of research and methodological studies beyond the bounds of this specific area, it is only in recent years that the dialogue between the producers of data and researchers has taken a step forward.

This had meant doing away with former practice in accordance with which theory and practice took refuge in distinct institutional spheres.

Under this new approach, not only does the production of statistics provide an increasingly clear justification for theoretical research, but it also encourages it, while in institutions which were traditionally more closely linked to this type of activity there is a tendency to increasingly rely on empirical support and to assign greater importance thereto.

Consequently, the concern of producers with improving the quality of the data supplied, together with the need to ensure the broadest quantitative and qualitative coverage possible of the phenomena which are to be described, has received a strong stimulus, not, this time, in the form of external criticism, but through the intense participation of and internal discussion among all the sectors involved in defining the nature of society's self-awareness.

It is this gradual convergence which has provided the setting for this meeting to discuss issues which are central to the evolution of the present phase of statistics.

Moreover, the venture, which is by no means an isolated one, is part of a series of regional activities of similar content and purpose, the most

noteworthy recent examples of which are, the Inter American Workshop on Housing and Population Censuses, held in Queretaro, Mexico, and the Ninth Inter-American Statistical Conference, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The organization of the seminar was also designed to provide continuity for the effort which led to the organization of the Workshop on the Analysis and Assessment of the 1980 Population Censuses, which was also held in Buenos Aires, in 1985.1/

The meeting on the 1990 censuses was convened by the Argentine National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC) and the Centre for Population Studies (CENEP), the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). Responsibility for organizing the seminar fell on INDEC, which was assisted by CENEP.

The overall outline and the themes which the seminar was to cover were decided by Alberto Minujin (INDEC) and Catalina Wainerman (CENEP). The technical aspects of the organization, the choice of papers and other technical considerations were the responsibility of Rodolfo Pisoni, while the National Office for the Co-ordination of the National Statistical System, under Ielia Boeri de Cervetto, was responsible for preparing and organizing the seminar. The summary has been prepared by Cynthia Pok.

In order to further those activities which will improve statistics, invitations were sent to producers, users, researchers and technicians who are in one way or another associated with the development of experiments in the field covered by the seminar.

The event was attended by experts from several latin American countries, officials from international bodies in the field as well as by representatives from a variety of national and regional governmental and non-governmental institutions.

The opening meeting was addressed by the following officials from the institutions which had convened the seminar: Luis Beccaria, Director of INDEC; Edith Pantelides, representing CENEP and Guillermo Macció on behalf of CELADE.

The meeting provided an opportunity for a far-reaching exchange of information as well as intense debate based on the experience of the participants.

The discussion concerned the overall conceptual frameworks and the relevant definitions for measuring the various dimensions, the most suitable techniques of assessment and data collection instruments, current statistical practice in the region, together with the adaption of methodological progress to the requirements of analysis and policy formulation.

The document endeavours to provide a synthesis of the main features of the papers presented, of the comments made thereon, of the most significant discussions which took place during this seminar as well as of the main propositions and suggestions put forward.

# PAPERS PRESENTED

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The agenda was organized around major groups of issues, thereby making it possible to group the papers on the basis of their contents, and to organize the discussions thereon.

The main thematic axes which guided the discussions are given below, together with the papers submitted and presented by the authors themselves. The names of those who were responsible for commenting on the central issue of the papers presented are given, as well as the names of those who acted as moderators in each debate.

## International recommendations and the 1990 censuses

Alberto Minujín (ENDEC): "Acerca de los censos del 90"
Rafael Trigueros Mejía (ILO): "Recomendaciones para los censos del 90"
Moderator: Freddy Justiniano (ECIAC)

# 2. <u>Economic activity status</u>

# a) Activity

Paper: Guillermo Maccio (CELADE): "La actividad de las mujeres inactivas".

Discussant: Rafael Trigueros Mejía (ILO)

Paper: Catalina H. Wainerman (CONICET-CENEP) and Martin Moreno (CENEP): "Hacia el reconocimiento censal de las mujeres trabajadoras".

Discussant: Teresita Barbieri (IISUMAN)

Paper: Catalina H. Wainerman (CONICET-CENEP) and Martin

Moreno (CENEP): "Las productoras de subsistencia ingresan a las estadísticas censales".

Discussant: David Vera (DGECP) and Fulvia Brizuela de Ramírez (DGECP).

Paper: Alicia Bercovich (NEPO-UNICAMP): "Utilización de los censos de Población en las cuentas nacionales".

Discussant: Juan Basco (BCRA)

Paper: Heber Camelo - "Actividad productiva: concepto y límites prácticos".

Discussant: Susana Rosenthal (BCRA) Moderator: Freddy Justiniano (ECLAC)

#### b) <u>Categories of inactivity</u>

Paper: Rosalía Cortés (Min. of Labour): "Algunos indicios de actividad económica entre los inactivos -La PNEA 1970-1980".

Discussant: Rosa Geldstein (CENEP)

Paper: Mabel Ariño (CFI) and María Esther Rosas (ECLAC): "Población

inactiva y hogares con jefes inactivos en el censo de 1980".

Discussant: Roberto Benencia (CEIL-CONICET)

Paper: Pascual Gestenfeld, Susana Picardo and Daniel Sucazes (DGEC): "Los censos de población: Análisis de su validéz como instrumento para la medición de algunas características económicas".

"Los censos de población: Análisis de su validéz como instrumento

para la medición de algunas características económicas".

Discussant: Ruben Katzman (ECLAC) Moderator: Odette Tacla (INE - Chile)

#### 3. Training interviewers

Paper: Catalina H. Wainerman (CONICET-CENEP) and Martin Moreno (CENEP): "Sensibilizando a los censistas a los sesgos sexuales: un

ejercicio de entrenamiento".

Discussant: Ana Maria Edwin (INDEC)

## 4. The type occupation

Paper: Julio Testa (CETL-CONICET): "De lo deseable a lo posible en el tratamiento censal de las categorías ocupacionales".

Discussant: Alicia Vales (FF and L - UBA)

Paper: María Laura Elizalde: "Un desafío para el censo del 90: ¿Qué

hacer con las ocupaciones?".

Discussant: Alicia Maguid (INDEC) Moderator: Marcela Eternod (INEGI)

#### The characteristics of establishments

# a) The size of establishments

Paper: Luis A. Beccaria (INDEC) and Alvaro Orsatti (CIDES-CONICET): "La actividad económica en microestablecimientos".

Discussant: Alejandro Rozzola (Sec. of Planning)

#### b) The branch of activity

Paper: Javier Lindemboin (CEUR-CONICET): "El problema de las actividades no bien especificadas en la clasificación por rama de la PEA".

Discussant: Adela Saltzman (Min. of Planning) Moderator: Alicia Bercovich (NEPO-UNICAMP)

## 6. Working conditions

Paper: Julio Neffa (CNRS-CEIL-CONICET): "La observación censal y a través de la E.P.H. en materia de condiciones y medio ambiente de trabajo: metodología y contenidos".

Discussant: Pedro Galin (CIAT-ILO).

Paper: Marta Pabaia (INDEC): "Algunos aportes para la medición de los nuevos modelos de tiempo".

Discussant: Juan Manuel Villarreal (FIACSO)

Moderator: Daniel Sucazes (DGEC)

Paper: Horacio Torres (CONICET): "Viaje al trabajo según categoría de

población".

Discussant: Ana María Facciolo (MCBA-CESCA) Moderator: Alicia Bercovich (NEP-UNICAMP)

## 7. <u>Integration into the statistical system</u>

Paper: Nieves Garcia (CFI): "La comparabilidad sobre características económicas de la población en los censos del 60, 70 y 80".

Discussant: Freddy Justiniano (BCIAC)

Paper: Alvaro Orsatti (UNDP-ILO-Argentine Govt.): "Problemas de comparabilidad censal: lecciones a partir de un estudios reciente".

Discussant: Nicolás Iñigo Carreras (CICSO)

Paper: Ana M. Botta (INDEC) and Cynthia Pok (INDEC): "Lo censal y lo intercensal: hacia la integración conceptual de las estadísticas".

Discussant: Rafael Trigueros Mejía (ILO)

Details of the institutions represented by the acronyms in the above text are given below:

BCRA: Central Bank of the Argentine Republic. Argentina CEIL: Centro de Estudios e Investigaciones Laborales.

Argentina.

CELADE: Latin American Demographic Centre.

CENEP: Centro de Estudios de Población. Argentina

ECIAC: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

CESCA: Centro de Estudios de la Sociedad Central de Arquitectos.

Argentina.

CEUR: Centro de Estudios Urbanos y Regionales. Argentina

CFI: Consejo Federal de Inversiones. Argentina

CIAT: Centro Interamericano de Administración del Trabajo.

Argentina

CICSO: Centro de Investigaciones en Ciencias Sociales.

**Argentina** 

CIDES Centro Interamericano de Desarrollo Social. Argentina CNRS: Conseil National de la Recherche Scientifique. France

CONICET: Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas.

Argentina

D.G.E.C.P.: Dirección General de Estadísticas y Consos.

Paraguay

D.G.E.C.: Dirección General de Estadísticas y Censos. Uruquay

FF and Facultad de Filosofía y Letras-Universidad de Buenos Aires

L-UBA: Arcientina

FLACSO: Latin American Social Science Faculty. Argentina

ITSUNAM: Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales de la Universidad

Nacional Autónoma de México. Mexico

INDEC: Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos. Argentina

INE: Instituto Nacional de Estadística. Chile

INEGI: Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática. Nexico

MCBA: Municipalidad de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires. Argentina Min. of

Labour: Ministry of Labour. Argentina.

NEPO-

UNICAMP: Núcleo de Estudos de População. Universidade Estadual de Campinas.

Brazil

IIO: International Labour Organization.
UNIP: United Nations Development Programme.

Min. of

Planning: Ministry of Planning. Argentina

#### CONTENTS OF THE MEETINGS

## 1. International recommendations and the 1990 censuses

In relation to this issue, the papers presented centred on the elaboration of the 1990 census round in terms of the overall dimensions involved in its execution.

The definition of this context, which was to provide a framework for the remaining discussions over content, was proposed from two complementary angles.

On the basis of the widely shared recognition of the census as the main source of social and demographic information, one of the approaches 2/ was concerned with restoring the historical experience accumulated by censuses, while the other, which was complementary,3/ dealt with the evolution of the manner in which this question had been tackled by specialized international bodies.

On the basis of an examination of the development of census experiments in Argentina, the first of the above approaches involved a sharing of certain preoccupations which are valid for the countries of the region as a whole. In this respect emphasis was laid on the different ways in which this type of survey was used, with regard to social planning, follow-up and assessment of social policies, political representation at various levels in which elections are involved, resource allocation, their role in providing a norm for other surveys, as well as its integrated nature with regard to the rest of the statistical system, at both the national and regional levels.

Acknowledgement was also made of the considerable progress made in the conceptual and methodological spheres, as well as of the emergence of considerable technological changes in the processing of data, which, together with the fertile experience gained by countries represents a powerful challenge to the forthcoming stage.

In view of the need to firmly come to grips with census planning, attention was also drawn to the restrictions which the lack of resources, a common feature of the countries concerned, imposes on the scope of the changes. Emphasis was placed on the desirability of not considering censuses as the sole and universal source of social and demographic data, as a means of making up for these restrictions, and bearing in mind the need for them to be integrated within the broader framework of the statistical system as a whole.

In line with this approach, and viewed from the angle of specialized international organizations, reference was made to the experience which HO has acquired in dealing with the issues covered by the seminar.

In this respect, it was first of all pointed out that IIO makes no restrictive recommendations but, on the contrary, tends to provide guidelines for carrying out statistical tasks. It was explained that these guidelines are

the result of the Organization's efforts to fulfil its role in interpreting the needs of countries.

An outline was provided of the Institution's activity in this area, with particular reference —from a historical angle— to its concrete contribution to a variety of issues. Noteworthy among these were its contribution to the evolution of the definition of "work" and the concept of "economic activity". In this respect, particular emphasis was placed on the results of the Thirteenth Conference of Labour Statisticians held in 1982, which developed a new definition of the concept, and incorporated thereto additional and more useful criteria than those adopted in the past.

## 2. Activity status

# a) Activity

In view of its significance, it was on issues linked to this aspect that many participants focused their attention, both as speakers and as discussants. A rich debate on the subject took place on the basis of the papers presented.

