

1. Summary Description

A. Justification and Necessity

The Royal Government of Afghanistan is about to enter into its fourth five-year economic and social plan period; yet, development planning is still carried out without the benefit of sufficient reliable basic statistical information. One of the obstacles to effective development programming and execution cited by the IBRD Mission in its 1969 Economic Report for Afghanistan is described as follows: "Most of the statistical information required to plan and carry out development is either lacking or is quite unreliable. There are no national accounts and no means of determining the real value of capital expenditures. Virtually no data exists on the size, composition and growth of the population. The amount, classification and use of arable land is unknown. The country's agriculture is predominantly for subsistence, but reliable information on investment and output of the non-monetized part of the sector is lacking. The thirty-one (31) state and mixed enterprises are either far behind in reporting the results of their operations or do not report at all. There is no central planning, control or coordination of statistics in the Ministry of Planning. The Ministry of Planning receives whatever information is available from Ministries and other agencies which are relatively autonomous in deciding what data to generate and release. Much of the published information is essentially guesswork."

This quotation sums up fairly accurately the statistical situation in Afghanistan at the present time. There is no statistical legislation which gives Government the authority to compel reporting by establishments, households or persons, or guarantee that their responses to statistical inquiries will be held in confidence. The statistical system is highly decentralized and unorganized. There are statistical units in various Ministries and agencies throughout Government whose activities are uncoordinated, poorly staffed, and lacking in direction towards any goals for development of essential statistical information. Data which are available are almost exclusively administratively generated and of low reliability. As practiced in Afghanistan until recently, statistics was viewed by most administrators as the simple clerical compilation of whatever data might be available. Now, however, there is a genuine desire to move effectively towards the development of an integrated statistical information system responsive to the needs of all sectors of the country. The RGA needs help in achieving this goal and has requested AID technical assistance,

training assistance and commodity support. This request is backed by two Cabinet resolutions and approval of the King.

B. Project Goals

This project is designed to assist the RGA establish a minimum integrated statistical information system capable of responding to the priority statistical needs of the country, through the establishment of a Central Statistics Office, the training of statistical personnel, and the implementation of a priority program of statistical activities. This program will give emphasis to population measurement, the development of basic economic data and a system of national economic accounting. Priority subject areas for consideration will include agricultural statistics, industrial statistics, preparation for a Census, household income and expenditure statistics, and improvement of price statistics. A nation-wide demographic/KAP survey is the subject of another AID project under contract with SUNY.

A major deterrent to the development of statistics in the past has been the absence of effective organization and the lack of manpower skilled in statistical theory and its applications. An essential part of this project will be to advise and assist the RGA in the establishment of a viable organization with coordinating authority and an effective Statistical Training Center and to provide academic and practical training to develop a cadre of personnel skilled in modern statistical technology.

C. Achievement to be Met

The project is designed as a five-year development program with specific output expected throughout the time-phased activities schedule. It does not anticipate completion of assistance to Afghan statistical development in five years, but rather of a currently plausible segment of activity. Success will undoubtedly mean recommended continuation of assistance to further statistical development over at least another five years. Initiation of the project depends on actions taken by the RGA to officially establish a central statistical authority and to provide budget, personnel, office space, furniture, equipment and supplies to support the scheduled activity program. This would include the establishment of regional offices with adequate staff for data collection, and a data processing center with systems design, programming and key-entry capability. The RGA has taken initial action to establish

statistical regulations through a Cabinet resolution. This project anticipates that such regulations will serve effectively until a more formal legal basis for the statistical authority can be established.

Minimum achievement during the first two years of the project would result in ongoing programs of data collection, compilation and publication of agricultural and industrial statistics, improvement in price-index series, and initiation of national accounts estimates. An in-service training program would be established, and the effects of the coordinating, standardization and control functions of the central statistical office would begin to influence the statistical output of other government agencies.

D. General Approach and Plan of Action

Technical advisors in the subject matter areas called for in this PROP will be provided through a PASA with the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Initially, the Mission proposes to provide five resident advisors; a Principal Statistical Advisor to assist in statistical organization, administration and management; a Data Processing Advisor, and three specialists in the priority subject activities to be undertaken. Five to eight full-time and some short-term advisors are envisioned for subsequent years, their specialized skills coinciding with the technical aspects of the time-phased statistical program.

A participant training program, also geared to scheduled activities and anticipating the training of some 75 Afghans (new starts in five years), is the proposed approach to the development of middle-level and high-level technical competence for staffing the Central Statistics Office. Advisors and trained nationals will provide classroom and on-the-job training in basic clerical and technical procedures as required. A major responsibility of the advisors will be the development of a statistical training program of government-wide application.

II. Setting and Environment

In a modern sense, there is no statistical organization in Afghanistan at the present time. The statistical effort of Government is completely dispersed among some twenty-five (25) Ministries and other RGA agencies, each one functioning according to its own interests and capabilities. There is no legal basis for coordinating the work of these statistical units, to

establish priorities of program, to encourage the adoption of uniform definitions, classification systems and quality standards, or to avoid wasteful duplication of work. Nor is there much attempt to provide coordination on a defacto basis. This essentially leaderless, highly decentralized system makes for inefficient utilization of scarce skilled personnel. An advantage of a decentralized system is that the statistical staff in each agency is more closely associated with the users of its data and therefore more responsive to the needs of specialized users. However, in Afghanistan this advantage does not appear to have been exploited. The little data which have been produced have not been effectively used by parent agencies.

Some statistics, generated out of administrative and regulatory functions of the various agencies, appear to be basically sound. Examples of these are statistics on Government revenues and expenditures, education statistics produced from enrollment and teaching staff reports, statistics on hospitals and health facilities, transportation and communication services statistics, and import-export data. However, there is virtually no output of reliable, general purpose statistics.

Among notable attempts to produce general purpose statistics in the past are the population census of Kabul, the household expenditure survey of Kabul and LashkaGar, the socio-economic survey of housing and living conditions in some six cities, the pilot survey and census of agriculture, the consumer price index, and a variety of studies conducted by the Kabul University. These attempts yielded very little usable information, due primarily to the lack of technical skills in sampling and survey methods, the neglect of quality controls, the absence of data processing equipment in Afghanistan, and insufficient budget and logistics support.

Because no organized system for statistical development existed, effective utilization of technical advisory services offered by bilateral and international agencies has not been possible. Between 1950 and 1956, and again between 1964 and 1968, various UN advisors worked with the Ministry of Interior for periods of one to three years each on plans and preparations for a full population census. A Pilot Census of greater Kabul was taken in 1965, but otherwise there was no output from this considerable effort. Foreign advisors have assisted also in agricultural statistics, national accounts, financial statistics and other subject areas without effective results.

Only a few Afghans have received formal education leading to degrees in statistics. A considerable number have attended seminars and workshops covering various subject matter areas including census procedures. Because of their lack of opportunity to apply in actual work experience what they had learned, most of this training has been dissipated over the years. Since 1956, the USAID Mission has provided training for some thirteen persons, many of whom are employed in statistically related activities. Salaries for such employment are insufficient to provide proper motivation, and opportunities for promotion are rare. Thus, there is little incentive to perform beyond minimum requirement levels.

Equipment resources such as desk calculators, adding machines, reproduction facilities and vehicles are inadequate even for the current low level of output. There is no automatic data processing equipment in the country.

There is now a real sense of enthusiasm and urgency in both Government and private circles to move effectively towards statistical development. Officials at high levels have taken time to review past efforts and discuss future programs realistically. Statistical projects conducted over the past ten years have been evaluated, and reasons for not achieving complete success have been identified. This review has pointed up the basic needs of the country for statistical improvement as a) organization and direction of all manpower and resources available in the various ministries for statistical development, b) action programs dictated by realistic priority programming, c) maximum utilization of the products of past efforts, d) establishment of an adequate data processing capability, and e) improvement of technical skills of Afghan nationals in modern statistical methodology to carry out a long-range program of statistical development.

In addition, recent significant RGA actions indicate a recognition that the traditional attitude toward statistics fundamentally is incorrect, and the Government is ready to invest the needed leadership and resources to produce an effective statistical system. In the Spring of 1970, the Minister of Planning requested assistance from USAID/Afghanistan for a general review of the statistical system and the preparation of guidelines for its improvement. The Mission made available the services of Mr. Bruno Schiro, U.S. Bureau of the Census Principal Statistical Advisor to the Government of

Pakistan, who prepared a comprehensive analysis of the situation and suggested actions which the RGA might take to modernize its statistical activities. The "Schiro Report" was well-received by Government and, as suggested, the Minister of Planning appointed an interim committee chaired by himself and composed of well-qualified Afghans to review the report. On the basis of this review, the RGA formed the National Statistical Advisory Committee to continue the efforts of Government in the development of a viable statistical organization.

To assist the Committee in its deliberations, at the request of the Minister of Planning the USAID brought to Kabul a temporary team of U. S. Bureau of the Census technicians experienced in statistical development activities. This team prepared detailed documentation for RGA consideration, proposing 1) appropriate formulating of statistical legislation, 2) a plan of organization for a Central Statistics Office, 3) a priority program of statistical activities to be included in the fourth five-year economic and social plan, and 4) a long-range program of statistical training to bring manpower skills to the required level. The Team also investigated, for the private sector, the procurement of computer equipment and the establishment of a data processing center to serve the needs of both Government and private enterprise. Based on this documentation, the Minister of Planning proposed to the Cabinet that the Government come to a quick decision on reorganization of existing statistical units and the establishment of an integrated central statistics office. This was followed by an exchange of proposals and Cabinet resolutions leading to a formal request to AID for long-range technical and training assistance.

