



AGRICULTURAL CENSUS LEGISLATION

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

AGRICULTURAL CENSUS LEGISLATION

a joint publication by the

Statistics Division

and the

Legislation Branch
Legal Office

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Rome 1984

FOREWORD

The need for a better understanding of the juridical basis for censuses of agriculture has been felt since the First World Agricultural Census in 1930 under the auspices of the International Institute of Agriculture and the World Census of Agriculture in 1950 sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The programmes for the decennial world censuses under the auspices of FAO that followed the 1950 programme emphasized the importance of legislation for the planning and implementing of these censuses.

This study is divided into three parts. The first part sets out the reasons why specific legislation is needed here. The second consists of a comparative study of the main aspects of such legislation. The third part contains the texts of several laws, regulations and similar enactments of various countries and two international organizations.

The selection of countries has been made on the basis of the documentation available at FAO and information on these countries received by the Statistical Development Service from the 1970 and 1980 World Censuses of Agriculture. The selection, again, is governed by considerations of geographic distribution and diversity of legal systems and of economic development. The aim has been to provide a broad range of examples, and the inclusion or omission of any particular country does not imply any value judgement as to its juridical system or its current laws.

This study was prepared by Mr. G. Turtura, of the Statistics Division, supplemented by the Legislation Branch, Legal Office, which supervised the publication in its final stages and coordinated the overall approach.

In any of the three parts it is possible that omissions or inaccuracies - due possibly to insufficiency of the information available - may come to light. The Statistics Division and the Legislation Branch would accordingly appreciate it if these were to be pointed out to them so that future editions can be adjusted accordingly.

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