The central concern was with two points which, while belonging to different conceptual spheres, are tightly linked with one another in actual statistical practice. One of them concerns the unsuitability of statistical instruments for measuring activity, particularly in the case of women in view of their special position in the labour market. The other consists in the conceptual and empirical implications of the definition of "economic activity".

The papers presented made it possible to clarify a number of theoretical and empirical aspects of the issue on the basis of different approaches, and within distinct analytical frameworks.

The first paper presented 4/ acknowledged as its starting point the need to improve knowledge of the economic activity performed by women, particularly in rural areas. When the current criteria adopted to quantify the size of the Economically Active Population in a country are used, they are classified as by censuses, demographic or employment surveys. An increasing number of women who fall within the ranks of those commonly classified as "inactive" are in fact involved in a wide variety of activities which are part of the "informal", "underground" or "family economy" categories.

Mention was made of the contradiction between the interest aroused by this phenomenon among latin American sociologists as well as among labour economists and social anthropologists, and the clear absence of walid proposals for rapidly improving the data gathered on the population's economic activity. In relation to this, it was revealed that since 1983 the latin American Demographic Centre (CEIADE) has been pursuing a series of experimental studies designed to improve the collection of such data.

These experimental studies, which in two cases have already been transformed into full-scale researches with national coverage, reveal the transnotous bias introduced by the continued application of criteria based upon

a formal conception of the labour market in deciding whether an individual is active or inactive.

One peculiarity which was mentioned is the fact that both experimental studies and those carried out on a national scale have made use of research instruments which was previously designed for other ends: experimental censuses, retrospective demographic surveys, fertility surveys. In each of these cases, a specific module has been introduced, occasionally independent from the main questionnaire, designed to gather information on women who, in accordance with census criteria are in a first instance classified as inactive.

Some of these studies are comparatively recent and in one case —the latest-- the field surveys are in the process of completion. Consequently, information is not available on all the studies carried out. It was however stated that the data gathered and prepared in the tests carried out in 1983 in Honduras and in Costa Rica is already available, as well as the final results of the Honduran Retrospective National Demographic Survey (EDENH-II) which was completed at the beginning of 1984. Tabulations allowing a close comparison with data collected by means of the usual census questions was shown, revealing, for example, that the female participation rate in Honduras in 1983 was, depending on the census criterion, 26.8%, 39.8% and 15.8% for the country as a whole, and for rural and urban areas, respectively. When activity on the same date is estimated using the module developed in CELADE, the rates are 49.1%, 50.4% and 48.0%, respectively. These represent relative increases of 83.1%, 26.0% and 204.4%. The significance of these figures themselves was commented upon, and it was pointed out that they underscore the urgent need to carry out a systematic search —particularly in view of the proximity of the 1990 censuses-- for means of improving knowledge of this aspect of the social and demographic reality of the countries of Latin America.

In line with a similar overall concern — that of the erroneous treatment of the activity status of women— the second and third papers 5/ the measurements presented by Catalina H. Wainerman and Martin Moreno, contained the partial results of a larger—scale project designed to meet the need to improve census statistics relating to women's participation in the economy.6/

The starting point for the project was the observation that population censuses underestimate the economic contribution of women, in particular those in the sectors of production most isolated from the heart of the capitalist market economy. The overall objective of the project was to ensure that there was an equal likelihood of working women being counted in labour statistics as working man. This was done by adopting (for technical, rather than theoretical or ideological reasons) the "official" definitions of "economic activity" and "work".

The project pursued two specific aims. The first was to identify the effect of different types of training for interviewers, different questionnaires, reference periods of different lengths and different requirements as to minimum time of work on the counting of workers, and to identify those sectors of the population upon whom they have the greatest impact. Secondly, the project designed an empirically tested alternative method to those in current uses in order to gather more reliable census data

on "activity status". The field work was carried out in two countries (Argentina and Paraguay) and in two urban localities —Posedas (capital of Misiones Province, Argentina) and Asunción (capital of Paraguay) — and two rural ones —Leandro N. Alem and Paraguay in Argentina and Paraguay respectively.

The second paper ("Hacia el reconocimiento censal ...") set out the conception and technical problems which have been identified in this area, presented empirical evidence of the inadequacy of census measurements (a consequence of the above) and reviewed the international recommendations relating thereto. After having described the design of the project (field experiments) and the results obtained, an assessment was made of its consequences and of the possibilities of putting into practice the alternative procedure developed and tested.

As far as conceptual aspects are concerned, mention was made of the unsuitability of census procedure for identifying the specific characteristics of the work behaviour of a majority of women in the region (part-time, discontinuous, in family firms, in activities which are difficult to distinguish from domestic activities, unpaid or own account, etc.), which are to a large extent accounted for by the need to combine the productive role with the reproductive. It was also mentioned that the prevailing cultural concept of the division of labour between the sexes helps account for the fact that many working women do not consider themselves as working, and that many interviewers share this misconception. With regard to technical aspects, the impact of the scant training received by interviewers was pointed out, as well as the inadequacy of the question usually used in censuses to inquire as to "activity status", and the use of a short reference period as against a long one and a short minimum time of work versus a long one.

The paper reviewed the international recommendations put forward so far, and emphasized that the concept of "work" in use until the 1980s was based upon a concept which was suitable for developed economies, and in particular for male workers. After tracing the scant indications of any awareness of its unsuitability for gathering data on women's work, a synthesis was made of the innovations introduced by the Thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (IIO, Geneva, 1982). The difficulties which may arise from their implementation in the absence of operational recommendations relating thereto were highlighted.

A range of alternative items to those usually employed to identify "activity status" and based on the presentation of alternative responses and the clarification of the concept of "work" by examples of concrete activities designed to communicate the meaning of the concept to interviewees was presented. A brief presentation of an alternative procedure for training to that habitually used in census was made, together with presentations of the use of two reference periods, a short one (one week) and a long one (one year) and the adoption of different requirements regarding working time for different reference periods.

The results of a comparison between the activity rates obtained by the CENET procedure (alternative training and questionnaire) and by the usual census, for different reference periods and different working times revealed

that a larger number of workers were identified by the CENEP method, using a long period and a shorter requirement as regard working time. More data were collected in the case of women than in that of men, among rural inhabitants than among urban ones and in Paraguay than in Argentina. Among the most noteworthy results were the fact that the CENEP method identified 13.3% more active women in urban localities and 60.2% more in rural ones in Argentina while in Paraguay these figures were 37.7% in urban localities and 125.5% in rural ones. In the case of men these figures were 6.2% and -1.2 respectively in Argentina and 14.4% and 4.3% in Paraguay. The authors came to the conclusion that when ordinary census procedure are used the surveys adequately identify male workers, somewhat more in Argentina than in Paraguay and among the urban population than among the rural, but that they are inadequate to identify working women, many of whom are not included in labour statistics.

The following paper ("Ias productoras de subsistencia ...") focused its attention on the conceptual and technical problems linked to the identification of individuals involved in producing the means of subsistence, or more exactly, own-account consumption. First of all the results of an inventory, assessment and criticism of the definitions produced as part of the international recommendations relating to production of self-consumption were presented. The assessment focused on the implications of these definitions for the identification of the economically active population.

It was stressed that even when the definitions of "work" and "economic activity" have been drawn up without any distinction as to sex, the problems and inconsistencies therein affect the members of each sex differently, and that which is most felt is the quality of the measurement of the female labour force, particularly those occupied in the agricultural sector. The reasons mentioned were, among others, the fact that in the case of production for the market, some censuses exclude "unpaid family workers" from the economically active population, and this category is most commonly found in the agricultural sector. In the case of subsistence production, this is because many identify the household as a unit of consumption and not of production. In both cases, it is because the majority of censuses classify the population on the basis of main activity, and exclude from the active population those whose economic activity is not their principal activity (this is frequently the case among housewives) and also because the reference period adopted is the week prior to the census, and more women than men are involved in seasonal work. Moreover, it is in the agricultural sector, and in particular among subsistence producers that the distinction between domestic work and productive work is most arbitrary.

The paper also drew attention to the fact that even when the international recommendations in force until the 1980 censuses neither explicitly included nor excluded subsistence production from economic activity, it seems to have been national practice to include it when it was carried out by men and exclude it when women were involved.

After having made an assessment of the conceptual criticisms advanced and drawn attention to the empirical evidence built up, in particular over the last 15 years, the paper focused on the definition of "economically-active population" laid down by the Thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, convened by IIO in 1982. This definition, which is based on

that used by the United Nations System of National Accounts, recognizes activities for own-account consumption as part of productive activities, but, in contrast to the former, that adopted by the Thirteenth Conference only considers such own-account production as constitutes a "significant" contribution to the total consumption of households. It was emphasized that, in spite of the progress signified by the explicit inclusion of subsistence producers within EAP, the restriction which has been imposed introduces vagueness into the recommendations which may jeopardize their implementation.

In this respect, a presentation was made of a field experiment designed to use a specially prepared instrument to test the criteria adopted by the above definition. The experiment, which was carried out in two rural areas in Argentina and Paraguay (Leandro N. Alem and Peribebuy, respectively), basically involved the application of a special module for own-account consumption in the case of those who had declared themselves as being economically inactive in a first questionnaire in which no special emphasis was placed in this type of activity.

The module made it possible to identify a significantly larger number of workers, more so among women than among men and in Paraguay than in Argentina. Among other results, it was mentioned that the rates of female economic activity rose from 42.3% to 80.4% in Argentina and from 30.2% to 86.9% in Paraguay, while in the case of men the figures rose from 89.9% to 95.5% and from 86.9% to 92.4%, respectively.

The second major issue which was dealt with and which as mentioned focused on the implications of the concept of productive activity, was also approached on the basis of alternative analytical frameworks to that already described.

The following paper 7/ tackled the issue under discussion from an angle which draw on the System of National Accounts.

The report was designed to analyse the conceptual and statistical scope of productive activity in the descriptive economic systems and models so as to quide the interpretation of the international recommendations on the collection of occupational statistics in household censuses and surveys. It was noted that these recommendations linked the definition of economically active population with the production of economic goods and services "in the same manner as the United Nations Systems of National Accounts and of Balances". It was also pointed out that there were usually imprecisions in the clarification of concepts and practical limits thereto.

The document endeavoured to provide a clear presentation of the present state of the Systems of National Accounts in respect of the definition of the boundary or coverage of productive activities as a requisite for between the two systems. It then goes on to synthesize the objectives and elements of descriptive economics, a discipline to which the Systems of National Accounts belong and analyses the conceptual scope of productive activity and the limits resulting from the degree of availability of information.

Starting from a typology of transactions (broken down into effective and imputed, bilateral and unilateral, real and financial, voluntary and

obligatory, legal and illegal) the document asserts that in principle, the System of National Accounts considers real, voluntary, legal and bilateral transactions as falling within the area of production. It states, that while in practice market transactions are obviously most significant from a macroeconomic point of view, the System of National Accounts accepts the recording of imputed transactions, in order to complete the recording of the goods and services produced and so that these flows of goods and services are, in so far as possible, comparable over time and in space. In this respect, an outline was drawn of the hazardous implications of imputing market prices to goods which posses no such price, and the need for a satisfactory comprise between the economic significance of the activities recorded and the quality of the statistical information relating thereto was raised.

To sum up, it was asserted that, in so far as the processes of transformation of goods and provision of services which take place in households is concerned, the SNA criterion is quite clearly not to record imputations. With regard to the remaining subsistence or non-market activities, the criterion is to record the primary goods obtained as well as the transformation activities in the first stage of processing.

As far as the handling of these concepts with regard to employment statistics is concerned, reference was made to the content of international recommendations, as well as to national practice in this respect. These were contrasted with the criterion adopted by the paper, on the basis of which those goods and services traded on the market are considered as economic, but not necessarily so those similar ones which are not traded.

It was also established that the relative importance of these goods and services in satisfying the total consumption of a particular household is completely alien to SNA, which is more concerned with the contribution made by activities to the welfare of Society as a whole.

In conclusion, it was demonstrated that while it is impossible to expect SNA to fulfil a purpose to which it was not conceived, and senseless to introduce changes which would involve serious problems of comparability and reliability in the data, this should not prevent this descriptive system from being improved by developing satellite accounts or <u>ad hoc</u> descriptive systems when well-being is concerned. Whatever the case, the need to clearly identify the variables and categories related to and comparable with those of SNA was asserted, in order to allow analytical indicators to be prepared.