Annex I - documents regarding this exchange of proposals are as follows:

- a. A proposal submitted to Cabinet by the Ministry of Planning March 11, 1971, requesting approval of a plan of statistical organization and a program of activities to be carried out over a five-year period.
- b. A protocol of the National Statistical Advisory Committee dated April 3, 1971, approving the above Ministry of Planning proposal for submission to Cabinet.
- c. A Cabinet resolution dated April 24, 1971 approving in-principle the revision of the statistical organization and application of a long-range program of statistical activities.

d. A request from the Ministry of Planning dated May 2, 1971, asking Cabinet approval, to seek USAID assistance, and presenting proposed statistical law and organization, a program of statistical activities, an estimate of RGA budget costs to support the program, and a brief outline of anticipated AID assistance.

e. A Cabinet resolution dated May 3, 1971, approving the request for AID assistance, directing the Ministry of Justice to review the proposed statistical legislation and submit it in final form to the Cabinet, and directing the Economic and Financial Committee (of Cabinet) to study the proposed organization, program and estimated costs, and prepare a draft resolution for Cabinet approval.

f. A letter from the Minister of Planning to the Director, USAID Mission to Afghanistan, dated May 10, 1971, requesting AID assistance to carry out a statistical information system development program.

From the private sector has come the initiative for establishment of a computer center. A group of private investors, including Banke Millie, Ariana Airlines and the Afghan Textile Company have received approval from the Investment Committee for formation of the Electronic Data Processing Corporation. The Mission at the request of the Government, made available the services of Mr. Donald H. Heiser, a computer expert of the U.S. Bureau of Standards, to provide objective guidance in the selection of computer equipment and investigation into sources of back-up services and software. Prospects are good that the computer center will become operational within a year. During this lead period, however, it will be necessary to develop manpower skills in all areas of data processing activities. Such skills are now totally lacking among Afghan nationals. It is the intention of the private investor group to seek Government commitment to use the center for its data processing needs, in return for a commitment from the investment group to provide data processing services to Government.

USAID has contracted with the State University of New York to develop and conduct, in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning and the Ministry of Health, a nation-wide Demographic/KAP survey which will provide reliable estimates of population size and composition in addition to family planning and other sociological data.

III. Strategy

A. General approach

It is proposed that a PASA be arranged with the U.S. Bureau of the Census to provide technical services to the RGA, to assist in the

establishment of a central statistical organization and the development and implementation of a program of statistical activities over a five-year period. This will involve some five to eight advisors each year plus short-term consultants at an estimated cost of \$. . million, and some 75 Afghan participant trainees at an estimated cost of \$ Commodity support to provide essential machinery and transport equipment is estimated at \$250,000.

The bones of many foreign advisors to Afghanistan lie scattered on the ancient crossroads of frustration and futility. The proposed project is designed to overcome this history of waste. A priority schedule of statistical development activities has been programmed and approved by the RGA. Specialized skills of technicians to be recruited for the project will be geared to this time-phased program. It will be expected that before any advisor is brought into the active program, a full-time, qualified Afghan national counterpart will be assigned to work with him. If qualified technical advisory assistance for a specific subject area is available from other donor sources, an effort will be made to coordinate his services with the overall program and his expertise will not be duplicated. It is the goal of this project to assist the RGA to establish a sound statistical system, develop the necessary manpower skills, and produce essential information. The technical advisors, with adequate support of Government, are key to success in achieving this goal.

The U.S. Bureau of the Census, through its International Statistical Program, has had wide experience in almost all parts of the world in this field of endeavor. It can call upon experienced technical personnel to fill advisory requirements. It has developed, under USAID contract, an excellent training program aimed directly at the target to be achieved. And it has established over the years excellent back-up services for its advisors. Because this uniquely competent source of technical skills and knowhow is available, and in view of the unwillingness of UNDP to assume responsibility for this activity, no alternative approach has been considered.

B. Cooperating Country Support

Highly placed officials in the Ministry of Planning are determined to take full advantage of this opportunity to pull Afghanistan out of its morass of past frustrations. The Ministry has obtained approval of the Cabinet and His Majesty the King to request this assistance program and to give it full Government support. Statistical legislation is being drafted for early passage to establish a full legal basis for a statistical authority and means of implementing a realistic priority program of activities. Strong leadership is

available within Government to direct these activities, and sufficient trained middle-management personnel is on hand for a modest beginning to a long-range development action. The basis of cooperation between pertinent Ministries and the private sector has been achieved through formation of the National Statistical Advisory Committee. Government funding for initial support of the program is partially available through unobligated appropriations of past years for census taking and other aborted statistical projects.

C. Cross Relationships

Basic to the success of this project is the establishment of a coordinating mechanism through which all statistical activities of Government can be directed to the desired goals. Closely related to the proposed programs is the USAID/SUNY contract project to develop demographic and family planning data. It is essential that this project operate within the framework of the broader statistical development program described in this PROP. It will precede by several years the taking of a full census of population, and it will begin to contribute immediately to census activities through development of essential maps and methodology.

The Central Statistics Office, when established, will become an important resource arm of the RGA plan organization. In the development stage of this PROP, Census Bureau advisors have worked closely with members of the USAID/RNA contract group in identifying priority needs for statistics in economic planning and policy formation.

This PROP recognizes the existence of other statistical technical advisory services in Afghanistan. The IMF is providing a statistician to work with the Afghanistan Bank to improve its monetary, banking and credit statistics. There is a Colombo Plan statistical advisor at the Ministry of Agriculture and a USSR statistical advisor at the Ministry of Planning. It is understood that the UN has budgeted two advisory positions which can be filled when a statistical program is developed. Establishment of the Central Statistics Office will provide a focal point for coordination of these services. However, where such bilateral and multilateral assistance is not effective, this PROP provides the possibility of strengthening advisory support where needed.

IV. Course of Action

A. Development Sequence

This PROP assumes that: a President General of Statistics will be appointed; a nucleus staff of professional technical and clerical personnel will be transferred to the new statistical center; that temporary (or permanent) office space, furniture and equipment will be made available; and that adequate RCA supporting funds will be appropriated.

Statistical legislation, organization of the Central Statistics Office, and functions of officers and departments of the center will conform in general with those suggested in ANNEX II. A priority program of statistical activities coinciding with information requirements of the Fourth Five-Year Economic and Social Plan of Afghanistan, as suggested in ANNEX III has been adopted by the RCA. Initial Afghan funding of the project will be about Afs 6,000,000 (\$75,000) in addition to the rental value of space and the value of office furniture and equipment to be transferred from existing statistical cells now scattered throughout Government.

B. Technical Assistance

Through a PASA with the U.S. Bureau of the Census, AID will provide a team of technical advisors with specialized skills geared to activities outlined in the five-year statistical program presented in ANNEX III. Table A shows the technician requirement to accomplish the proposed priority program.

The Principal Statistical Advisor will supervise and coordinate the activities of other advisors. He will advise on statistical policy, organization, coordination and development activities in improving the quality, coverage and timeliness of statistical information, and will assist in the development and implementation of an in-service training program.

The Economic Statistician will assess the basic sources of data useful for the development of a system of national economic accounting; advise on a framework and structure of accounts which would be most feasible for Afghanistan, recommend approaches and techniques of estimation and a program of work, train Afghan nationals in the principles, problems and techniques of national accounting, and assist in the actual development of estimates.

TABLE A - Technical Assistance Requirements

CENSUS BUREAU TECHNICIANS UNDER THIS PROP	Man/months in Fiscal Year					
	FC	72	73	74	75	76
Principal Statistical Advisor (Chief of Party)	14	12	12	12	12	12
Economic Statistician (National Accounts)	13	9	12	12		
Principal Data Processing Advisor	14	12	12	12	12	12
Data Processing Advisory Group (3-fulltime)	12	-	36	24	12	12
Industrial Statistics Advisor (including construction)	12	9	12	12	12	
Agricultural Statistics Advisor	12	9	12	12		
Census Advisor	12			12	12	12
Sampling Advisor	13				12	12
Household Survey Advisor (Multi-purpose survey)	13				12	12
Commercial Statistics Advisor (Trades & Services)	12				12	12
Price Statistics Advisor	12	3				12
Advisors in other specialized areas (short-term)	13	6	9	9	9	9
Total man/months Bureau of the Census Advisors		60	105	105	105	105

TABLE A - Technical Assistance Requirements
RELATED ADVISORY SERVICES IN AFGHANISTAN

	Man/months in Fiscal Year				
	72	73	74	75	76
Cartographer (SUNY Project)	12	12			
Sampling Statistician (SUNY Project)	12	12			
Operations Specialist (SUNY Project)	12	12			
Financial Statistician (IMF)	12	12	12	12	
General Statistics Advisor (USSR)	12	12	12	12	12

The Data Processing Advisors will train technicians for all levels of operations: administration, systems analysis, programming, key entry, scheduling and control, and computer console operations. They will provide to Afghan nationals the following kinds of assistance and guidance: 1) layout of data formats to be transcribed to machine media, 2) key entry techniques, both key punching to cards and transcribing directly to computer tape, 3) work organization, flow and control techniques, 4) application of work measurement standards and utilization of available international Data Processing Standards for computer hardware, data codes and software, 5) systems analysis and guidance to subject matter experts, 6) utilization of systems software and utility routines which come with computer hardware, 7) computer programming of specific statistical report requirements.

The Data Processing Department of the Central Statistics Office when established, should have a capability of performing all the activities of a computer center. The advisory group will instruct Afghan nationals to build these required skills and will assist in the actual development of computer programs. In this way the RGA statistical center will have complete responsibility for and control over its data processing requirements up to computer console operation.

Some training assistance no doubt will be included in the purchase price of the computer system to be acquired; probably including introduction to EDP for executives, and short-term training in elementary programming and console operation. It is generally recognized that training provided under a purchase contract is insufficient even in countries where computer services exist. In an isolated location such as Afghanistan, without previous exposure to any kind of automatic or electronic data processing, this will be especially true. Therefore, the services of a strong Data Processing Advisory group is essential to the success of this project and may need to be strengthened beyond the specified requirements for Bureau of the Census advisors.

It is anticipated that computer time will be purchased from the private enterprise Electronic Data Processing Corporation which is now being formed, at least through 1974. If at that time, a population census is likely for 1975, negotiations will be initiated for 1) expanding the capacity of the EDP Corporation to handle the large census input requirements, or 2) procuring data processing equipment for the Central Statistics Office. In

either case it may become necessary and desirable to expand technical assistance to provide services simultaneously to the private center and to the RGA, inasmuch as the required large build-up of services for census processing within a short time period will pose unique problems of organization, training and operations.

