TUNISIA

1. Name and address of the organisation responsible for the last census:
   Institut national de la statistique, rue du Chem, Tunis.

2. Population censuses conducted since 1945 (years):
   1956, 1966, 1975 and 1984. The present description relates mainly to the 1984 General Population and Housing Census, but reference is also made to earlier censuses (cf. para. 8), as well as to the next census (cf. para. 9).

3. Coverage of the census:
   (a) Geographical scope: Whole country.
   (b) Persons covered: All persons of all ages, excluding foreign residents, Tunisian citizens resident abroad and members of the military and security forces.

4. Reference period:
   Both long and short reference periods were used when asking questions on the economically active population, employment and unemployment, i.e., the week and the year preceding the day of the census.

5. Main topics:
   (a) Total population, by sex and age: yes
   (b) Economically active population, by sex and age group: yes
   (c) Economically active population, by industry and by sex: yes
   (d) Economically active population, by occupation and by sex: yes
   (e) Economically active population, by status in employment and by sex: yes
   (f) Hours of work: yes
   (g) Other information collected relating to persons' economic activity: yes

   Re. (a) The age is defined in terms of age at last birthday.
   Re. (f) Hours of work relate to total working time, in days and/or weeks.
   Re. (g) The census also collected information on the duration of unemployment in terms of weeks.

6. Concepts and definitions:
   (a) Economically active population: It comprises all persons aged 15 years and over (excluding those mentioned under 3 (b) above) who, at the time of the census, were either employed or unemployed, according to the definitions given below.

   (b) Employment: Considered as “employed” are all persons aged 15 years and over (excluding the categories mentioned under 3 (b) above) who worked for one day or more during the seven days preceding the census. Also included are the following categories:

   (i) persons doing unpaid work in family firm or business;
   (ii) persons engaged in the production of primary products for own consumption;
   (iii) employed persons, temporarily absent from work;
   (iv) working students with a part time job;
   (v) seasonal or occasional workers;
   (vi) multiple job holders;
   (vii) apprentices and trainees.

   Only persons belonging to categories (i), (v) and (vii) can be identified separately.

   (c) Unemployment: Considered as “unemployed” are all persons aged 15 years and over (excluding the categories mentioned under 3 (b) above) who, at the time of the census, were
without work and seeking employment. These persons can be identified by means of two questions: “How many weeks have you been without work?” and “Are you seeking employment?”.

7. Classifications used:

Both employed persons and unemployed persons previously employed are classified by industry, by occupation and by status in employment, for a 10 per cent sample of all questionnaires.

(a) Industry: Specific questions are asked, requiring detailed information on the establishment or firm where the person works or last worked. For coding industry, 20 groups were used. Links to the International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC-68, rev. 2) have been established to the major division level.

(b) Occupation: Specific questions are asked, requiring detailed information on the nature of the person’s current or former occupation. For coding occupation, 17 groups were used. Links to the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-68) have been used established to the major group level.

(c) Status in employment: A specific question is asked to establish whether the person works or last worked as employer, own account worker, clerical employee, manual worker, unpaid family worker, etc. The question is: “What is (or was) your status in your employment (employer, self-employed on own premises, self-employed itinerant, self-employed at home, paid employee, apprentice, family worker, other)?”. For coding status in employment, 6 categories were used.

8. The previous population censuses:

At the time of the 1975 census questions on economic activity were asked of persons 10 years and over. Furthermore, the economically active population was broken down into minor groups by socio-occupational category.

9. The next population census:

It is planned for 1994 and will collect information about the economically active population and its components.

It is not yet decided whether or not the same questions and reference periods will be used to determine and describe the economically active population and its component groups.