With the same overall concern in mind, a further paper, 8/ which adopted a rather more empirical approach was presented.

The presentation, which was also based upon the linking of SNA and socio-demographic statistics, dealt with the definition of economic activity adopted by the system in Brazil. It was pointed out that economic activity was considered to be "a socially organized activity for the production of goods or services which are either usually exchanged on a market and/or obtained by means of production factors which are themselves tradeable on a market. Consequently non-marketable services produced with the aid of marketable production factors (essentially remunerated labour) are added to marketable

goods and services. The individuals occupied are consequently those who carry out these activities.

It was clarified that this concept is similar to that employed in classifying individuals as "occupied" in the Brazilian Demographic Census, and that consequently, it was quite normal to use data from this census to assess the data employed in the calculations of National Accounts.

It was also observed that in all the systems which exist in the Western world, no attention is paid to economic activity which is not socially organized "non-market" labour is not considered to be productive. This affects women who carry out household tasks, voluntary workers in charitable institutions, etc.

The speaker drew attention to the need for a system of national accounting to express in full all the data existing in a country, and asserted that it was inconceivable that it should be restricted to a single source of data. Economic information is in fact to be found throughout the country in a variety of forms. In measuring a set of data, it is consequently desirable to use the greatest possible member of sources of data, in order to set them against one another until the most satisfactory assessment is obtained. This naturally involves a critical approach to the sources and to the manner in which the data are produced. In this respect, the Demographic Census was considered to be the most significant source of complementary data, since, in addition to allowing an assessment of the data used, it provides a valuable indication in respect of the informal sector. As far Brazil is concerned, it was asserted that this is of fundamental importance in building up the new and complete System of National Accounts in accordance with the International Recommendations, and it was mentioned that this is being carried out under the responsibility of the Department of National Accounts of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE).

The paper clarifies the central features of the methods of comparison and the guidelines for capitalizing the quantitative results of the studies.

After having drawn up a balance of these procedures, a number of proposals for improving the 1990 Population Census were put forward.

# b) <u>Categories of inactivity</u>

The first paper presented on this issue 9/ set out to analyse the possibilities of improving the measurement of irregular employment and other forms of involuntary underemployment on the basis of the schedule of the forthcoming National Population Census to be carried out in 1990.

The paper goes over contextual factors which could have had an impact on the results obtained in the most recent censuses in Argentina. In this respect, the paper stressed that in the 1970 and 1980 population censuses, the questions designed to identify the activity status of the members of the family group laid stress on recording the type of tasks they had performed during the reference week. The 1970 census decided that in order to classify respondents within the economically active population it was necessary for them to have worked at least 35 hours during that week; in the 1980 census the

requirement concerning the number of hours worked was suppressed, but the period of one week was retained as the time limit for classifying activity status. This represented a considerable hundle to satisfactorily measuring irregular work. It was mentioned that the economic recession and the consequent diminution of the demand for labour which occurred in Argentina as from the middle of the 1970s led to a reduction in "regular" salaried work which, in previous decades, had occupied up to 75% of the population in employment, and increased the importance of other forms of work.

As these include activities which generate income and which are not necessarily carried out on a continuous paces, the maintenance of the period of a week for reference made it difficult to include temporary or irregular workers within the active population. As a result of this lack of precision in the measurement, it is possible that the proportion of inactive population may have artificially increased in the 1980 census.

The document analysed the trends in the distribution of the inactive population by category during the period between censuses (1970-1980) in order to determine to what extent there were any indications that its growth (particularly in the case of "other" inactive persons —was due to an increase in involuntary unemployment in forms which eluded measurement by the present census schedule. In particular, the evolution of the rate of activity (in the 1970 and 1980 censuses) was examined, together with the characteristics of the inactive population, in particular that part of the population classified as "others".

The paper comes to the conclusion that, in accordance with the method of processing carried out, the inactive population includes groups of active individuals carrying out tasks of an irregular nature as part of the new forms of work which have been grouped under the concept of insecure work. It seems that the category of "others" includes —more than other categories—heads of households in the middle-aged group with a low level of education; and thereby becomes the category in which inactive individuals "take refuge". This indicates that greater exactitude in the measurement would make it possible for the 1990 population census to identify irregular workers. Finally, the paper includes a number of suggestions with regard to the mechanisms which would make it possible to improve instruments with a view to their being utilized in the 1990 census.

The following paper 10/ dealt with the same topic, although it was centred on a number of alternative elements.

The paper poses a number of questions based on the analysis of data from the 1980 Argentine population census and which bear on the measurement and classification of inactivity. In response, it puts forward the possibility of at least partly solving the problems identified, by means of alternations to the design of the census questionnaire.

In order to tackle the problem, it proposes to develop the definition of the profile of the economically inactive population and to determine the characteristics of inactive heads of households. It also systematizes information relating to households whose heads are inactive, bearing in mind their relative importance, the differential activity rates resulting therefrom and the sex and age characteristics of households with several individuals and an inactive head.

The study involves a comparison of three census wards (Pederal Capital, Santa Fe and Santiago del Estero) in which the first two, in contrast with the third, illustrate polar economic situations within a similar development context. Certain hypotheses are also examined at the level of the country as a whole.

The empirical progress made provides concrete indicators which give reason for the paper to consider a period limited to the week preceding the taking of the census and the adoption of a single question to classify this status as unsatisfactory. The paper also examines the restrictive condition which involves not considering certain types of production for own-account consumption as economic activity.

On the basis of the set of quantitative observations and methodological considerations set out, the paper concludes as to the strong likelihood that forms of unemployment and work which are not identified by the specific question in the Population Census are concealed within the inactive category. In the first case, this would seem to be the consequence of sporadic or temporary types of participation in economic activity; in the second, the consequence of the failure on the part of the interviewer, of the person answering on his behalf and/or of the interviewer, to recognize the economic nature of the activities carried out, a case which most frequently occurs in respect of unpaid family workers and those involved in certain types of production for own-account consumption.

The paper finally synthesizes its conclusions by pointing out that the analysis indicates the importance of examining a number of proposals designed to ensure a more worthwhile and precise measurement of activity status and of the productive characteristics of the census population, and puts forward a number of concrete propositions with regard to processing.

The authors of the paper submit an alternative design for the questionnaire, and conclude with the observation that the proposition put forward is not as ambitious as it seems, since, on account of its coverage, the population census represents the most suitable means of identifying the human resources existing in the country.

Although it was presented at another working meeting, the paper produced by the Uruguayan Office of Statistics and Censuses  $\underline{11}$ / proved to be closely connected in terms of content, with the theme of this chapter.

The document describes an experiment involving a comparison between the Population Census and the Household Survey. Its purpose is essentially methodological, and focuses on the most general variables of the issues concerned.

The basic objective pursued in this respect is to analyse the validity of the census as a means of measuring a number of economic features. Consequently, the specific aims of the research were to analyse the suitability of the Census for measuring activity status, inactivity and occupational category, and in particular its behaviour when it was used to measure global rates of activity, employment and unemployment was observed.

The presentation of the experiment provided an outline of some general features of the two surveys examined, with reference to the manner in which personnel was recruited and trained, and a full description of the operational definitions adopted in both surveys was given.

The methodological approach used involved a comparison of the information from both surveys, relating to the same individuals, who were chosen from the Capital.

The sample covered 186 households, with 503 individuals, and the study also included significance tests relating to the scale of the discrepancies.

The different statistical tables presented set out the categories which are most vulnerable to under-enumeration or more exactly alternative enumeration.

The paper concludes that the hypothesis, which has been tested in other countries, that the census underestimates the rate of activity and the corresponding rate of unemployment was also confirmed in the case of the country concerned by the experiment. Here, and in the area selected, the census recorded an activity rate of approximately 52.6% and a rate of unemployment of 9.5%, while the survey provides estimates of 57.4% and 12.5% respectively.

On the basis of the tables and tests presented, it was concluded that both under-recordings were the result of a single phenomenon, i.e. the transfer of unemployed individuals to the inactive categories, in particular that of students and to a lesser extent, that of housekeepers. The reasons for these "shifts" include, among other causes, the inclusion of the words "activity" and "carry out" in the initial census question ("Of the following types of activity, which did you carry out last week?"). The paper argues that these terms might suggest preconceptions to the interviewee, such as the tendency to consider activity as synonymous with occupation. This tendency might have been accentuated by the interviewees' propensity to anticipate the question without waiting for the whole of the planned sequence to be completed. The lack of experience of census enumerators would also help to explain the type of error mentioned and would account for their accepting a high proportion of these responses.

Among the possible means of avoiding the errors mentioned, the paper suggests that changes be introduced into the wording of the initial question, so as to remove therefrom the suggestive element of the concepts mentioned. The need for greater resources for training in this field was also underscored, and the importance of continuing to use censuses as a means of surveying the economic characteristics of the population was reiterated.

The remarks made in respect of the papers presented by Catalina Wainerman and Martin Moreno 12/ particularly emphasized the value of the continuous effort carried out in this line of research which had started with the assessment of the 1970s censuses. The authors' contribution towards providing

a clear and explicit illustration of a series of problems affecting the recording of female labour by censuses and their contribution to the creation of goods and services was highlighted.

Stress was also laid on the contradiction between the fact that women make a considerable contribution to production and trade in goods and services, yet are not declared as workers, and consequently appear in statistics, in the eyes of governments and before society as individuals who make no contribution but who are kept and dependent. In this respect, one of the most striking findings of the research was the differences between men and women when it came to perceiving and declaring themselves as workers.

Another factor which was examined was the exclusive nature of questions concerning activity status. It was pointed out that improved recording of female labour by means of a series of more clearly formulated questions does not eliminate the assumption that the population is either in work, studying or retired, etc. on a full-time basis, which is far from what is actually the case.

It was consequently proposed that the active/inactive dichotomy be averted and that it be made possible to interweave activity and inactivity to differing degrees. The Survey into Urban Employment in Mexico was put forward as an example of this type of approach.

Attention was also drawn to the implications of an increase in the female activity ratio, an analysis which demonstrated that the apparent increases in employment in given areas in fact seemed to reflect an improvement in the recording of the indicator, a fact which could lead to a distortion of the impact of the crisis if applied in more inclusive contexts.

Finally, the paper mentioned the desirability that the publicity with which the census operative was provided should stress the type of activity which statistics usually fail to record, thereby helping to develop a greater awareness of the nature of these activities.

A further commentary on the research made by Wainerman and Moreno was made by the Paraguayan Office of Statistics and Censuses (DGECP).13/ After thanking the authors for two highly thought-provoking papers, both in terms of substantive contents and results, the commentator highlighted the laudable efforts carried out by CENEP in an effort to test the applicability of the new IIO recommendations for measuring the "economically active population" through a census and provide empirical evidence that censuses underestimate the female EAP.

With regard to the international norms for handling the EAP which were in force until the 1980s, the commentator agreed as to their unsuitability for the developing countries although he emphasized that the methodology drawn up by the Office of Censuses of the United States of America, which involve submitting a short questionnaire to the whole of the population and a longer one to a sample thereof, provided a means of improving things.

On the basis of the empirical evidence which Wainerman and Moreno had drawn from a comparison of activity ratios from censuses and from surveys

which had adopted the same conceptual definition, the discussant drew the conclusion that the differences were rather more the result of the instruments used in measuring and of operational aspects rather than conceptual ones, which, while considerable, were in no way determining factors.

The discussant also said that CENEP had exercised suitably tight control in the test it had carried out to put the new proposals of IIO into practice, from both a conceptual and methodological angle. As far as conceptual considerations are concerned, the inclusion of a "own-account consumption module" was considered to broaden the field of research and to take into account economic circumstances in the developing countries. Nonetheless, the commentator warned that the new IIO norms —which explicitly include female workers in own-account consumption within the labour force—suffered from a certain laxity and contained a degree of subjectiveness in view of which the statistics they produce must be viewed with caution. The commentator also warned that the implementation of the alterations which were tested would involve a problem over the interpretation of the changes revealed by the results (in comparison with previous surveys), which would be more apparent than real.

The discussant suggests that the CENEP experiment seems to somewhat underestimate unemployment and also to suffer from difficulties in condensing the questions which may be included in the census questionnaire into a minimum set.

The commentary 14/ on the paper presented by Rosalía Cortéz began by setting the paper in direct line with those which expressed the growing concern of a sector of social scientists with the reliability and validity of the basic statistical information which the scientific reconstruction of reality takes for its foundation. The question as to the contents of the residual categories in systems of classification and, in particular, the concern over the high and ever-growing proportion of cases which fall therein in a number of census tabulations of the economic characteristics of the population represent, in the commentators view, a substantive aspect of the problem.