The Agricultural Statistics Advisor will assist in the development of a long-range agricultural statistical system based on sample surveys and other sources of information, to provide national and regional estimates of agricultural and livestock production and other essential information about the agricultural sector. He will advise on the development of a forecasting procedure for major crops, the use of objective measurement techniques, aerial photography and other methods of obtaining agricultural data.

The Industrial Statistics Advisor will advise and assist in the development of a complete register of establishments employing ten or more persons, and the collection of data on mining, manufacturing and the production of gas and electricity from a sample of these establishments. He will assist in the design of sample surveys of cottage and small industry production, and the volume and value of privately financed construction activities. He will also advise on the development of a system for obtaining data on publicly financed construction from all government agencies, public enterprises, and provincial and municipal authorities.

The Sampling Advisor will assist in the development of sampling procedures to be applied in census enumeration and post enumeration activities, and will work with Afghan nationals in developing a sample design for the multi-purpose household survey anticipating a continuing time-phased schedule of data collection activities in various subject fields. He will assist in devising quality control procedures to be applied to data collection, editing, coding and key-entry operations. He will advise on the optimum application of sampling techniques for general purpose and special purpose statistics.

It is expected that a Sampling Statistician will be provided under the SUNY project for the first two years of this PROP. The Census Bureau advisor will continue this service for other Central Statistics Office activities.

The Household Survey Advisor will advise on the development of a comprehensive multi-purpose sample survey of urban and rural households. Initially he will assist in the preparation and implementation of a Household Income-Expenditure study designed to obtain information on the amount spent in the market place for goods and services and the value of home-produced

agricultural and other commodities; on consumer behavior patterns, housing conditions, household savings and debt position, and other related data. If time permits within the life of this project, he will advise and assist in expansion of the survey to include basic population and housing characteristics, manpower and labor force participation, vital events, internal migration, and other subject areas along the lines included in "Atlantida" a case study in household sample surveys developed at the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

The Census Advisor will advise and assist in all phases of planning and preparation for a full census of population and housing, including organization and administration, the development of census questionnaire and instructions, training materials and program, editing, coding and tabulation of results and the preparation of analytical reports. He will participate in the development of concepts, definitions and classification systems, and in the training of enumerators, supervisors, and census officials for pretesting, enumeration and quality control activities.

The census advisory position will be filled only if the RGA decides to carry out census operations during the program period. If the census does become an actuality, it may prove necessary to strengthen advisory service in this area. This would be the first full census taken in Afghanistan. Difficult problems associated with hard to reach places, the nomadic population, public cooperation, etc., will need to be overcome.

Short-term Advisory Services will be required in the fields of price statistics, demography, data processing and statistical training. It is proposed that a Price Statistics Advisor assist during the first year of the project, in the establishment of a comprehensive price collection system at retail and primary market levels, and in the development of a conceptual and methodological framework for the Consumer Price Index. He should assist also in carrying out an interim revision of the price index based on existing expenditure and price data.

A specialist in statistical training, organization and administration should be brought into the program for short periods starting with the first year, to advise and assist in the development of the Statistical Training Center, its curriculum, faculty selection, selection of training and course materials, and general administrative activities. As the training program develops, lecturers in sampling, applied statistics, elements of probability, census and survey methods, computer applications, and other general and specialized fields of statistics should be provided. All technical advisors will be expected to participate in the in-service training program.

C. Participant Training

A Statistical Training Center will be an integral part of the Central Statistics Office. The Center will provide in-service training courses at the elementary level for new employees, academic non-degree training for those possessing the necessary background of education and experience, and a scholarship training program for academic and specialized training in Afghanistan and abroad. ANNEX IV describes the proposed organization and activities of the training center.

This PROP proposes a five-year participation training program to support the scholarship program of the Statistical Training Center. It is designed to phase in with the suggested priority projects of the statistical center (ANNEX III) and to produce about 75 trained technical personnel. The Iranian Statistical Institute at Teheran (or another third-country training source if appropriate) will be utilized for basic training in statistical methods. The Bureau of the Census International Statistical Programs Office will be asked to arrange for academic and specialized training in the United States. A schedule for participant training under this PROP is shown in Table E.

Additional training in demography and other statistically related subjects is anticipated under the SUNY contract and the USAID Family Planning program. If such training opportunities do not materialize, provision is to be made in this project for technical training in demographic and health statistics at the National Center for Health Statistics, HEW.

D. Commodities

AID will provide desk calculators, adding machines, typewriters and other office equipment, duplicating and printing equipment and supplies, specialized equipment for cartographic work, visual aids and other training equipment, key entry machines and other auxiliary equipment for data processing, vehicles for field operations, technical books for a statistics library, and other specialized equipment and supplies. Some commodities will become available to the Central Statistics Office also through the SUNY contract. Procurement of commodities will be conditional on the specific needs for implementation of the priority program and the inventory of equipment which will be made available to the statistics center through transfers from statistical units now existing in various Ministries.

A relatively small amount of funds is budgeted for the first project year to provide essential equipment as follows: one vehicle, six calculators, two adding machines, one duplicating machine, two map cases, and training materials. In the second and subsequent years the commodity list will include auxiliary data processing equipment, printing equipment and vehicles primarily.

TABLE B - Schedule of USAID Participant Training

FIELD OF STUDY, ACADEMIC CATEGORY	Duration (Months)	Participants beginning training in FY				
		72	73	74	75	76
Total number of participants		7	20	19	16	14
Technical training programs, to be arranged by BuCen						
National economic accounting-OBE, Dept of Commerce	12	1	1			
Data processing-BuCen	12	2	2	2		
Agricultural Census and Surveys-BuCen/FAU/USDA	12		2			
Population Census Planning-BuCen/UN Sta. Office	12		2	2		
Economic Census and Surveys-BuCen	12		1	1		
Sampling and Survey Methods-BuCen	12		1	1	1	
Foreign Trade Statistics-BuCen	12				1	1
Prices & Labor Statistics-BLS	12				1	1
Statistical Publications -BuCen	6			1		
Education Statistics -HEW	12				1	
Construction Statistics -BuCen	9		1			
Survey Administration & Coordination -BuCen	12		1	1		
Basic training in statistics-Iran Statistical Institute	24	4	5	5	5	5
Academic training						
Degree course in Computer Science	48		1	1		
BA Degree course in Statistics/Economics	48		3	3	4	4
MS Degree course in Statistics/Demography	18			2	2	2
Ph. D. Degree course in Statistics	18				1	1

E. RGA Inputs

For initial staffing of the Central Statistics Office, the RGA will transfer from other Ministries and Government agencies, 50 to 60 persons to fill positions in the central office, and about 40 persons for field services. It will provide adequate office space for this staff and furnish the office with desks, chairs, cabinets and other necessary furniture. All equipment, such as calculators, typewriters and small desk-top supplies now available for general statistical activities in other government agencies will be requisitioned for the Central Statistical Office.

Some regional offices will be established under the SUNY contract to form the nucleus of a field organization. These will be expanded to meet the data collection requirements of the priority program over the five-year project.

It is estimated (Table C) that personnel costs will average about Afs. 6,000,000 annually and that other costs for furniture, equipment, office accommodations, supplies and stationery, heat and light, vehicle maintenance, travel, etc., will average Afs. 3,000,000. RGA budget support of project activities will be in the neighborhood of \$75,000, equivalent (Afs 30 = \$1.00) annually in the first year of the program. This will increase as the program expands and will reach to over \$150,000 in the last two years of the program. It has been estimated that the Census alone, if taken, will cost about Afs. 150,000,000 or about \$ 1,650,000 equivalent, 40% of which will represent the RGA contribution ^{1/}. Over the life of the project therefore, the RGA contribution will be approximately \$ 1,250,000.

V. Probability of Achieving Desired Results

The success of this project depends on two major conditions being met, a) the recruitment of a highly qualified advisory team to provide technical guidance and assistance, and b) the motivation of the cooperating country to advance toward the desired goals and its ability to support the program adequately. The climate for developing a statistical information system in Afghanistan is most favorable. Highly placed RGA officials are keenly aware of present deficiencies and anxious to correct them. They view the assistance proposed in this PROP as a rare opportunity which should not be missed. The time for action is ripe.

^{1/} It is expected that other donor groups will contribute to census costs. Since a full census of the Afghan population has never been taken, there is considerable interest among multilateral and bilateral agencies to see it accomplished. 1974 has been designated World Population Year by the United Nations, and it is anticipated that Afghanistan will be encouraged to participate by going ahead with its long-delayed census.

TABLE C - ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR CENTRAL STATISTICS OFFICE

BUDGET ITEM	(Afs. 000)	FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	
Wages and salaries	3,000	5,000	5,500	7,500	8,000	
Furniture and equipment	1,150	650	100	600	100	
Office rent, heat & light	500	800	800	1,000	1,000	
Vehicles (value)	220	-	-	300	-	
Vehicle maintenance	130	250	250	300	300	
Travel expenses	150	230	230	300	300	
Stationery and supplies	100	160	200	250	250	
Telephone, postage, etc.	180	200	200	250	250	
Other expenses & contingency fund	550	750	750	1,000	1,000	
Total	5,930	8,040	8,030	11,500	11,200	
Total Personnel	95	150	150	200	200	

Total budget, five years
Afs. 44,750,000

It is a fortunate coincidence that highly experienced Census Bureau technicians can be recruited at this time, since successful programs of this type are phasing out in other countries.