In this respect, it was mentioned that the paper in question constituted an original attempt to set the critical aspects of the current situation resulting from the economic recession and social crisis against these statistical problems.

It was also emphasized that it would seem desirable that the same enthusiasm which fired criticism of the unsuitability of certain statistical instruments and categories should also be directed towards a revision of the present utility of certain analytical categories.

The commentary then focused on synthesizing the main hypotheses and assertions made in the paper under consideration into a number of proposals, in order to provide a basis for observations which might arise from different information and from viewing the same data from a different angle.

In this respect, the discussant examines the limitations affecting the inclusion of the underemployed population in the economically active

population, with regard to the reference periods adopted by the various censuses.

In relation to the 1980 census in particular, it was pointed out that the fact that the restriction as to minimum time worked had been lifted meant that the census recorded more people as being occupied than the 1970 one. If, as would seem to be the case, it recorded less, the deterioration in the employment situation must have been even worse than appears from a comparison between the figures of both censuses.

Alternative methods of recording irregular employment and its relationship with the concept of customary employment and labour force were examined. An analysis was also made of the existence of other groups, in addition to those indicated by the author as being unsatisfactorily recorded and which might have been entered into the "others" category, such as the unemployed.

Finally, it is argued that the recommendations made by the paper under consideration are sufficiently concrete and exhaustive in their attempt to distinguish between "legitimate" inactive individuals and irregular workers. However, a number of general suggestions are put forward relating to the quality and exhaustiveness of the instructions provided, the need to render the criteria for assignation used in all the stages of the census more explicit, as well as the semantic aspect of the wording of the census schedule.

The paper presented by Ariño and Rosas led to an observation<u>15</u>/regarding the impact of contextual factors on problems of measurement.

The commentary considered the proposals made by the research in question, and pointed out that underlying all the problems set out was the mayor issue of the labour market, and emphasized that it was only in this context that the results obtained acquired any coherence. This was particularly true in respect of unstable work, of subsistence economies and of the growth of seasonal work or migratory workers, representing different aspects of a single overall problem.

It was asserted that the paper, as presented provides sufficient evidence of the under-recording of activity, but it was necessary to acknowledge that, if it had been carried out as part of a genuine regionalization (i.e., at the departmental level and based on the identification of differentiated labour markets, in accordance with the prevailing production relations) the evidence and the differences would have been greater still.

Although the alternative method of recording proposed was considered suitable, there was a debate over the most suitable means of applying it, and doubts were raised as to the relevance of its being included in the Population Census.

Finally, a review was made of the instruments used in gathering data on employment, particularly agricultural employment, and it was argued that only with the adoption of a working strategy which combined or integrated methodologies for utilizing secondary data and other qualitative methodologies

for analysing the make-up of labour markets with the utilization of sample surveys to detect the level of employment, availability, labour cycles and income of the population would it be possible to grasp the phenomenon as a whole.

This would in turn require an interdisciplinary effort on the part of the different suppliers of information, and between the consumers thereof, with the aim of bringing about a conceptual homogenization of the various instruments employed.

With regard to the paper presented by the Office of Statistics and Censuses of Uruguay, the discussant 16/ dealt with it on different levels.

First of all, emphasis was placed on the cultural background of the country in which the investigation had been carried out, and the extremely low levels of illiteracy, the excellent public schools, the highly articulate population, the absence of noteworthy cultural barriers, etc., were mentioned as being significant features. It was pointed out that this socio-cultural environment would have a favourable impact on the experiment, and, in so far as these features were not common to all the countries in the region, they should be borne in mind when attempting to transfer the exercise to other environments.

In view of the evidence that the Census did not record any of the cases considered as family workers by the Household Survey, and since they survey in question identified them on account of a "safety net" question, additional to the questioned designed to record activity status as a whole, the discussant suggested that a conclusion of the research was that this approach marked a clear operational alternative.

Attention was also drawn to the presence of indications of the existence of a certain turnover effect in the status being analysed, and it was suggested that this be controlled during the assessment of the effects imputed to differences between the instruments.

The commentary also made a number of observations regarding the operational differences between both surveys, and suggested, as a means of taking advantage of the methodological potential of the exercise, that the impact of the above on the specific activity rates by sex and by age should be analysed.

The debates which took place after the presentation of the papers bore on a variety of areas.

From the theoretical and conceptual angle a discussion took place as to the nature of domestic labour and its link with alternative forms of work. Its role in the reproduction of the labour force was analysed and the various definitions put forward were contrasted with one another, together their implications in terms of different quantitative frameworks, in particular, the systems of national accounts. With regard to methodology, the scope and different interpretations of the concept of under enumeration were debated.

As part of the process of drawing lessons from national experience, reference was made to that of Peru, Chile and Costa Rica. In the first case, the instrumental nature of statistics in the implementation policies was emphasized, and the interrelation between both levels in the experience of Peru was given as an example.

In the second case, stress was essentially laid on the nature of the different surveys, and it was proposed that fully use be made of Household Surveys and that restraint be shown in introducing innovations into censuses.

The Costa Rican experience provided an illustration of the desirability of tighter links between the different surveys, and it was suggested that in this country the simultaneous implementation of the surveys led to far more useful results than those obtained from separate surveys.

A number of cultural factors involved in the problem were also reexamined together with their incidence, which was differential, on the methods of processing the dimensions relating to activity status.

In order to provide a synthesis of some of the issues dealt with, the general ideas presented in the chapter "conclusions and recommendations" were drawn from the discussions which took place during the meetings.

## 3. The training of interviewers

The question of "activity status" was also dealt with from the training angle. The paper which addressed the issue 17/ identifies two aspects: that linked to the technical and conceptual handling of the questionnaire and that which involves the preconceptions or cultural biases present in the minds of the interviewers. In view of their preoccupation with the incidence of these two features on the validity of the information gathered in relation to the "activity status" of the interviewees, the authors designed a procedure geared to improving the former and lessening the impact of the latter. The paper describes the procedure developed in respect of biases associated with first of all, sex, and secondly, age, civil status and family situation (number and age of offspring).

The procedure was implemented as part of an experimental field survey carried out in Argentina and Paraguay among urban and rural inhabitants. 18/One of the objectives of this study was to assess the impact of training designed to develop an awareness among interviewers of the biases mentioned above vis-a-vis that of normal training in respect of the collection of data relating to female workers and young and old workers who are frequently not recorded in census statistics.

In the first stage of the training exercise the interviewers were presented with a list containing a description of the members of five households (urban and rural and from different social classes) in terms of their age, sex and family relationship. The interviewers were required to indicate up to three activities which each member of the family could have carried out during the previous week. In the second stage, the interviewers were asked to classify, on a second list, the principal activity assigned to each family member using the categories of activity/inactivity usually adopted

by censuses ("worked", "student", "housewife", "retired or pensioner", etc.). In the third stage, the interviewers were given the results which they themselves had produced and gained an insight into the regularity with which they had assigned the status of economic activity/inactivity to individuals of different sexes, ages, etc. In the fourth and final stage the interviewers developed a greater conceptual awareness from their insight by developing hypotheses as to the reasons for which they had differentiated in assigning activities to individuals who were equal in all other respects but different in terms of sex, age, etc.

Some of the conclusions of the exercise reveal that the interviewers more frequently assigned economic activities to men and non-economic ones to women. It also illustrated that when more than one activity was assigned to members (one of which was economic and the other non-economic) to members, the interviewers more frequently recorded the non-economic activity as the <u>principal</u> activity in the case of women and the economic activity in the case of men, contrary to the principal of "priority" which they are formally required to apply in censuses.

In drawing its conclusions, the paper clearly states that its main purpose is to present a technique geared to diminishing bias in the assignation of the categories "housewife", "retired", "student" to interviewees, and that any discussion as to what extent the differential assignation practiced by the interviewers in the experiment is in part a reflection of reality and in part a reflection of the predominant social assumptions regarding the division of labour between individuals of different sex and age lay beyond its scope.

In relation to the paper presented, the discussant 19/ addressed the analysis of the experiment described therein on the basis of the needs involved in the establishment of an integral programme for training those involved in censuses.

The discussant asserted that the need both to improve the definitions and operativeness of the variables studied as well as the programmes for training the personnel involved was clearly apparent from any examination of census results.

In this respect the first observation relating to the paper under consideration was that it constituted a major contribution to identifying some of the central problems which training programmes designed to prepare the personnel participating in the census survey will need to solve. The paper provided an illustration of the manner in which cultural preconceptions relating to the division of labour on the basis of sex, age and type of family structure can influence the under-enumeration of economic activity by censuses, and revealed how this cultural bias operated on the basis of a specific training programme. Emphasises was laid on the importance of focusing on the non-explicit level of the preconception or prejudice, in view of the manner in which it affects the interviewers approach to a particular field by determining a priori their possibility of gaining an objective knowledge of reality.

The exercise presented provided a noteworthy illustration of the passage from action to conceptualization together with the identification of the values at work in given circumstances, and whose associations were clearly manifested in action. Consequently, the methodology adopted was considered to cover an area ranging from the clarification of personal experience to reasoned analysis of the roots thereof.

The second area to which the commentary devoted itself was assessment of the possibilities of implementing this proposal to the mass training of census interviewers. The obvious difficulties involved were acknowledged, in view of the scarcity of resources available, and the fact that the task would involve a burden on public expenditure.

These factors were then considered as the basis for proposing a programme involving less costly types of training aimed at developing the awareness of interviewers, and which would be included as part of the methodologies, resources and training material for census training as a whole, thereby avoiding the need to prepare a special programme to achieve this.

It was also pointed out that it is vital for curricula to be designed so as to provide the cognitive strategies to enable field personnel to solve the problems which arise in the survey, and it was suggested that progress be made towards the application of a multi-media combination together with the incorporation of new technologies.

Finally, an overall presentation was made of the lines of development of the proposal in respect of training. In preparation for the diagnostic stage, it was planned to carry out a series of measures designed to identify the labour skills available in relation to those required by the census operative. It was planned to carry out a survey into the motives of future interviewers, together with others designed to identify characteristics deriving from the influence of the reference frameworks of field personnel as well as a number of activities to develop awareness among those involved in education.

The subsequent debate revealed a number of arguments relating to the issue of training, in addition to those implicit in the experiment in question.

Mention was made of the common failure of interviewers to read the instructions relating to the questionnaire they are to deal with as well as of the general characteristics of the training programmes used, which in some cases are simply inexistent.

Particular importance was attached to the attempt to deal with census training from a new angle, and a number of variants to this overall proposal were put forward. Some of these were aimed at providing basic training by means of a video cassette, while others stressed the need to provide more integral solutions to the problem.

The desirability of establishing a parallel organization to the administration usually responsible for statistics was mentioned, while, as an alternative, the need to deal with the problem of training as an integral and permanent part of the statistical system was also put forward.

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It was suggested that training be extended to the educational environment, to students and teachers.

## 4. The type of occupation

The first paper on this topic  $\underline{20}$ / concerned itself with defining the necessary theoretical framework.

The paper contributed fundamental conceptual elements to the discussion, such as those relating to the nature of the phenomenon in question, to the implications of a number of commonly used dimensions and to certain specific aspects which give rise to divergent interpretations.

First of all, the paper reviewed the action carried out by INDEC in order to examine the growing and widespread dissatisfaction with the limitations of the occupational classifications in present use, in particular ISCO/IIO. In this respect, mention was made of the propositions put forward by the Regional Seminar-Workshop on Occupational Classifications jointly organized by INDEC and IIO in May 1986.

The paper started with the following assertion which was drawn up and discussed at the seminar: "any attempt to partially alter the census instruments in present use would not bring about any substantial change in the limitations thereof with regard to occupational categories".

In this respect, it was stated that it would only prove possible to clearly identify the fundamental reason for the inconsistency in the description of occupations if it were possible to identify the structural framework resulting from the social and technical division of labour.

Similarly, reference was made to the fundamental criticism concerning the existence of an underlying assumption in traditional occupational classifications which involves defining the area of occupation as if it were perfectly possible to do so on the basis of the individual, rather than recognizing that the heart of the matter lies in the productive structure.

The subsequent observations developed the conceptualization around factors which have arisen in the past in relation to the classification of occupations. It was within this historical setting that the speaker introduced the discussion on the significant dimensions of job description and their implications for the treatment of socio-technical relations and the occupations to which these give rise.

A discussion also took place as to where and how to create an area to allow convergence and systematization in respect of the issue under consideration.

A number of experiments which could be considered as examples thereof, in terms of their requirements, were mentioned. Reference was also made to the long experience acquired by CINTERFOR-IIO and well as to interesting aspects of Brazil's experience in the agricultural sector and to that of Costa Rica, which closely resembles the INDEC proposal in its layout. In addition the

major theoretical and methodological contribution materialized in the extensive and extensive CEREQ dictionary of occupations was highlighted.

Finally, this and other experiments were taken as indicators that the strategy for handling the problem was viable, and that there was already a considerable degree of theoretical and methodological validity and consistence, as well as operational preparedness of the variables which may ensure the successful formulation of a project to identify the specific characteristics of our social and productive structure.

The paper which followed developed a complementary approach, 21/ starting from the observation that the opportunity provided by the seminar undoubtedly opened up a significant sphere for reflection, analysis and the sketching out of proposals in respect of the problems posed to censuses by occupations. Nevertheless, if the proposed aims were to be fully achieved, it would be necessary to hold subsequent meetings of the same or of a similar nature, to allow the initial proposals to be sorted out and made more precise.

With regard to different occupational characteristics, is was pointed out that critical analyses and proposals for renovation many of which had been experimentally tested, had been developed in conceptual and methodological terms. In order to make use of this knowledge, it was emphasized that it was vital to continue these meetings in order to determine the most suitable and convenient means of analyzing the population's economic insertion by means of censuses.

It was realized, in this respect that the problem of occupations is not unaffected by the proposed, and that the complexity of the issue makes it necessary to tackle it successively, as far as conceptual, methodological, operational and analytical aspects are concerned.

The need for INDEC to set up specific teams (of an interdisciplinary and interinstitutional nature, to deepen and develop, under its direction, the observations made at this type of meeting was put forward.

The paper then focused on the principle uncertainties which arose in respect of the treatment of occupations in censuses, and reference was made to the need for the census to consider the issue, as well as to the degree of precision required, to the way in which the question should be posed to the choice of the suitable source, etc.

As far as the need to obtain and the possibility of obtaining information on occupations by means of the census was concerned, it was said that since the occupations of individuals constitute a highly particular and substantive expression of the way in which work is divided and organized within society, it is impossible for a census to shirt from obtaining information on such a characteristic.

In order to carry out a full assessment of this proposal, it was pointed out, in respect of studies which criticize the limitations of the existing information on occupations, that they do not, as is often the case, spring from the very nature of the phenomena, but from an inadequate approach

thereto, be it for reasons of a conceptual, methodological, organizational or analytical nature.

Consequently, the existence of these problems cannot justify the conclusion that it is pointless or undesirability to obtain this type of information through censuses, but rather necessary to pose the problems correctly and find suitable solutions thereto.

With regard to the pattern into which occupations fall, it was maintained that one of the greatest difficulties is the absence of a suitable instrument for classifying them, i.e., an instrument capable of describing the essential and significant features of the population's insertion in the specific division of labour at a given historical moment.

In view of the likelihood that the future census will be carried out in the absence of a national classification of occupations providing a suitable description of the diversity and number of occupations which exist in the country, and which could be used as a reference instrument in classification, it was suggested that the only possible solution would once again be to rely on a more or less ad hoc code of occupations prepared for census purposes.

With this consideration in mind, it was stated that this occupational code should be seen as a first step, the conceptual and methodological beginning of the future national classification of occupations.

The speaker then developed a number of guidelines in relation to attributes considered as significant, such as the complexity or level of qualification of the work performed, and provided background information relating to its application in the instrument used in INDEC, and the recent importance given to it by IIO.

Problems were also raised relating to the characteristics of occupations in the less developed countries, such as those known as marginal, the "polyvalent" and all those types of work outside the strict framework of salaried labour.

Finally, emphasis was placed on the close connection between the treatment of the issue at the level of concrete occupations and that of the remaining socioeconomic variables, and the need to develop an overall analytical approach to identify adequate responses for each of the issues was put forward.

The commentary on the paper presented by María Laura Elizalde 22/considered that the proposition relating to the handling of the processing of occupations in the future National Population Census of Argentina in 1990 was highly significant.

To justify this assertion it was stated that the need to possess a system for classifying occupations which overcame the inherent limitations of the international classifications (ISC 68, COTA 70) which were generally used in previous censuses is nowadays widely recognized, both by the users and producers of labour statistics in Argentina and in the majority of latin American countries, as well as by the IIO itself, which is preparing a revised

ISCO-68, as was confirmed at a recent seminar held in Evenos Aires (Regional Seminar on the Classification of Occupations-INDEC-IIO).

Reference was subsequently made to a number of the conceptual and methodological limitations which had been acknowledged, and stress was placed on the need to successfully and consistently reflect the diversity of forms taken by work materialized in the actual occupations pursued within each national context.

This led to an examination of the limitations of the census, which were contrasted with its potential, and the wealth of analytical information it is capable of providing by virtue of its coverage was again stressed.

In view of the impossibility of completing the National Classification of Occupations in time for the next census, the importance of the proposal made by the paper was emphasized. This suggests the alternative solution of preparing a code of occupations which adopts theoretical and methodological criteria which take into account the most significant dimensions of the phenomenon, and constitute part of the preparation of the proposal for an overall classification. It was mentioned that notwithstanding the feasibility of this alternative, the work involved would be considerable.

By way of example, a number of "problem areas" which it was considered important to solve were also chosen, and alternative means of handling the problem of comparability were put forward.

Finally, emphasis was placed on the need for the forthcoming 1990 census to process occupations in line with the theoretical and methodological guidelines laid down by the Draft National Classification of Occupations proposed by INDEC in order to ensure that the variable is handled in a uniform manner by all the instruments used by the national statistical system for gathering social and economic data.

The subsequent debates focused more on the operational aspects involved in the proposition than on theoretical debate.

Mention was made of the impact of the proposed changes on both the historical comparability of data in a single country and on comparability between countries. Examples were given of cases in which a high level disaggregation was in fact underutilized by users who continued to adopt, in practice, the same major groups. This observation lead to a discussion over the need, rather than for greater disaggregation, for groups which were more significant from the qualitative angle.

The backbone of the different papers and the respective commentaries can be summed up in the following basic propositions.

First of all, emphasis was placed on the relevance to the census of occupations (as well as of other variables relating to the economic insertion of the population). It was also acknowledged that it was important to process the information in a sufficiently unified manner to achieve the research and planning objectives. Stress was also laid on the need to advance in discussion to clarify the difference between an occupational classification and an

occupational code. In this respect, as the latter forms part of the former, it was impossible to consider preparing a code to be used in the census, without it being part of the process of formulating a classification of occupations.

There was also agreement over the need to stimulate a sufficiently continuous and systematic process to prepare a complete proposal relating to this issue. This would necessarily be of an interdisciplinary and interinstitutional nature in order to take advantage of the social experience acquired, and would need to be periodically enriched by means of subsequent meetings (at a national and regional level, to allow reflection and debate, as well as to progress with the specific features of the proposal.

It was also stressed that this process should overcome false dichotomies of the "producer-user" and "technical level-political level" type, and take the necessary decisions in relation to the processing of occupations to allow them to be more fully dealt with, and to include in particular the national, regional and sectoral analytical perspective.

## 5. The characteristics of establishments

## a) The size of establishments

The starting point of the paper presented 23/ is the assertion that no analysis has so far been carried out to determine the degree of precision which population census operatives are capable of attaining in measuring the size of establishment, in terms of personnel employed.

Since the 1980 Argentine National Population Census included, for the first time in Latin America, a question thereon, the paper attempts to draw up an initial assessment of the results obtained by comparing them with the data from the Permanent Household Survey and the Economic Census. The paper expresses the likelihood that the preliminary conclusions will confirm the desirability of either maintaining or eliminating this variable from the 1990 Census, or of introducing modifications should it be decided to retain it.

The paper deals with four aspects. The first of these involves an examination of the quality which is to be expected of the variable "size of establishment" censuses carried out among individuals. The second feature concerns the presentation of the problems of the comparability of the data obtained by censuses and household surveys with those from censuses and surveys carried out in establishments. The third aspect concerns the evaluation of results relating to Argentina, with reference to Greater Buenos Aires in the 1974-1985 period, on the basis of the 1980 Population Census, the 1974, 1980 and 1985 Permanent Household Surveys and the 1974 and 1985 National Economic Censuses. The fourth aspect deals with a proposal for research by INDEC in order to increase the information available on the quality of the results obtained by household surveys.

In respect of the characteristics and comparability of different sources a description was given of the features of the information obtained from establishments. The likelihood of the universe being underestimated as a result of the concealing of irregular situations, the low level of specialization of the personnel involved in the survey and the geographical area covered by the information on the occupations of the individuals occupied in the establishment were mentioned. A comparison was then drawn with the manner in which the same items are presented in the household surveys, and their characteristics were contrasted.

Evaluation of the results for Greater Buenos Aires (1974-1985) leads to the conclusion that few differences appear from the comparison between the Population Census and the Household Survey, which would seem to suggest that both sources measure the size of establishment in a similar manner.

As far as the Economic Census is concerned, the surveys carried out in establishments seem to record a smaller number of small units than household survey or censuses. This difference is not only attributable to the restrictions which oblige the former to only record fixed establishments (as a result of which the underestimation would mainly concern unsalaried workers). The figures presented also indicate that salaried workers in small establishments are also inadequately covered.

The study carries out a comparison of sources on the basis of a more detailed stratification by size.

The results of this comparison (between Household Survey and Economic Census) seem to indicate that, in the case of salaried workers, household surveys would tend to over-estimate the middle level strata to the detriment of the upper strata.

The principal conclusion of the paper is that the Population Census together with the Household Surveys constitute the best source for recording employment in small-sized establishments.

In view of the significance of this dimension for analyses such as those of social stratification, the paper considered it desirable to maintain this criterion in the forthcoming Population Census.

Bearing in mind a number of comparisons carried out with regard to the quality of the information provided by Household Surveys, the paper stated that it was impossible to fully confirm the conclusions on the basis of the empirical material available, in view of which it was intended to carry out a test based on the Greater Buenos Aires Permanent Household Survey.

#### b) Branch of Activity

The next paper <u>24</u>/ which was of a highly methodological bent, set out to elucidate the significance and implications of the existence of certain fringes of the economically active population who are recorded as unspecified.

The research is based on the importance of insertion in a given branch of activity, which, together with occupational category and occupational group constitute the central dimensions of social analysis.

The paper referred to a major hurdle: that raised by the "unspecified" category in each of the three attributes. It was also mentioned that occasionally arbitrary forms of assignation are introduced, without any consideration for their consequences. In order to give an idea of the scale of the problem, it was indicated that one of every ten members of the EAP are not assigned to a sector. In addition, it was stated that the absence of definition which concerned approximately 700 000 members of the EAP in the last three censuses did not imply a gradual decline in the proportion of the active population, bearing in mind its growth. It was indicated that this type of situation affected the percentage breakdown between branches and was particularly problematic in the case of a diachronic analysis based on the absolute numbers in the branches of activity. It wa also observed that calculating the magnitudes as provided for in each census or else "adjusting them" on the basis of some criterion for redistributing the "unspecified" cases was not without effect. It was stressed that the situation could worsen since this category could have a differential influence not only in time but also in the different jurisdictions.

As part of this overall approach, an analysis was made of the characteristics of the phenomenon at the national level, with broad quantitative coverage of the responses.

An analysis was made of the incidence of the failure to specify the branch of activity on each of the occupational categories, and its links with the failure to specify this variable were also studied. One of the aspects dealt with was the internal make-up of the unspecified category in each branch of activity, and it was concluded on the basis of the comparison between censuses that the participation of employees diminishes more than in total EAP, that employers decline even more sharply and that own account and family workers almost double their participation. To sum up, the trend among ENS (branch not specified) by occupational categories follows the same path as global EAP, albeit rather more pronouncedly in some cases.

These quantitative variations led the speaker to tender a hypothesis, which assumed that there were no differences of quality between the different surveys. The paper maintains that the fact that unspecified employees are increasingly few in number, as are employers, and that unspecified own-account workers and family workers are increasingly numerous, which would seem to suggest that the features of informalization and/or precariousness of employment observable in respect of total EAP are closely linked with the lack of precision with regard to branch, probably because they in fact simultaneously belong to more than one.