NONCAPITAL PROJECT FUNDING (OBLIGATIONS IN \$000)

PROP
Date May 22, 1971

TABLE D

COUNTRY: Afghanistan Project Title: Statistical Information System Development Original X
Project No. 306-11-780-124

Fiscal Year	AP	L/G	Total	CONT	Personnel Serv.			Participants		Commodities		Other Costs	
					AID	PASA	CONT	U.S. Ag.	CONT	Dir U.S. Ag.	CONT	Dir & CONT U.S. Ag.	
Prior through Act. FY 70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oper. FY 71	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Budg. FY 72	TA	G	310	-	-	256	-	44	-	10	-	-	-
B + 1 FY 73	TA	G	750	-	-	417	-	183	-	150	-	-	-
B + 2 FY 74	TA	G	750	-	-	466	-	234	-	50	-	-	-
B + 3 FY 75	TA	G	773	-	-	470	-	263	-	40	-	-	-
All Subs FY 76	TA	G	982	-	-	547	-	435	-	-	-	-	-
Total Life	TA	G	3,585	-	-	2,156	-	1,159	-	250	-	-	-

W

TABLE E

Exchange rate \$ 1 = Afs. 90

Project No. 306-11-780-124

Fiscal Years	Aid-controlled Local Currency		Other Cash Contribution Cooperating Country	Other Donor Funds (\$ equiv.)	Food for Freedom Commodities		
	U.S. Owned	Country- owned			Metric Tons (000)	CCC Value & (\$000)	World Market Price (\$000)
Prior through Act. FY <u>70</u>							
Oper. FY <u>71</u>							
Budg. FY <u>72</u>		150					
B+ 1 FY <u>73</u>		150					
B+ 2 FY <u>74</u>		300					
B+ 3 FY <u>75</u>		500					
All. Subs FY 76		400					
Total Life		1,500					

Submitted: March 11, 1971

Copy of Proposal No. 1964 dated 12/3/49
(Feb. 22, 1971)

of the Ministry of Planning to the Council of Ministers

Afghanistan, for the purpose of economic development, is following a planning course, which is now part of the economic system. The economic plans of Afghanistan, so far, because of the lack of a coordinated statistical system, have been based on "project planning" procedures. Because of this, modern technical planning, as used and followed by countries, close to as well as distant from Afghanistan, has not been feasible. It is a fact that until such time that documented information and systematic analysis of materials and figures about a number of main variable factors, such as national income, national savings, population and its composition, as well as foreign trade and public taxation, are available, the proper designation of the purposes and aims of the plans, the distribution of the resources and the implementation of the plans, will be faced with considerable difficulties and problems.

From the beginning of economic planning in Afghanistan, a great need has been felt for documented and dependable statistics; and the responsible officials have also taken some steps for this purpose. Of late, because of principal changes in political and social organizations of the country and also because of ever increasing economic problems in the implementation of plans and the necessity for precise and more accurate economic estimates and calculations, this need is more severe and apparent.

During the last ten years, a number of foreign and Afghan specialists have been employed through different channels, each of whom, in his turn, has written reports concerning the improvements and coordination of the statistical system. But, it must be said that in spite of the fact that a great deal of energy and financial resources have been made use of, the statistical system of Afghanistan continued with the same unrelated and uncoordinated form and organization.

The Third Five-Year Economic Plan included the "Population Survey Project" and the "Agricultural Statistics Project." Several UN specialists arrived in Kabul and submitted reports concerning the plans, programs and costs of these projects, to the responsible authorities, but no effective actions have been taken towards implementing these programs and projects, which, if the situation continues as it is, it is possible that in the near future greater problems might arise in the way of economic development.

It has been unanimously agreed upon by all quarters concerned that one of the principal reasons for failure to execute statistical programs in a coordinated way, is the lack of an appropriate, strong and responsible organization. Afghanistan, in its different statistical units spread throughout the Government, each year spends more than ten million Afghanis, but the result of the activities of these uncoordinated and unharmonized units has not met the country's need for documented and dependable statistical information.

At the beginning of the current year when the budget proposal was submitted to the Cabinet, we had limited the "Population Survey Project" budget and other such for the reason that until such time that a true and logical authority exists to promote the statistical programs, the implementation and execution of any statistical program will be faced with difficulties.

The Ministry of Planning, according to Government policy, started working to study the statistical problems and methods of improving them. For this purpose, at the outset, the specialists present at the Ministry were asked to make studies concerning the organization of a statistical center and the development of statistical regulations; and to make reports thereof, to be submitted to the Minister. Then, the USAID in Kabul was asked to provide the Ministry of Planning with a qualified specialist to make systematic study of the statistical system. The USAID in Kabul then invited the principal statistics advisor to the Government of Pakistan (Mr. Schiro) to Afghanistan to make an intensive study of the present system and to submit a report to the Ministry of Planning for the improvement thereof, which should also propose a more appropriate statistical system.

The said advisor submitted some time ago a sound report covering the deficiencies of the present statistical system as well as the ways to improve same.

In order to accelerate decisions concerning the statistical problems, the Ministry of Planning created a National Statistical Advisory Committee composed of learned Afghan persons from within the Ministry as well as outside of it, to study the opinions and proposals of the specialists and express their overviews thereabout. This Committee, at its first meeting, approved the need for statistical regulations, for a review of statistical organizations, and for specific strategy of statistical programs in the light of the reports submitted by the specialists from the Ministry of Planning and by Mr. Schiro. The Committee also agreed that a long-term statistical program should be included in the Fourth Five-Year Plan.

In order to draft a five-year statistical program to be included in the Fourth Plan, the Ministry of Planning, through the cooperation of USAID in Kabul,

invited three U. S. specialists from the U. S. Bureau of Census. One of these specialists arrived at Kabul two weeks ago and the others will arrive soon.

The work of these specialists, with the help of Statistics Department of the Ministry of Planning concerning the preparation of the five-year statistical program, is already underway. This program includes organizational charts, regulations, statistical activity strategies, as well as the training of the needed Afghan personnel.

Considering what actions have been taken as briefly mentioned above, the American side has shown interest in our statistical improvement program.

The USAID in Kabul has lately drafted a proposal to Washington authorities for technical assistance to the statistical program assuming positive action on our part. The specialist from the U. S. Bureau of Census, with the help of the Statistics Department of this Ministry, has assisted in the preparation of Afghan statistical activity program, on the basis of which the U. S. assistance might materialize. The possibility of receiving this aid depends on whether Afghanistan is really determined to implement the five-year statistical program, and, finally, whether she wants the Statistical Center organized or not.

Should the five-year statistical program be implemented, Afghanistan is to shoulder annually a total expenditure of about ten (10) million Afghanis for Afghan personnel services, furniture, stationery, electricity, maintenance of motorized equipment, and other such expenses. It should be mentioned that costs for the purchase of some motorized equipment, electric calculating machines, photocopying equipment, foreign advisors and specialists and the Afghan participants training cost, might be negotiated with USAID officials.

The Ministry of Planning believes that the time is now more than ever ripe for the possibility of establishing an effective statistical system and of obtaining professional assistance for the statistical improvements and for the implementation of the five-year statistical program which will result in the coordination and unification of statistical activities and efforts.

It is requested that the Council of Ministers approve the survey of statistical organizations and the implementation of the long-term statistical program, together with the organization of a Statistical Center in the Prime Ministry or anywhere else seen fit and appropriate. Of course, the Ministry of

Planning, until such time that the Statistical Center is established, will prepare the long-term statistical programs, the appropriate organizational chart for the Center, as well as the statistical regulations, with the help of the specialists from the U. S. Bureau of Census and submit same to the Council of Ministers for final approval.

Upon the approval of this proposal, the Ministry of Planning will be able to assure the responsible American officials, and seek their cooperation in materializing the technical assistance.

Respectfully,

Signed: Dr. Abdul Wahed Sarabi
Minister of Planning

ANNEX I (b)

**Protocol of The National Statistical Advisory Committee
1/14/50 (April 3, 1971)**

The Statistical Advisory Committee met on April 3, 1971 under the chairmanship of H. E. The Deputy Minister of Planning. At this meeting the regulation and organization of the Statistical Center, being the subject of the meeting, and prepared by the Ministry of Planning with the help and assistance of American and other specialists, were studied, and the following changes and amendments were made in the text:

A. In Chapter I, concerning the organization and unification of the statistical efforts:

1. In the statistical organization, the Supreme Statistical Council is deleted, and only the Technical Advisory Committee is to exist in the organization; under the present circumstances, the current Supreme Economic Council can guide the Statistical Center as far as policy problems are concerned.

2. In the draft of the regulation the "head" of the statistics has been changed to "President-General of the Statistical Center." In addition, it should be added that the President-General is to be a member of the Supreme Economic Council to better realize the relation between the Statistical Center and the Council.

3. The following are to be added in the text:

a. The Statistical Center Authority shall be an independent authority with separate budget, and directly subordinate to the Prime Minister.

b. The President-General of Statistics shall have, in addition to experience and qualification, higher education in statistics or economics.

4. In Item (d) of this same Chapter the sentence "the Technical Advisory Committee which works through sub-committees" should be changed to "the Technical Advisory Committee works through the sub-committees which are established when needed."

B. In Chapter 2, concerning the organization, functions, and authorities of the Statistical Center, the following changes have been made:

1. The word "Presidency" has been changed to "Department"; this word is flexible in meaning, and when the Statistical Center is organized, proposals will be on the basis of standard titles and positions.

2. Concerning the organization, a logical relation should be established between the office and other work areas, and to realize the desired aim, the functions should be delineated more specifically.

3. In Item (c) of Article (4) of this same Chapter, the following should be added: "Information which is of personal nature is not to be made public or printed without the explicit permission of the person(s) concerned. The Statistical Center can submit for the use of the government departments and authorities, only the information of a non-personal nature."

4. Item (c) of Article (6) should be completely changed as follows: "For acts contrary to the provisions of this law, disciplinary punishments are to be given by the Statistical Center and severe punishments are to be decided upon by the courts. For disciplinary punishments, special regulations shall be devised."

5. Item (d) of Article (4) shall be changed as follows: "The President-General can, according to Article (26) of the Civil Service Law, submit proposals to the appropriate authorities concerning additional pay and allowances."

The Secretariat of the Committee should, taking into consideration the above changes in the text of the organizational regulation, prepare the same for approval.