The particular situation of public employees was mentioned, and a question was posed as to the reasons for there being a greater likelihood of not identifying the branch in which a public sector employee worked, in comparison with a private sector employee.

The research also carried out an analysis into the size of urban centres and into regional characteristics, and identified a number of noteworthy regularities, such as the fact that the incidence of the unspecified category in the total EAP grew with the size of the cities.

Of particular note among the final observations was that relating to the usefulness of reviewing the issue, on the basis of the analyses presented and of other similar analyses, both with regard to the utilization of census data in substantive research and the reconsideration of possibly less arbitrary mechanisms for assignation than those usually adopted. In this respect, it was suggested that a special effort be made to render the sectoral identification of certain activities in the public sphere more precise, paying particular attention to the incidence of peripheral privatization policies on the employees' perception as to who is their real employer.

The paper also expresses the need to consider whether provincial and/or regional differences are linked with specific characteristics of the labour market which it is hard to identify by ordinary means, or whether there was still room for improvement in the collection of data in order to diminish the proportions of unspecified cases, which, in certain cases, are strikingly high.

The paper finally drew attention to the precautions it was necessary for users to take in distributing the unspecified cases or, which comes down to the same thing, in only adopting the percentage breakdown of the cases in fact identified.

In respect of the paper presented by Beccacaria-Orsatti  $\underline{25}/$  the discussant outlined its general features before focusing his attention on specific aspects.

First of all, attention was drawn to the need to acknowledge the theoretical and practical complementarity between population surveys and censuses, as well as that between both of these and economic censuses.

Emphasis was also placed on the consistency resulting from the fact that some surveys were designed to gather data from individuals and others from establishments, a fact which produced complementary rather than divergent sets of data.

The relevance of the criticism made by the authors regarding household surveys, which they accused of failing to gather adequate data on the size of establishments was examined. Moreover, it was borne in mind that the aim of the work was to assess the quality of the data relating to micro-establishments.

Similarly, the discussant highlighted the value of the proposal to carry out special research using Household Surveys to gather data from employees themselves and not only from owners.

Finally, it was proposed to include a sample of small and micro-industrial establishments in the monthly industrial survey carried out by INDEC, since so far this survey has only recorded data on medium-sized and large industrial establishments.

In relation to the paper presented by Javier Lindesboin, 26/ the discussant dealt with its examination of the usual way in which the researcher or planner operates when using census data. In this respect the practice of

eliminating unspecified sectors from the EAP was considered to be common as was the practice of resorting to proportional distribution thereof. Stress was laid on the value of the scrupulous analysis of the unspecified population which was presented. The discussant said that the paper "lit up warning lights" in respect of such practices, and put forward the need to gain deeper knowledge of this group. The most noteworthy contribution of the paper was its acknowledgement of the need to capitalize the conclusion of research in formulating the future census.

Special mention was made of aspects relating to double unspecification (branch and occupational category), and it was also suggested that it would be desirable to analyse this combination in the 1980 census, in view of the fact that the second of these variables was assigned on the basis of an random programme based on characteristics of sex, age and cultural level. The need to improve the collection of data on less formal and illegal activities in the 1990 Census was also mentioned.

Finally, an analysis was made of the question which identifies branch of activity to one digit in the Population Census. While the paper made no special reference to this classification, the commentary observed the regularity with which "branch not specified" belong to the tertiary sector, and suggested that the examination of this sector be deepened in order to improve the information from the 1990 census.

The subsequent debates centred on some of the results of the research presented. The participants considered the methodological assumptions involved, and referred to the central importance of defining the concept of establishment, as well as of the operational criteria associated therewith. Mention was made of the limitations to which statistics are subject, limitations which are aggravated, in the case of larger establishments, as well as of the need to draw up precise, clear and accessible definitions for the use of both interviewers and interviewees.

The ambiguity of the current definitions was illustrated as part of an alternative proposal for its elimination, and the different criteria considered relevant for the definition of an establishment were clarified.

Reference was also made to the limitations resulting from training, in so far as their incidence was reflected in the response to questions relating to branch of activity, and it was pointed out that it was desirable not only to intensify the training given to interviewers, but also to introduce a mechanism designed to train the population to be censured.

It was also suggested that instruments to control and/or correct the information on the basis of other sources be prepared, as a complement to the census.

## 6. <u>Working conditions</u>

One of the issues which may appear untraditional in censuses is that relating to the working conditions and environment.

Three papers which either directly or indirectly deal with the issue were presented at the seminar. From different angles, and with different emphases, the papers provided a number of methodological elements which contribute to tackling the question.

It should be mentioned that all the papers concurred as to the need to gather basic data by means of a census, as well as the need to deepen and expand data by means of other surveys, in view of the complexity of the question.

The most comprehensive paper presented 27/ pointed out that there was a certain methodological and theoretical backwardness in comparison with more industrialized countries and emphasized that it would be possible to take a qualitative leap forward towards improving statistics if steps were taken to incorporate working conditions into the most important surveys.

Mention was also made of the consensus which exists among social scientists with regard to the direct repercussion of working conditions and the working environment on the reproduction of the labour force, as well as upon the premature aging of the economically active population. It was also emphasized that it was necessary to transform working conditions and environment into an objective variable of economic planning and to simultaneously carry out an analysis of its influence as a variable on the supply and availability of labour, on the economic and social cost of human labour as well as on the system of working relations.

The paper, which deals with the development of statistics in Argentina falls into three main parts. The first of these concerns the National Population and Housing Census and takes the 1980 census as its point of reference. The second relates to the present version of the Permanent Household Survey, while the third contains a proposal for carrying out a national and regional survey into working conditions and environment within the country.

The chapter on the National Census begins by acknowledging the manifold and various obstacles which the subject would have to face if indicators relating thereto were included in the census questionnaire. However, the paper raises the need for a number of minor changes which should nevertheless be introduced and suggests that a number of variables relating to the "quality of life" of the units surveyed and which affect the working conditions and environment of the units dealt with, and also recommends that specific items bearing on the duration of work, whether work is carried out by day or at night, on a shift system, annual rest, etc. also be included.

With regard to the economically active population, the paper raises the need to acknowledge the existence of discouragement among workers and to gather information on dual occupation and to improve the treatment given to occupations.

With regard to the present layout of the Permanent Household Survey, it was recognized that it already contains a number of questions relating to working conditions and environment (for example hours of work, social and retirement protection, stability and precariousness, etc.). The paper asserted

the need to examine these aspects more deeply, and to extend the coverage thereof, with reference to the indicators considered to be useful.

The third chapter, which deals with the execution of a specific survey, provides a summary of the project.

First of all, the institutional framework within which it was carried out was described in general terms. The universe adopted was that of salaried workers, and it was decided to carry the survey out in an urban environment, most likely to be the Federal capital, Greater Buenos Aires and a number of major cities in the country's interior.

On the basis of the assertion that no one can possess a better knowledge of how working conditions and the working environment affect their life and health than the workers themselves, the proposed questionnaire is designed not only to identify those objective factors which it is possible for a survey of this type to record, but also to identify the subjective aspect of working conditions and environment.

The following paper, 28/ which represents a complementary approach, was based on an attempt to broaden the traditional methods of measurement used by censuses and surveys in order to attempt to identify phenomena which had occurred during the past decade.

The aim of the paper was to illustrate the importance of measuring new models of time and to highlight some of the uses of this type of approach.

The paper indicated that the inclusion of this variable corresponds to the need to define suitable theoretical concepts for the analysis of the underground, concealed or unrecorded economy. This type of economy, which represents a new field for research, can be tackled from different angles. One of the approaches involves the study of the sharing cut of time between the organized economy and the unorganized one, as well as the appearance of new models for the use of time within the system as a whole. In this respect, the speaker maintained that although it was difficult to conceive an overall method of measurement applicable to the underground economy, it was possible to identify highly distinctive features thereof by measuring a number of key variables. Consequently, the inclusion of the time variable will possess explicit social and demographic significance, as it is clear that a convergence is taking place at the present time between major changes in the productive system and social preferences —as a result of the crisis—which are reflected in the changed utilization and significance of time.

The paper stressed the importance of bearing in mind that studies of time models may adopt a long-, medium-, and short term approach, and identified different levels of analysis in this respect. The first of these corresponds to the domestic economy and concerns the pattern of time use within the family in accordance with the sexual distribution of roles and in relation to the time devoted to paid and unpaid work.

The second level was that of historical time, and the paper provided a broad description of several general trends which clarify the underlying time

models and provide an outline of the overall features of the process of change which has taken place therein.

Finally, the actual propositions relating to measurement were introduced by a number of observations on the criteria which should be adopted in order to establish priorities for inclusion.

On the basis of these criteria, the variables to which priority should be given by the Population Census were defined, and recommendations were made in relation to the Economic Survey and the Agricultural Survey (relating to technology). In view of their scope attention was focused on Household Surveys for application of questions related to the issue of time models. The survey into Expenditure was also considered to be useful for providing points of reference as to social preferences in respect of the use of time.

The paper also included a provisional list of indicators for inclusion in the Household Survey which had been developed on the basis of the contents of the survey into working conditions and environment presented by the author in the paper mentioned above.

Although it did not directly bear on working conditions, one of the meetings examined a paper which, as part of a more extensive field, was nonetheless linked to the issue of working conditions and environment.29/

The proposition was developed on the basis of one of the variables in the 1980 Argentine Population and Housing Census (distance to work) and confirms the need to maintain the variable for the purposes of territorial diagnosis and planning and also to improve the indicators relating thereto in the forthcoming census.

The theoretical framework developed to situate the problem examined the criteria used in grouping together areas for statistical processing. The paper defined the physical, functional and legal criteria and described the implications of each as well as the most recent uses made thereof by statistical organizations.

The most significant functional criterion was identified as being the recording of the daily journeys made by the population, essentially the journey between the place of residence and the place of work, on which the paper focused its attention.

The paper asserts that if the record of journeys is compared with the occupational characteristics of the population concerned it may also provide a means of analysing the spatial structure (of metropolitan regions in this case) from different angles, and thereby make it possible to identify what the paper calls the functional, social and land use maps as well as a map showing the intensity of use.

The speaker also specifically dealt with the duration of each population category's journey to work, which constitutes an indicator of the "quality of life" since it restricts the leisure time of certain occupational groups and even the time necessary to satisfy basic needs such as the need for rest.

The core set of problems affecting the living and working conditions of the population would seem to be composed of the following elements. Place of residence by socioeconomic level; place of work by branch of activity, size of establishment, etc.; time taken commuting to work by socioeconomic level and the cost of transport by socioeconomic level.

The model was applied to Buenos Aires as part of a case-study exercise. First of all, certain significant historical periods in the development of the town's structure were described after which explanatory hypotheses were put forward for a number of the main processes which had been identified.

Proof of the potential of this type of treatment was provided by the intensive use made of the "journey to work" indicator as well as the wealth of analyses made as part of the case study described. This confirmed the need to continue to gather data on this indicator in the forthcoming census.

As far as operational aspects were concerned, the paper stressed the importance of the presence in the census not only of socioeconomic variables, but also of variables relating to a variety of activities which were neither work nor study. However, the paper mentioned the need to introduce a number of operational changes and to include a number of additional items.

It was also proposed that an up-to-date approach should be adopted to the availability of data. In this respect it was suggested that an easily accessible data base should be created, which could even include systems of direct user access and computer graphics allowing cartography to provide comparable information to the set of census data.

With regard to the paper presented by Horacio Torres, the discussant30/concurred with the general lines of the paper, and focused her attention on highlighting the concept of house-to-work accessibility as being rather more inclusive than the concept of distance. In addition to distance, this concept would include other dimensions such as the time involved in the journey, the means of transport used, the actual cost of the journey and its significance as a percentage of family income. The discussant observed that the 1980 census did not include any questions to measure these variables. With regard to the various aspects, the discussant pointed out that the paper considered the distance to and place of work to be a significant functional criterion in defining areas within a metropolitan region, and stressed that the other dimensions were more closely linked with the population's general living conditions and varied according to socioeconomic level. A third assumption was that the incidence of accessibility was greater in large metropolitan areas.

The commentary identified the factors on which accessibility depends, and roughly grouped them into social and cultural factors, factors of economic and technological development, or urban development and of spatial location. A special chapter provided a synthesis of aspects associated with the measurement of these factors. Reference was also made to the background information obtained, as well as to the desirability of strengthening the treatment of this variable in future censuses.

With regard to 1990 census, it was recommended that the question relating to distance should be retained, and that complementary items should be

included, keeping in mind the need to maintain the link between them and indicators of socioeconomic level.

In the subsequent debates on the issue of working conditions the question of scaling the specific items and the linkage between the census and studies relating to the topic were raised.

In this respect, particular emphasis was placed on the needs and expectations of producers and users, and points of both convergence and divergence were identified.

The possibility of enriching the treatment of the specific issues by means of comparisons with other more general variables was examined, and attention was drawn to the fact that should the different ad hoc surveys include general data of a social and demographic nature, enormous expenditure would be incurred as a result of the repetition of questions, and this could be avoided if an overall joint approach were adopted.

In addition to carrying out <u>ad hoc</u> surveys subsequent to the census as proposed, the possibility of carrying out this type of survey prior to the census was also examined. This could be done, as suggested during the debate, when information was required for the register of occupations and the register of addresses of work places.

The interrelation between working time and rest time was also dealt with, and reference was made to the question of "fatigue" raised in one of the papers. It was observed that the time not involved in working did not necessarily represent rest, in view of the fact that domestic work carried out by the female population in particular, and also construction and maintenance on housing as well as other types of work carried out mainly by the male population, are done during what is supposed to be rest.

With regard to the journey to work, the participants recognize the value of both the conceptual and methodological task carried out and the use made of the information available, although a number of divergences arose over the possibility of extending treatment to the future Population Cansus.

A discussion on the choice of the most suitable type of survey for gathering this information followed. While a number of speakers said that it was desirable to include in it different versions of the census, others maintained that the most suitable place would be the household surveys. In this respect, it was also pointed out that this instrument should not be considered as a recipient for any preoccupation which could not be adequately dealt with by the Population Census, thereby opening up the possibility of proposing specific surveys designed to gather information on special topics.

The relationship between the coverage provided by the census and the universal nature of the issue in question was also debated, and mention was made of its scarce significance in small urban environments as well as to be differential conditions of application to the rural environment. However, its considerable significance in metropolitan areas and the analytical potential of data collection therein was emphasized.

## Integration of the statistical system

A number of speakers addressed the issue of the integration of the statistical system during the Seminar.

Although the three papers presented did not adopt highly differing approaches to the question, two of them were essentially based on an examination of quantitative exercises involving census data and focused on historical comparability, while the third approached the problem from a predominantly conceptual angle.

One of the papers which adopted the first of these approaches 31/ made a contribution to the utilization of censuses by researchers in a variety of disciplines, and cautioned them as to the incomparability of data in certain cases and the need for special tabulations, and also made a number of suggestions for the improvement of the comparability of censuses in the future.

The paper lists in detail the different operations involved in each of the main economic dimensions. In relation to activity status, similarities and differences were drawn with regard to the reference period, the minimum age required to be considered active, the lower time limit for the pursuit of an activity, the definitions of employed and unemployed, the rules relating to priority in respect of certain categories of inactivity.

In relation to occupational category, after having identified the differences between the treatment thereof in the three censuses, it was also suggested that special tabulations should be used, as the categories were considered to be fully comparable. However, mention was made of drawbacks resulting from the ambiguous coding used for certain categories as well as from the failure to clarify the criteria for imputing the variable in the 1980 census.

With regard to occupational group, a number of divergences arose over the treatment of the variable, and it was stated that there was no knowledge of the incidence of these factors on comparability. A further limitation was the fact that no information on a single system of classification was available, as a result of which it was also necessary to result to special tabulations.

It was generally observed that the inexistence of archives in the systems of classification used by all censuses hampered the use of information by the user, and it was suggested that INDEC should set up an archive of these characteristics for users to consult.

As far as branch of activity was concerned, the factors accounting for incomparability were examined and the alternatives adopted in each case were described.

Reference was also made to the problem of the imputation of "unspecified" cases, and tables showing the distribution of this category in relation to the economic variables considered were presented. The paper maintained that analysis of the distributions revealed that the absence of a response was not merely aleatory but in fact showed a tendency to cluster, and

consequently certain variables such as branch of activity and occupational category were not unrelated.

Finally, the paper stated that the empirical material gathered had been used to draw up a system for imputation on the basis of conceptual criteria.

Another paper which focused on the problem of comparability between censuses 32/ drew attention to the difficulties involved in comparing results from successive censuses in order to obtain an idea of the changes which have taken place in various features of the population. In this respect, the paper drew on recent research which made intensive use of the population censuses since 1947 in order to examine the alterations which had taken place in certain features of the active population.

The studies in question were carried out in 1985 as part of the Argentine research project UNDP-IIO-Arg./84/029 as part of research into the Growth of Employment in the Tertiary Sector in Argentina.

The paper's main conclusion was that it was necessary to introduce the restriction relating to comparability as one of several in the decision-making process, and consequently it could not be the sole criterion taken into consideration. If it had been clearly demonstrated that certain definitions and/or classifications adopted in previous censuses had not produced results, the objective of comparability must of necessity be secondary.

The document explicitly deals with the problem from three angles.

The first of these concerns problems of definition and classification in comparisons between censuses, and these are analysed in the various censuses. The definitions relating to activity status are reviewed as well as the criteria involved in defining the reference period, the minimum age requirement and the date of recording, together with the different ways of dealing with inactive individuals. The fundamental definitions of occupational category, occupational group and branch of activity are reviewed with reference to the various classifications employed in relation thereto.

The second angle from which the question was approached concerned another set of problems which are essentially identified within the quantitative data obtained. In this respect the paper refers to the population whose economic characteristics are unspecified and to the different methods adopted by the various censuses to deal with the problem. The paper also considered the under-enumeration of the total and economically active population, and the limits resulting from the way in which census results were disseminated.

The third angle from which the issue was approached concerned a comparison of censuses between 1947 and 1980, carried out as part of the above project. The exercise involved methodological research designed to increase the comparability of the 1947, 1960, 1970 and 1980 population censuses. The paper clearly sets out the methodological tasks carried out and indicates the changes introduced.

Finally, a set of conclusions and suggestions based on these analyses are presented, setting out in detail the results thereof and providing guidelines

for improving future censuses. A number of propositions are also made relating to variables which could be included and classifications which could be adopted in the 1990 census. These reflect the basic concern of the paper, that of comparability.

The paper which dealt with integration from the conceptual angle33/adopted a twofold approach to the issue considered by the seminar. The first of these focused on the general framework which it was suggested the discussion should follow and the second concerned specific aspects of the conceptual framework involved in the design of censuses.

As far as the general framework was concerned, the main concern of the paper was to highlight the existence of a number of controversies which, historically had not yet encountered either unified conceptual channels or unified channels of action. The paper pointed cut that this lack of unity was the result of a certain dispersion in the approaches which had led to the simultaneous adoption of different patterns depending on the different working environments, instead of serious discussions to solve the underlying problems.

The paper endeavoured to clarify some of these unresolved questions.

The paper dealt with the underlying controversies involved in the nature of "intercensal periods", as well as those over the relationship between conceptual progress and comparability, over the conflict between the thematic layout and statistical patterns, and those over the relationship between conceptual and operational aspects.

After having described the controversies and the basis for the proposed alternative, a number of limitative recommendations were put forward in respect of each issue discussed.

As far as the conceptual framework is concerned, the following precompations were expressed: an overall proposal was made relating to the need to acknowledge the necessity of solving the discussion over the analytical objectives which direct the development of this type of survey —or at least for sufficient progress to be made— as a prerequisite to determining the thematic contents thereof.

With regard to the dynamics of interaction between the analytical frameworks and the empirical referents, it was suggested that certain analytical spheres, which, although in no way exclusive, are nevertheless significant, should be hierarchized. These correspond to the issue of social stratification on the one hand and to life strategies on the other. It was also pointed out that the treatment of the first of these should lead to the production of variables which clearly express, on the one hand, the population's insertion into the social production of goods and services, and on the other their share in the distribution thereof, with the adoption of a diagram in which both dimensions are balanced.

With regard to insertion in production, the need to more precisely classify groups in terms of production relations and occupational category was mentioned. In this respect, a proposal was made to replace the distinction between owners and employers and employees as the functional differentiation

in the sphere of those who work, by a distinction at the level of the total population. In other words, it was suggested that the widely adopted distinction between those who sell and those who purchase labour does not provide an adequate categorization of the active population, as in fact some of the members of this area (employees and some owners and employers) belong to the labour force yet some are outside (the remaining owners and employers) and disappear in statistics, among the inactive.

Furthermore, it was asserted that in so far as involvement in production is considered a major point of reference, it will be necessary to distinguish, in the case of family workers, what type of insertion the family link involves. In other words to identify them on the basis of the principal categories of insertion (family worker, owner or employer, own account and employee) in order homogenize the criterion used in classification and analytically improve the examination of the substantive groups relating to insertion into production.

The paper also examined the treatment of activity status.

The paper asserted that since there had been a strong drive to develop methodologies designed to identify marginal sectors of the population with a view to reconstituting the active population, there was a need to simultaneously develop, or at least to devote as much effort to developing methodologies for identifying the inactive population, in particular on the basis of improved treatment of availability. Similarly, as a means of ensuring the possibility of a balanced articulation of the results of both lines of research —thereby avoiding a sudden deflation in the rates of unemployment—it would be useful if the techniques used to reconstitute the population in employment could avoid an inclusive overall treatment and chose rather to maintain the internal distinction between the different "reintegrated" sectors until specific methodologies became available for both aspects of activity status.

Proposals relating to the definition of the systems of indicators required for describing distribution were also put forward, as well as appropriate indicators for describing the phenomenon of poverty. Reference was also made to the mechanisms adopted to allow communes data to fit into the analytical framework for life strategies.

With regard to the paper presented by Nieves García, 34/ the discussant set the problem in relation to the experience of the different countries of the region and provided a synthesis of the problems affecting them in respect of comparability, laying particular stress on the use of differentiated classifications.

The large number of examples used to illustrate the issue allowed the discussion to address the issue of comparability in relation to the improvement of statistics, and it was generally agreed that it was preferable to encourage the latter rather than the former. The basis for this choice, in addition to the experience gathered by countries, lay in the nature of changes which had taken place in classifications. In this respect, it was asserted that such changes corresponded to changes in the social and economic structure, and that references to classifications relate to significant

sectors. Consequently, in view of the changes affecting these sectors, it would be wrong to impose a comparability which had lost its objective support. Insistence was also laid on the need to adopt caution in introducing new classifications, in order to avoid unjustified alterations to the present modes of treatment.

Finally, it was suggested that expectations with regard to censuses should change, since they were generally expected to achieve results which not even economic surveys could provide.

In relation to the paper presented by Alvaro Orsatti 35/ the discussant restated the theoretical assumptions underlying historical comparability.

It was asserted that it was impossible to reduce the problem of comparability between censuses to a mere technical matter. Without underestimating technical issues, the criticism focused on the fact that comparative studies tend to ignore the historical conditions in the society concerned. The census is consequently considered to be a source of the necessary information to draw the profile of the economic characteristics of the population of the country as a whole at a given moment in its economic development, thereby providing elements allowing the moment of development to be defined, as well as the degree of division of labour, the basic social groups, etc.

The replacement of this criterion by a strictly technical one was illustrated on the basis of the papers which had been commented upon.

The discussant mentioned the dramatic shrinkage in the numbers of employers between 1960 and 1970, and the hypothesis put forward in the paper under consideration as to an "unspecified error" and even attempts to account for this change by the change in the order in which the questions were presented, which would lead to "incomparability between the results".

The discussant contrasted this technical explanation with the link between the shrinkage and the centralization of the ownership of capital which had taken place in Argentina during the period, and provided other indicators, also from censuses, to support his assertion.

A further illustration concerns what are known as the "liberal professions" recorded by the 1947 census, a category which it is attempted to compare with those in more recent censuses, by distributing the components thereof into different branches on the basis of technical criteria. The search for homogeneity finally renders invisible a distinctive characteristic of a given moment in the development of capitalism, i.e., the growing subordination to capital of what was previously a distinct sector.

These observations led to the general suggestion that it was necessary, both in analysing and preparing censuses, to bear in mind the features which appear in or which are specific to each stage of a society's development.

To sum up, the commentary puts forward the need for comparability to centre on comparison between social structures and not between census categories.