/s/ Prof. M. A. Ghausi
Deputy Minister of Planning

/s/ Prof. Dr. M. Y. Ayubi
Prof. of Statistics
College of Economics

/s/ Dr. A. Ghani Ghausi
President of the Afghan
Banka Millie

/s/ Dr. Zabihullah Eltezam
President, Kabul Customs House

/s/ Abdul Samad Bakhsni
President of Population Statistics
Minister of Interior

/s/ Fazel Rahim Mamand
Director-General
Economics Department
Ministry of Agriculture

/s/ Abdul Aziz Feroz
President of Statistics
Ministry of Planning

/s/ Sayad Mohammad Matwand
Member, Ministry of Planning

April 24, 1971

**Copy of Decree No. 3638 dated 12/3/49 (Feb. 22, 1971)
from the Office of the Prime Minister
to the Minister of Planning**

**H. E. Dr. Abdul Wahed Sarabi
Minister of Planning**

The Council of Ministers at its meeting of 12/3/49 (Feb. 22, 1971), based on the proposal No. 1964 dated 12/3/49 (Feb. 22, 1971) of the Ministry of Planning concerning the statistical reorganization, coordination and unification of Afghan statistical activities, has approved the following points under its Decision No. 3559.

- "1. The principle of reviewing and studying the statistical organizations of the Government and the implementation of a long-term statistical program, as proposed, are hereby approved.**
- "2. The Ministry of Planning, until such time that the Statistical Center is organized, shall prepare the long-term statistical programs and the appropriate organizational chart for the Center, as well as the statistical regulations, with the help of the specialists from the U.S. and those of the Ministry of Planning, and submit the same for final approval to the Council of Ministers.**
- "3. While the organizational chart is being prepared and its preliminary phases are completed, the authority which shall be responsible for the administration and execution of this project in its final phase, will be later assigned."**

The above decision, which was brought to the notice of H. M. The King, is hereby transmitted to Your Excellency to be acted upon accordingly.

Submitted: May 2, 1971

ANNEX I (d)

**Copy of Proposal by the Ministry of Planning
to the Cabinet asking approval for requesting USAID assistance
April 22, 1971**

Prior to this, on Feb. 22, 1971, the Ministry of Planning had submitted Proposal No. 1804 to the Council of Ministers asking the decision of the government concerning the possibility of studying and reviewing the statistical organizations, the implementation of a five-year statistical program, and, finally, the creation of the Statistical Center.

It was mentioned in the said proposal that the USAID in Kabul has expressed its interest in the statistical development project and, of late, has drafted a proposal to the appropriate authorities in Washington for given dollars of technical aid to the statistical activities of this country. But, the possibility of receiving this aid has been dependent by the USAID on the decision of the Royal Government of Afghanistan concerning the review and study of the statistical organizations, establishment and creation of a Statistical Center, and the implementation of the five-year statistical program.

As a result of the above-mentioned proposal of this Ministry, the Council of Ministers had decided that:

- 1. It approved of the principle of reviewing and studying the statistical organization and the implementation of the long-term statistical programs.**
- 2. The Ministry of Planning, until such time that the Statistical Center is organized, shall prepare the long-term statistical program, together with the statistical organizational chart and regulations, and submit the same to the Council of Ministers.**

In line with the above directives, the Ministry of Planning, with the help and assistance of this Ministry's specialists and those of the U. S. Bureau of Census, has prepared the following documents and papers:

- a. The statistical regulation and organization.**
- b. The statistical activity program for the Fourth Five-Year Plan, and the areas for priority attention.**

c. The way to make effective use of any U.S. assistance.

For the benefit of the Council of Ministers, the above documents and papers are herewith submitted.

It must be mentioned that the organization and regulations of the Statistical Center have been already studied and compared with similar organization and regulations of Afghanistan's neighboring countries by a National Statistical Advisory Committee created by the Ministry of Planning; and so, after the approval by this Committee, the draft of statistical regulation and organization is herewith submitted to the Council of Ministers.

The U.S. officials in Kabul have discussed with the Ministry of Planning, at our request, the possibility of U.S. technical assistance for this project. The Ministry of Planning believes that in order for this assistance to be realized, a formal request should be submitted to the American authorities. On the other hand, the American authorities suggest that because of the formalities involved and in view of the apparent urgent need on our part, this request, if to be proposed, should be submitted as soon as possible. Therefore, in order to be able to assure the U.S. side of the positiveness of our intent, the draft of the statistical regulation and organization, as well as the statistical activities program, together with the required Afghan expenditures, and statements on the possibility of technical aid, are submitted so that a decision shall be made forthwith concerning the creation of the Statistical Center according to the provisions of the submitted regulation, and also concerning the passage of a law through the appropriate channels. Of course, after the approval of this proposal by the Council of Ministers, a formal request for aid and assistance would be submitted to the American authorities, so that the aid might reach us by the time the Statistical Center is ready for operation.

A point that needs to be mentioned here is that the Statistical Law should, for the time being, be approved as a work-regulations manual and put to application by a decree, for since at this stage the Parliament is already too busy, it is possible that this law will not be passed in a short time; and, on the other hand, it will be better if this law went through a trial period so as to be improved as far as any deficiency it may have in the course of application.

It should be mentioned that the U.S. aid, according to the preliminary estimates, if approved, shall be made use of in the following manner:

1.	Afghan personnel training	\$ 1,863,000
2.	Equipment	200,000
3.	Cost of specialists from U.S. Bureau of Census	1,500,000

Also it should be noted that, should this project be put into operation, Afghanistan is to shoulder the costs of Afghan personnel services, supplies and rent for building. The cost to Afghanistan of this project will be about 8 to 10 million Afghanis per year.

Of course, this figure will not constitute a new commitment to this extent on the part of the State Budget, as already more than ten million Afghanis are spent every year for the operation of the main statistical projects in the Ministries of Planning, Interior, and Agriculture. Therefore, it is possible that a great portion of the Afghani costs of the Statistical Center will be provided through budgetary amendments and transfers from the present statistical projects and offices.

With regards,

Signed: Dr. Abdul Wahed Sarabi
Minister of Planning

**Copy of Decree No. 577, dated May 6, 1971
from the Office of the Prime Minister to the Ministry of Planning**

**H. E. Dr. Abdul Wabed Sarabi
Minister of Planning**

The Council of Ministers, at its meeting of May 3, 1971, based on Proposal No. 321 dated May 3, 1971, of the Ministry of Planning concerning the request to USAID, and the regulation and organization of the Afghan Statistical Center, has approved the following points under its Decision No. 540.

"1. The Ministry of Planning is authorized to request aid and assistance for the statistical development project from the USAID according to the contents of the said proposal.

"2. The Ministry of Justice shall study the organization of the statistics in the frame of the regulations from legal point of view, and prepare its final version and submit the same in consent with the Ministry of Interior as soon as possible.

"3. Concerning the Afghan costs of the National Statistical Center, the Fiscal and Economic Commission shall study the agenda of the meeting of the Council of Ministers and take action to prepare the Council's decision on this matter."

The above decision which was brought to the notice of H. M. The King, is hereby transmitted to Your Excellency to be acted upon accordingly.

**Signed: Dr. Abdul Kayeum
Second Deputy Prime Minister**

MINISTRY OF PLANNING

May 10, 1971

**Mr. Bartlett Harvey, Director
USAID Mission to Afghanistan
Kabul**

Dear Mr. Harvey:

In the Spring of 1970 you made available to us the services of Mr. Bruno Schiro, to prepare a general review of the statistical system then existing in Afghanistan, and to suggest guidelines for its improvement. Mr. Schiro's comprehensive analysis was well received by this Ministry, and as suggested, I appointed an interim committee to review his report. On the basis of that review, the Government formed the National Statistical Advisory Committee to continue our efforts in the development of a viable statistical system.

To assist the Committee in its deliberations, and at my request, you brought to Kabul early this year a temporary team of U.S. Bureau of the Census technicians, Mr. Hurwitz, Mr. Slonim, and Mr. Heiser. This team has prepared documents for Committee consideration proposing (1) statistical legislation, (2) a plan of organization, (3) a priority program of statistical activities, and (4) a statistical training program. The Ministry of Planning has at the same time drawn the attention of concerned authorities to all these aspects of our efforts.

Recently the revision of our statistical organization and the inclusion in the Fourth Five Year Plan of provisions for the proposed statistical program have been approved. Therefore, I am in a position to make a formal request for long-range technical and training assistance necessary to carry out the Government statistical program. The nature and amount of assistance needed has been suggested by the Bureau of the Census Team. It is our understanding that this assistance, if granted, would be under grant-in-aid funding of the U.S. Agency for International Development, and would be obtained through the U.S. Bureau of the Census which is widely experienced in such developmental operations and has demonstrated in the work of its consultants, in this case, a capability of the highest order. Please be assured that the concerned authorities will support fully the planned statistical development and the assistance made available for it with adequate budget, personnel, space and furnishings.

I will appreciate an early and favorable response to this request.

Sincerely,

**Signed: Abdul Wabed Sarahi
Minister of Planning**

STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION

Provisions suggested for inclusion in Statistical Legislation

I. Title: The Statistical Act of 1350 (1971)

II. Statistical Organization and Coordination

A. This act empowers the Executive Branch of Government to expand the High Economic Council, for determination of national statistical policy and coordination of the national statistical effort.

B. This act empowers the Executive Branch to appoint a President General of Statistics who will direct the activities of a Central Statistics Office and coordinate the statistical activities of all other competent authorities engaged in the collection, compilation, and dissemination of statistical information.

C. The President General will act as Executive Secretary for Statistics, and the Central Statistics Office will act as Statistical Secretariat to the High Economic Council.

D. The President General will form a Technical Advisory Committee consisting of selected members of the Central Statistics Office and other competent agencies of Government, and will serve as its Chairman. The Technical Advisory Committee, operating through working sub-committees, will develop standards of performance, statistical concepts, definitions, classification systems, quality controls, and other standard procedures for use in all Government statistical activities.

III. Organization, functions and powers of the Central Statistical Office

A. Under direction of the President General, the structure of the Central Statistical Office will be developed along functional lines, as follows:

1. Department of Design and Analysis

- (a) Population, manpower and demographic statistics
- (b) Prices and household expenditures
- (c) Industry, mining, commercial, agricultural, and construction statistics
- (d) National accounts, foreign trade and financial statistics
- (e) Administrative statistics
- (f) Sample design, methods research, standards and quality control

2. Department of Statistical Data Processing

- (a) Clerical operations: editing, coding and tabulation
- (b) Computer center
 - (1) Systems design and programming
 - (2) Computer operations
 - (3) Standards and control

3. Department of Implementation

- (a) Data collection: investigations and sample surveys
 - Central Office - Kabul
 - Provincial offices
- (b) Secondary data compilation
 - (1) from administrative departments of Government
 - a. Education statistics
 - b. Health statistics
 - c. Transportation and communication statistics
 - d. Other operational data
 - (2) from other sources
- (c) Cartography for censuses and surveys
- (d) Information center
 - (1) Data bank and library
 - (2) Printing and publication

4. Administrative Department

- (a) Personnel and services
- (b) Accounting and finance

5. Statistical Training Center

6. Office of Statistical Planning and Coordination

7. Census Office

B. Operating functions of the Central Statistical Office are defined as follows:

- 1. To collect, compile, analyze and publish statistical data resulting from censuses, sample surveys and other investigations in

the following fields:

- a. Population, manpower, employment, wages, hours of work, and other labor statistics.
- b. Housing conditions; household income, expenditures and living conditions; and other household statistics.
- c. Statistics on agriculture, industry, mining, construction, and the production of gas and electricity.
- d. Wholesale and retail prices and price indexes.
- e. Wholesale and retail trade and services statistics.
- f. Other subject areas as may be deemed necessary.

2. To act as the coordinating authority for all statistical activities carried out by other competent authorities or agencies of Government which may be engaged directly or indirectly in the generation of statistical information in the fields of:

- a. Transportation and communications.
- b. Education, health and social services.
- c. External trade.
- d. Government revenues and expenditures.
- e. Other administrative and regulatory areas and to promote

and supervise the application of statistical standards and procedures, and the elimination of duplication in this work.

3. To establish and maintain, in coordination with other competent authorities, a national accounting system, to estimate the gross and domestic income and product of the nation.

4. To appraise the output of the national statistical system in terms of frequency, quality, timeliness, and relevance to the country's needs: to develop standard statistical concepts, definitions, and classification systems for use by all Government entities; to conduct research, develop and prescribe statistical methodology and procedures governing the

compilation and presentation of statistical data; and to provide advice, assistance and guidance to other competent authorities and Government agencies engaged in the generation of statistical information.

5. To develop and coordinate a program of in-service, institutional, and foreign training for statistical personnel employed in all Government agencies; to act as the certifying agent for the selection of candidates for such training; and in coordination with the Civil Service Office, to develop position descriptions, qualification standards, and rules for the recruitment, promotion, and the determination of salary scales for all Government personnel.

6. To act as the coordinating agent in the request, selection, approval of qualifications, and assignment of foreign experts, technicians and consultants who are required to assist in the improvement of the Statistical system and the implementation of approved statistical programs.

7. To establish, develop and maintain a central data processing service to all Government agencies; to evaluate the requirements of Government for mechanical and electronic data processing equipment, and recommend Government policy concerning the procurement and utilization of such equipment; to determine the technical specifications of equipment to be installed at the Central Statistical Office or at any other agency of Government, such as unit record equipment, electronic computer equipment, data transmission, storage and retrieval equipment; to determine operating standards for such equipment and to supervise compliance with such standards for maximum efficiency in equipment utilization; and to operate data processing equipment in the production and evaluation of statistical information for Government, and for private enterprises and individuals on a reimbursable cost basis; and to coordinate all Government computer utilization, lending technical assistance in systems analysis and programming, as required.

8. To develop and maintain a national information center and data bank for the storage and distribution of all Government statistical information, as a service to Government and the private sector; to prepare and publish periodic and ad hoc informative reports, and technical papers on concepts, methodology and evaluation of censuses, surveys and statistical series produced by the statistical system; to receive, store and provide exchange of statistical publications with other countries; and to

prepare an annual report to the Prime Minister activities, progress, problems, and recommendations for future activities to be undertaken by the national statistical system.

9. To certify official statistical information for legal use as required.

10. To prepare annually a working program and make budgetary arrangements for the continuation and improvement of the Central Statistical Act throughout Government.

C. This Act invests in the Central Statistical Office the following powers, authority and obligations:

1. The Central Statistical Office shall have the authority to collect, compile, analyze and publish statistical information related to commercial, industrial, financial, social, economic and general activities and conditions of the people, and to collaborate with other competent authorities of Government in the collection, compilation and publication of statistical records of administration.

2. In carrying out its responsibilities to provide factual information for promoting the welfare of the Nation, the Central Statistical Office shall have the obligation to conduct a constant campaign to enlighten the public on the importance and utility of statistical information for all sectors of the country, and to instill in the public mind that the statistical organization is worthy of trust and respect; to gain the cooperation and understanding of the public, and to persuade private enterprises, households and individuals to supply the requested information willingly and with confidence.

3. The President General and all employees of the Central Statistical Office, before entering upon his duties, shall take and subscribe to an oath of office. This oath shall contain within it the solemn undertaking that the individual will not disclose or make known any matter that comes to his knowledge by reason of his employment as an officer or employee of the Central Statistical Office. Employees of other Government agencies who perform duties under the Statistical Act shall be subject to the same oath.

4. All information collected by the Central Statistical Office from industrial, commercial and financial enterprises, households and individuals, shall be kept strictly confidential and used only for statistical purposes. No report obtained from an individual or entity shall be published or otherwise

divulged, and no statistical report which reveals individual particulars shall be published without explicit consent of the individual or entity concerned. Disclosure or unauthorized use of confidential information shall be punishable under the law. (Penalty)

5. It shall be mandatory under this act upon industrial, commercial and financial enterprises, households and individuals to comply with requests for statistical information from the Central Statistical Office, in good faith and without delay. The President General may compel disclosure of facts or figures which he deems necessary to the conduct of his duties and responsibilities, and he shall prescribe the forms and instructions under which such information is to be given. Willful refusal, neglect or delay in providing information or granting access to records or providing false declarations, shall be punishable under the law. (Penalty)

6. However, no penalty shall be applied against any person or entity without a determination of the offence by the courts in accordance with the general laws of the Country.

D. In the implementation of this Act, the President General shall be appointed by the Prime Minister and he shall proceed to organize the Central Statistical Office, using appropriate personnel and facilities of the Departments of Statistics in the Ministries of Planning, Interior, and Agriculture and other such elements of Government, as a beginning. With the advice of the High Economic Council, and the consent of the Prime Minister, he shall carry out the following:

1. Draw up a detailed organizational plan and implementation program based on the provisions of this Act.
2. Determine a system of priorities of specific statistical programs to be developed during the Fourth Five-Year Plan.
3. Determine the financial resources and budgetary arrangements necessary for implementation of this Act.
4. Recommend personnel requirements for carrying out this program, describing qualifications and salary scales for each position to be filled, and recruit personnel through new appointments or transfers from other agencies, in accordance with the priority program determined.

5. Acquire adequate office space, furniture, equipment and supplies for establishing the Central Statistical Office, taking into consideration future needs for an expanding organization.

6. Determine technical assistance requirements consistent with the priority program, in terms of technical advisors, training opportunities, and commodity support, taking into account assistance of this nature which is already provided within the various Ministries and agencies of Government.

7. With the assistance of a data processing expert, conduct a feasibility study covering long-term needs of Government for computer services, and develop recommendations for the acquisition, installation and utilization of computer equipment, taking into account other computer facilities which may be available for Government use at comparable costs.

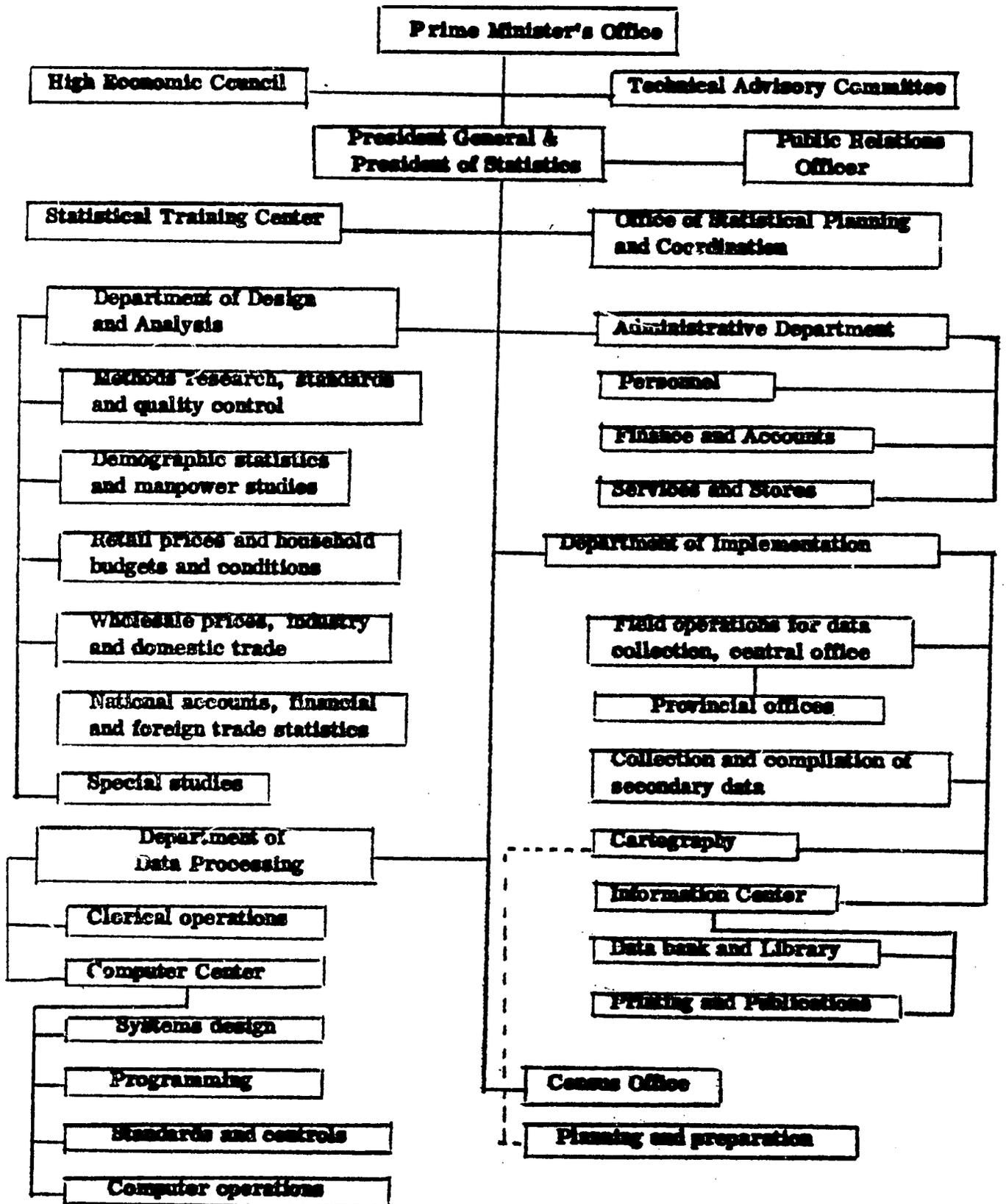
8. Promote cooperation with Provincial officials for the establishment of regional field offices for the collection of statistical information nation-wide, and initiate the establishment of such offices in accordance with the priority program.