The commentary on the paper presented by Ana M. Botta and Cynthia Pok<u>G6</u>/ focused on its acknowledgement of the need for conceptual integration between the census and household surveys. The contributions made were based on a description of the contribution made by each type of survey to the central objective, which was integration, as well as to specific analytical objectives.

In this respect, it was argued that social indicators must of necessity be constructed on the basis of samples of the total population in view of the impossibility of continually repeating censuses whenever desired. From another angle, it was asserted that population censuses make it possible to construct social indicators confirming those which are the result of household surveys.

As part of this overall description, the particularities of each of the methods for obtaining and processing data and which lead to different types of in-depth analysis were highlighted, and a description was made of their potential.

It was furthermore put forward that co-ordination between both surveys could not be considered to represent the subordination of one of them to the other, as this would render difficult any improvement in methodology.

Other speakers endeavoured to clarify the conviction, which was considered to underlie a number of papers and commentaries, that household surveys "collect better data" on certain characteristics. In this respect, mention was made of the impact on quality of the fact that the census is in activity which involves all and creates a kind of national fervour which makes it easier to get the ideas across to the population which will be censused. In the case of household surveys, it is necessary to make up for this impact on quality with better training.

The final remark concerned analytical objectives and pointed out the need to reexamine the preconception that the population census is the instrument which must constitute the spearhead for each of the thematic aspects to be examined in depth in the household surveys.

The subsequent debate covered different aspects of the objective of conceptual integration put forward. The various participants stressed the need to discuss the analytical criteria to orient integration, as well as on the need to develop overall proposals, and laid stress on the nature of the task ahead. It was pointed out that by social structure one meant social sectors, and conceptual development should acknowledge this fact. This aspect was also linked with the dynamics of the relationship between producers and users.

With regard to specific conceptual aspects, mention was made of a number of features which had an unfavourable impact upon of the quality of the information if they were not properly dealt with. An illustration of this was the treatment of the public sector in which failure to determine whether it was the good or service produced or the ownership of the establishment producing it which was public led to substantial errors in the processing of the information.

A discussion also took place as to the potential of considering employers as an external category to activity —in line with the proposal presented—and the need to distinguish within this category between those owners who controlled firms and those who did not exercise control was pointed out.

It was also mentioned that the proposed treatment should endeavour to overcome the limitations of the traditional classification of inactivity. In this respect, it was asserted that this classification was based on criteria which were neither methodologically systematic nor conceptually valid in so far as they required that a multi-dimensional feature should be expressed in a single variable. Consequently, it was suggested that attention should be given to the manifold circumstances existing within that status, thereby jeopardizing the attainments of the "rule of the priority" (between activity and inactivity) in force.

The potentialities of the different types of survey were also assessed, and agreement was reached as to the need for more flexible distinctions between census and survey. This conclusion reflected the acknowledgement that while the census had to reflect more general features, and surveys to include greater depth of analysis, it was difficult for surveys to reach certain sectors of the population on whom it was easier for censuses to gather data, a fact which should be borne in mind in collecting data.

## Conclusions and recommendations

- 1. A committee was set up in order to draw the main conclusions of the rich discussions which took place in the Seminar. After the last debates, the final report was read and approved by the participants.
- 2. The report asserted that, in the countries of the region, the population census continues to be the source of data with the greatest population and spatial coverage. It was consequently considered essential that population censuses continue to provide information relating to the economic characteristics individual activities.
- 3. The Seminar acknowledged the efforts made by the bodies responsible for producing statistical information to ensure that population censuses fully meet international standards of coverage and quality. The experience acquired in the region as well as the contributions made by it to the development pf those standards, were recognized as being of great value.
- 4. There was agreement on certain shortcomings in the conceptual framework adopted in the 1980 census round to gather information on economic questions as it imposed restrictions which excluded from the economically active population (EAP) those sectors of the population who carry out productive activities in the less formal areas of the economy and who are not wage earners, in particular women and to a lesser extent individuals at the extremes of the life cycle. This agreement was based on research and on empirical evidence, some of which had been provided by ad hoc studies focusing on the presence of sex biases in census statistics deriving from differential recording of economic activity status depending on gender.

5. The Group recognized the usefulness of the definition of "economic activity" laid down at the Thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (October 1982), which corresponds more closely than that hitherto used to the actual circumstances in the countries of the region.

It was also recognized that this and the other modifications adopted by the Thirteenth Conference had taken into account the large number of critical proposals put forward during the past decade.

- 6. The definition of "economic activity" laid down by the Thirteenth Conference is based on that used by the United Nations System of National Accounts and Balances. Under this System, "economic activity" is the production of economic goods and services which in turn includes the whole of the production and processing of primary products -whether they be for the market, for barter or for own use— the production of all other articles and services for the market, and, in the case of households producing goods and services for the market, the part of such production intended for their own consumption".
- 7. The experts acknowledged the importance of other modifications introduced by the Thirteenth Conference with respect to the definition of EAP adopted by the Eighth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (1954) and in force hitherto, such as:
- a) The explicit inclusion in the labour force of persons occupied in producing economic goods and services for their own consumption;
- b) removal of the requirement that unpaid family workers should have worked a minimum of one-third of the normal working time during the reference period;
- c) the recommendation that only a minimum of own hour's work per worker/per week should be required in order for an individual to be classified as a worker;
- d) The use of a dual reference period, one short (one day or one week) for the "currently active" population and a long one (one year) for the "usually active" population.
- e) The possibility of replacing the "jbo seeking" criterion by another more suited to the actual forms taken by unemployment in the countries of the region.

The experts agreed on the need for further discussion on some aspects of these modifications.

- 8. It was pointed out that the adoption of the definition of "economic activity" used by the System of National Accounts must be considered as a link between this system and the system of social and labour statistics, and that the specific aims of each system must be maintained. The importance of the information gathered by population censuses as an input to be used in calculating specific sectors of the System of National Account was stressed.
- 9. There was agreement that there were shortcomings not only in the conceptual framework but also in the operations methodology used in the 1980 censuses and that this accounted for the failure to gather data on broad sectors of the working population. In this respect, it was pointed out that the 1990 round of population censuses will need to make a special effort to

carry through conceptual definitions into operational practice by means of the instruments used for collecting data (questionnaire and instructions), the processing and presentation of results, etc.

- 10. On the basis of national experiences, the meeting also agreed that the concepts ("work", "establishment", "occupation", "own-account work", etc.) had more than one meaning for interviewees. This was pointed out as one of the principal causes of the distortion of information, both as a result of the omission of certain sector of workers and on account of the inadequate recording of certain characteristics of interviewees. The need to examine the list of census questions with a view to overcoming these shortcomings was put forward. Some of the alternatives set out in the papers presented at the Seminar represent the first steps towards carrying out this task.
- 11. It was pointed out that it was necessary to examine the desirability of modifying the length of the reference period so for used, in view of the characteristics of many of the economic activities carried out by workers in the region (seasonal, sporadic, discontinuous, etc.) particularly in rural areas and in the less formalized sectors of urban economies.
- 12. The desirability of gathering information on the time worked during the reference period adopted was indicated.
- 13. It was emphasized the need to make effective the "rule of priority", which indicates that "economic activity" takes priority over "economic inactivity".
- 14. The meeting recognized the need to take into account situations in which activities were carried out simultaneously. In this respect, application of the "rule of priority" should not restrict the collection of information on significant complementary characteristics.
- 15. The Group agreed that in deciding whether to favour change or historical comparability, it is necessary to give preference to the introduction of changes leading to an improvement of the statistics concerned, while in so far as possible maintaining historical comparability.
- 16. Stress was placed on reasserting the importance of a tight conceptual linkage between population censuses and other statistical surveys in order to cover the inter-census period with information consistent with census data. This implies the need to seek an identical theoretical and methodological framework for these surveys, as well as articulation of definitions and adoption of categories, that could be made homogeneous by aggregation.
- 17. The participants emphasized the need to pursue the effort carried out at the Seminar by setting up institutional channels for the regular interchange of experience and knowledge of the members of all those sectors of the community directly or indirectly involved in producing and using statistics on these subjects.

## Notes

- <u>l</u>/ The synthesis of the meetings, as well as the papers presented have been published in "Los Censos de Población del 80-Taller de Análisis y Evaluación". INDEC, Buenos Aires, 1985.
  - 2/ Alberto Mirwjin (INDEC): "Acerca de los censos del 90".
- 3/ Trigueros Mejía, Rafael (IIO): "Recomendaciones para los censos del 90".
  - 4/ Guillermo Macció (CEIADE): "La actividad de las mujeres inactivas".
- 5/ Catalina H. Wainerman (CONICET-CENEP) and Martin Moreno (CENEP): "Hacia el reconocimiento censal de las mujeres trabajadoras" and "Las productoras de subsistencia ingresan a las estadísticas laborales".
- 6/ A third paper by the same authors containing the results of the same project and entitled "Sensibilizando a los censistas a los sesgos sexuales; un ejercicio de entrenamiento". Was presented in section 3. THE TRAINING OF INTERVIEWERS.
  - 7/ Heber Camelo: "Actividad productiva: Conceptos y limites prácticos".
- 8/ Alicia Bercovich (NEPO-UNICAMP): "Utilización de los Censos de Población en el trabajo de Quentas Nacionales".
- 9/ Rosalía Cortés (Min. of Labour): "Actividad económica oculta entre los inactivos del censo 1980, algunas propuestas para su medición en el censo de 1990".
- 10/ Mabel Ariño (CFI) and María Ester Rosas (ECLAC): "Población inactiva y hogares con jefes inactivos: algunos interrogantes sobre la medición de la condición de inactividad".
- <u>ll</u>/Pascual Gestenfeld, Susana Picardo and Daniel Sucasez (DGEC): "Los Censos de Población: Análisis de su validez como instrumento para la medición de algunas características económicas".
  - 12/ Teresita de Barbieri (IISUNAM).
  - 13/ David Vera (DGECP) and Fulvia Brizuela de Ramirez (DGECP).
  - 14/ Rosa N. Geldstein (CENEP).
  - 15/ Roberto Benencia (CEIL-CONICET).
  - 16/ Ruben Katzman (CEPAL).
- 17/ Catalina Wainerman (CONICET-CENEP) and Martin Moreno (CENEP): "Sensibilizando a los censistas a los sesgos sexuales: un ejercicio de entrenamiento".
- 18/ Described in Catalina Wainerman and Martín Moreno, "Hacia el reconocimiento censal de las mujeres trabajadoras", presented at meeting 2. ACTIVITY STATUS.
  - 19/ Ana Maria Edwin (INDEC).
- 20/ Julio Cesar Testa (CEIL-CONICET): "De lo deseable a lo posible en el tratamiento censal de las categorías ocupacionales".
- 21/ María Laura Elizalde: "Un desafío para el censo de 1990: ¿Qué hacer con las ocupaciones".
  - 22/ Alicia Maguid (INDEC).
- 23/ Luis A. Beccaria (INDEC) and Alvaro Orsatti (CIDES-CONICET): "La actividad económica en microestablecimientos".
- 24/ Javier Lindemboin (CEUR-CONICET)): "El problema de las actividades no bien especificadas en la clasificación por rama de la población económicamente activa".
  - 25/ Alejandro Tozzola ((Min. of Planning).

- 26/ Adela Saltzman (Min. of Planning).
- 27/ Julio Neffa (CNRS-CETL/CONICET): "La observación censal y a través de la E.P.H. en materia de condiciones y medio ambiente de trabajo: metodología y contenidos".
- 28/ Marta Panaia (INDEC): "Algunos aportes para la medición de los nuevos modelos de tiempo".
- 29/ Horacio Torres (CONICET): "El viaje al trabajo según categorías poblacionales".
  - 30/ Ana María Facciolo (MCBA-CESCA).
- $\overline{31}$ / Nieves García (CFI): "La comparabilidad sobre características económicas de la población en los Censos del 60, 70 y 80".
- 32/ Alvaro Orsatti (PNUD/OTT/GOB.ARG.): "Problemas de la comparabilidad censal: lecciones a partir de un estudio reciente".
- 33/ Ana M. Botta (INDEC) y Cynthia Pok (INDEC): "Lo censal y lo intercensal: hacia la integración conceptual de las estadísticas".
  - 34/ Freddy Justiniano (CEPAL).
  - 35/ Nicolás Iñigo Carrera (CICSO).
  - 36/ Rafael Trigueros Mejía (IIO).