E. The President General shall have free use of Government facilities for transmission of correspondence, cables, forms and materials relating to the official statistical activities of his office.

F. This Act shall become effective

G. Definition of terms used in this Act. (to be provided later)

PROPOSED SCHEME OF ORGANIZATION -- CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE



**FUNCTIONS OF OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS IN THE CENTRAL
STATISTICAL OFFICE**

1. President General of Statistics

- a. to direct and coordinate assigned activities of the Office
- b. to act as Executive Secretary for Statistics to the High Economic Council
- c. to act as Chairman to the Technical Advisory Committee
- d. to approve plans and programs to be carried out, and the corresponding methods and procedures
- e. to authorize publication of information compiled by the Central Statistical Office
- f. to approve and supervise the internal regulations of the Office
- g. to control the budget and expenditures of the Office
- h. to provide official statistical information to the Prime Minister and to the Cabinet
- i. to certify official statistics for legal use as required

2. President of Statistics

- a. to assist the President General in carrying out his duties and responsibilities
- b. with consent of the Prime Minister to act in place of the President General during his temporary absence, and to represent him in all matters as directed
- c. to be responsible for the administrative activities of the Office
- d. under direction of the President General to issue directives, resolutions and regulations governing other office activities

3. Office of Planning and Coordination

- a. to act as Secretariate to the Technical Advisory Committee
- b. to plan and promote the development and improvement and coordination of statistics and eliminate duplication in the overall statistical effort
- c. to investigate the needs of various Ministries and other Government agencies for statistical information
- d. to investigate statistical methods and procedures used by other Government agencies and to conduct studies for their improvement
- e. to establish standard concepts, definitions and classification systems, and to assist other Government agencies in their application

- f. to provide for interchange of technical information between Government agencies
- g. to review statistical forms and instructions used by other Government agencies, and to recommend continuance, improvement or cancellation
- h. to plan medium and long-range programs for statistical improvement and development, and to prepare budget estimates
- i. to coordinate requests for foreign statistical advisors and consultants, and to advise on their selection and assignment
- j. to evaluate and exercise control, through a system of periodic reports to the President General and the High Economic Council, of all Government statistical activities

4. Statistical Training Center

- a. to promote and develop statistical training within the country
- b. to establish a program of in-service training for statistical personnel in the collection, compilation, analysis and publication of statistical information
- c. in cooperation with the Department of Design and Analysis, to develop training manuals and materials, and to conduct training courses for specific statistical projects undertaken by the Office
- d. to investigate training opportunities offered by international and foreign agencies, to evaluate them, and to participate in the selection of candidates for scholarships abroad
- e. to cooperate with the University in the establishment of statistical curricula
- f. to develop technical qualifications and position descriptions for statistical personnel
- g. to develop qualifying tests for use in the recruitment of statistical personnel
- h. to assemble and maintain a library of textbooks and technical materials, and other documents on statistical methods and procedures
- i. to sponsor national statistical conferences for the improvement of statistical knowledge
- j. to coordinate Government participation at bilateral and international statistical conferences, seminars and workshops, and to maintain contact and cooperation with international and foreign statistical organization

5. Public Relations Officer

- a. to promote public understanding of the nature and importance of statistical information to the welfare of the Nation
- b. to instill in the public mind a respect for the Statistical Organization and trust in the Office to hold reported information in confidence
- c. to prepare propaganda materials to enlighten the public on specific programs undertaken by the Office, and to initiate and conduct publicity campaigns to gain public cooperation in these activities
- d. to meet with the press and other communication media, and to prepare press notices and announcements about studies to be undertaken and results to be published
- e. to welcome visitors to the Office and cater to their needs

6. Department of Design and Analysis

- a. to develop general and special programs of statistical investigations and surveys, and to design the methodology to be used in their implementation, following standards fixed by the Office of Planning and Coordination
- b. to design, in cooperation with other operating departments, the necessary sampling techniques, forms, manuals of instruction and controls to be used in data collection and processing
- c. to perform experimental studies for the development of methodology pertinent to Afghanistan conditions
- d. to analyze results of statistical investigations and prepare reports giving social, economic or cultural information obtained, and to evaluate methodology and statistical validity of reported data
- e. to compile statistical series and measurements using basic data obtained from primary and secondary sources and to prepare reports for publication
- f. to give technical assistance and advice to other Government agencies engaged in the development of similar statistical information
- g. to provide Government with guidance in the use of statistical information in development planning and policy formation
- h. to consult with users of statistics to discover their needs for statistical information and the most efficient and satisfactory means of filling these needs

7. Department of Implementation

- a. to collect primary statistical information through surveys and other types of investigation, from semi-private, private and Government enterprises, households and individuals as necessary to carry out the statistical program of the Office
- b. to obtain from other Government agencies, statistical information generated through their administrative and regulatory activities, and to organize and compile these data for general use
- c. to establish and maintain a cartographic section for the preparation of maps for use in censuses and surveys
- d. in cooperation with other Government agencies and provincial authorities, to establish regional offices for efficient collection of data nation-wide
- e. to edit and arrange statistical materials for publication by the Central Statistical Office
- f. to establish and maintain a printing and duplicating section for reproduction of statistical reports, bulletins and other publications, and to arrange for reproduction of statistical information by other means as necessary
- g. to establish and maintain a library and data bank and national statistical information center, for the collection, storage and distribution of statistical and economic reports and other publications, and the storage and retrieval of original documents and forms completed through census and survey activities
- h. to maintain registers of establishments and other sources of statistical reports for control purposes

8. Department of Data Processing

- a. to edit, classify and code information collected through censuses, surveys and other types of statistical investigations
- b. to calculate averages, percentage distributions, index numbers, and other statistical series and measurements as required
- c. to organize and compose these data and to prepare charts and graphs for tabular and graphic presentation
- d. to prepare these materials mechanically or manually depending on the availability of equipment and determination of the most efficient process
- e. to operate data processing equipment in the production and evaluation of statistical information to be published, or procure computer time from other sources

- f. to recommend Government policy concerning the procurement, installation and utilization of mechanical or electronic data processing equipment, including unit record equipment, electronic computer equipment, data transmission, storage and retrieval equipment, and other auxiliary machinery
 - g. to evaluate Government requirements of such equipment and determine the technical specifications of equipment to be installed in any Government agency
 - h. to develop operating standards for the utilization of computer and other equipment, and to supervise compliance with these standards throughout Government
 - i. to lend technical assistance in systems analysis and programming as required, and to coordinate the utilization of mechanical and electronic data processing equipment by Government agencies
 - j. to provide data processing services to private enterprises and individuals on a cost-reimbursable basis insofar as possible
- k. Census Office
- a. to plan and prepare for censuses of population and housing
 - b. in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture to plan and prepare for censuses of Agriculture
 - c. in cooperation with the Ministry of Mines and Industry, to plan and prepare for censuses of manufacturing and mining
 - d. in cooperation with the Ministry of Commerce, to plan and prepare for censuses of internal trade and services
 - e. to conduct research in census methodology
 - f. to coordinate all government activities in census operations, and to supervise compliance with standards and procedures
 - g. to analyze and evaluate census results and to prepare reports on census results and census methodology

Proposed Priority Program of Statistical Activities

A. INTRODUCTION

The priority program suggested herein emphasizes the development of a system of national economic accounting and provision of information on the size and distribution of the population. In addition to population statistics (to be obtained at an early stage of the program through a demographic survey, and later through a full census), the program includes surveys of agricultural and industrial production, private construction, improvement of price statistics, and development of national accounts. A basis will be laid also for the development, at some future time, or statistics on internal trades and services. A household sample survey program will be initiated toward the end of the plan period.

The suggested program presupposes maximum utilization of the products of past efforts in statistical development, and recognizes that considerable statistical information now generated through administrative functions of the various Ministries^{1/} is of sufficient reliability to need no special attention during the fourth plan period, except perhaps in applications of statistical standards and coordination.

B. PRIORITY PROGRAM

1. DEMOGRAPHIC/KAP SURVEY

Target - Measurement of the size and distribution of the settled population of the country and sociological studies. Data will be developed for urban areas combined, rural areas combined, and for the major regions of the country. The survey will provide basic data on the demographic, economic and social characteristics of the population, in addition to fertility measures and attitudinal data.

Project Description - This project will be carried out in two parts:

a. A demographic survey based on a fairly large sample of households, to estimate the size and characteristics of the population, and

^{1/} Statistics for health, education, foreign trade and transportation

b. A KAP/Attitudinal survey, based on a sub-sample of households, which will include fertility measurements and the discovery of attitudes toward innovations. (See SUNY proposal dated August 7, 1970 for project details.)

Project Calendar - This project will begin before the Fourth Plan period. The first year of operation will be devoted to planning, survey design, and the development and testing of survey materials. Field operations will be carried out during the first plan year, and data processing, analysis and final report writing will continue through the second year. Preparation of a sample frame for selection of the household sample will involve the development of maps for survey purposes as described under the Census project.

Coordination - This project will be directed by the State University of New York staff with the cooperation of the Ministry of Planning for the Demographic Survey, and the Ministry of Health for the KAP/Attitudinal survey. The Cartographic Institute will cooperate in the development of survey maps. The University of Kabul and other agencies will become involved in the sociological studies.

2. AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Target - Development of an agricultural statistics system based on sample surveys and other sources of information, to provide national and regional estimates of agricultural production and other important information about the agricultural sector. A forecasting procedure for major crops will become an integral part of the overall system. The project will make use of data obtained in the Pilot Census of Agriculture (1965), the Nation-wide Agricultural Inquiry (1966/67), farm surveys conducted over the years by the Faculty of Agriculture of the Kabul University, stereoscopic photomaps and topographical maps prepared by the Cartographic Institute, and the developmental work of Mr. Paul LaLande, Biological Geographer, on the use of these maps for recognition and measurement of cultivated lands.

Project Description - The overall project will include four sub-projects:

a. A probability sample survey, using objective measurement techniques, twice a year at planting time and at harvest, covering, for major crops, acreage planted, acreage harvested, production, value and disposition of crops; number of livestock held and slaughtered; number of trees and vines,

yield and production of tree and vine crops; seed, feed, fertilizer, labor, equipment and other inputs; demographic and economic characteristics of the farm population; and other information as may be determined.

b. Use of existing stereoscopic and topographic maps to classify cultivated land and calculate acreage; and a feasibility study to examine the possibility of preparing and utilizing current aerial photography in color for identification and measurement of crop acreage on a sample basis.

c. A system of controlled, periodic reporting by agricultural agents, produce buyers, sellers and others, combined with the use of information developed in activities described above, for forecasting production of major crops during the growing season.

d. Monthly surveys of prices received by farmers for important agricultural products, and paid by farmers for important items of farm operations; and the development of an index of prices received and paid by farmers.

Project Calendar - The first year of this project will be devoted to planning and preparation activities. In the second plan year, field operations will be established and the first round of data collection will be completed for the sample survey. The third year will be devoted to evaluation, analysis and publication of survey results, and the final development of techniques to be followed in estimating and forecasting. In the fourth and fifth plan years, an established procedure for estimating and forecasting will become a continuing annual activity. Collection of prices received and paid by farmers will be initiated in the third plan year, following the development of a sample of reporters, commodity specifications, and operating instructions. Calculation of the price index will begin after one year of reliable price information has been compiled.

Coordination - This system of agricultural statistics will be a joint effort of the Central Statistics Office, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Cartographic Institute.

3. INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS

Target - Development of a system for the collection of data on mining, manufacturing, construction and the production of gas and electricity, to provide information on the quantity and value of domestic production and construction, value added, and other information about the industrial sector.

Project Description - This project will include five sub-projects:

- a. The development of a complete register of industrial establishments employing ten or more persons, giving name, location, kind of activity, and size of establishment. Lists of firms now available in the Ministry of Mines and Industry and the Ministry of Commerce will be expanded and completed under this program.
- b. A quarterly survey of large establishments (50 or more paid workers) covering quantity and value of products, employment and payroll, consumption and cost of materials used. At annual intervals, the survey will be expanded to include inventories of materials and finished products, expenditures for new plant and equipment, capacity or installed power equipment, and other data as may be desired. This project will continue activities of the Ministries but will make use of modern, controlled techniques and procedures.
- c. A sample survey of cottage and small industries, covering numbers of persons engaged (working proprietors, unpaid family workers, employees, homeworkers, etc.), kind of activity, quantity and value of production, value added, and related information.
- d. A survey of privately financed construction will be conducted as a sample survey using the primary sampling segments selected for the demographic study. The survey will record, for buildings started or completed during the survey period, construction characteristics and value, cost of materials and labor, and related data.
- e. An index of industrial production will be computed after sufficient reliable data is made available under the above sub-projects.

Project Calendar - The first fourth plan year will be devoted to planning and preparation for the overall program, and development of the establishment register, which will be used as the sampling frame for the quarterly surveys of large firms. Continuing the work of the Ministry of Mines and Industries and the Ministry of Commerce, industrial data will be collected under revised procedures beginning with the second plan year. A sample of small establishments will be included in the quarterly surveys when operations become well established. The cottage construction survey will be initiated in the third plan year and data collection will be carried out semi-annually thereafter until quarterly surveys become possible. When one year of reliable production data

become available, price weights will be developed and an index of industrial production will be calculated and continued on a regular quarterly schedule.

4. IMPROVEMENT OF PRICE STATISTICS

Target - Improvement in the reporting of retail prices and the revision of the Consumer Price Index; and initiation of wholesale price collection and index number construction.

Project Description - This project will include three sub-projects:

a. Based on results of the household income and expenditure surveys conducted in Kabul and Lashkar Gah, which will be re-tabulated if necessary, a sample of about 100 commodity and service items will be selected and specifications prepared for pricing in the Greater Kabul area. A sample of markets and shops will be selected for reporting prices monthly. Retroactive pricing will be attempted for items which are not currently included in the price lists used by the d'Afghanistan Bank. Historical price records will be sought from other sources also, to develop price series going back for at least one year. Prices will be combined with expenditure weights developed from the expenditure survey to compile a consumer price index for the Greater Kabul Area. This work will be extended to Lashkar Gah and other towns after work on the Kabul index is completed. Eventually, city indexes will be combined to calculate a revised National price index.

b. Based on import statistics and the value of domestic production, a sample of about 100 commodities will be selected and specifications written for pricing at the primary market level. A sample of importers and domestic producers will be selected for reporting prices monthly. For several years, only average prices will be calculated and published. Eventually these price data will be combined with value weights to compute a primary market price index series.

c. A register of distributive trades and service establishments will be developed, giving name, location, kind of business, and size of establishment. This register will be used eventually as a sampling frame to improve the sample of price reporters. It will also serve as a basis for surveys of domestic trades in future years.

Project Calendar - Examination and re-tabulation of the Household Expenditure Survey results will be initiated prior to the start of the fourth plan period, as staff time becomes available in the Ministry of Planning. Detailed

specifications will be written and instructions for pricing at both wholesale and retail levels will be prepared. Hopefully, investigation of markets and dealers can be completed also during this period, so that pricing can start on a regular monthly cycle in the first plan year. Pricing, and publication of average prices, will continue through the plan period. Revision of the Consumer Price Index will be carried out in the second plan year. (A complete revision of the Consumer Price Index will be delayed until data from a country-wide income and expenditure survey become available at the beginning of the fifth five-year plan period.) Development of the Primary Market Price Index will be completed in the third plan year and index calculation will continue on a monthly schedule. Development of a register of trade and service establishments will be initiated in the fifth plan year.

Coordination - Pricing of commodities and services will be carried out with the assistance of the d'Afghanistan Bank until the Central Statistics Office establishes its data collection system. Total responsibility for pricing and index construction will then be transferred to the statistics office. The register of establishments will be a joint effort of the Central Statistics Office and the Ministries of Commerce and Interior.

5. MULTI-PURPOSE HOUSEHOLD SAMPLE SURVEY

Target - Establishment of a continuing, multi-purpose household sample survey program as a source of current statistical information about the economic, social and cultural activities and characteristics of individuals, households and the labor force.

Project Description - This project is envisioned as the ultimate vehicle for the collection of information which can be obtained best through contact with households at regular intervals over a period of years. Through this program it will be possible to measure change in the size and distribution of the population, manpower supply, economic and non-economic activities of persons, rates of unemployment and under-employment, levels of education, annual income and work experience, housing conditions and ownership of property, attitudes of people towards various factors and conditions, and many other socio-economic and cultural subjects. The survey methodology makes use of a fairly large sample of households divided into sub-samples to be interviewed in consecutive weeks or months throughout the year. The subject matter to be covered is programmed in a time-phased operation according to priority needs or information.

The first survey will be a household income-expenditure survey to provide information on the kinds, quantities and value of goods and services purchased and goods home-produced for consumption; household income by source of income; and household assets and liabilities. This information will be used directly for national accounting estimates and for the improvement of the Consumer Price Index.

Project Calendar - Planning for the survey will be initiated in the fourth plan year. Development of the sample will utilize census results. If a census is not taken, the demographic/KAP sample of households will be used. Field operations will be conducted in the last pl an year.

6. NATIONAL ACCOUNTING

Target - Development of a comprehensive system of national economic accounting appropriate for Afghanistan, including domestic product accounts, national income accounts, domestic capital formation accounts, private income and expenditure accounts, income and expenditure accounts of Government, external transaction accounts, and supporting tables.

Project Description - This project is dependent on statistical information which will be generated through other project activities, and at the same time sets the goals for those activities. The first steps to be taken will be to lay out the framework and structure of a standard system of national economic accounting, geared to Afghanistan conditions, and to develop the best possible estimates for one year based on available data. Estimates will be revised and improved as better data are provided. Annual estimates will be developed eventually on an annual schedule. The project will include research into national accounting procedures, and staff instructions on accounting practices.

Project Calendar - Hopefully, this project will be initiated in the year prior to the fourth plan period. A continuing effort will be made to improve estimating procedures and to incorporate better data as they are produced. The goal for the fourth plan period will be to complete estimates for all accounts and to prepare supporting tables for the year 1350.

Coordination - Success of the national accounts project will depend on a close working relationship between the Central Statistics Office, the d'Afghanistan Bank, the Ministry of Planning, and many other Ministries and Government agencies. It will demand the highest level of coordination and cooperation, and willingness on the part of all persons and groups to work together to achieve a common goal.

7. CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING

Target - A full census of the population to determine the size and distribution of the population of the country as a whole and for each region, province, sub-province, city, town and village; and to record the characteristics of dwelling units occupied or available for occupancy.

Project Description - The census program will be carried out in three major stages:

- a. Development of topographical maps at the scale of 1:50,000, to delineate and identify civil and administrative divisions down to the village level. This will involve field investigations and charting. Through interpretation of stereoscopic photo maps, boundaries of census enumeration areas with approximately equal populations will be drawn for census purposes.
- b. Planning for the census will begin with the determination of objectives, a general program, and preliminary estimates of costs. While these are being considered for approval, work will continue on plans for census operations, organization, content of questionnaires, publicity campaign, enumeration procedures, tabulation program, data processing, and publication.
- c. When all plans have been completed and approved, actual census operations will be performed, from pre-test through enumeration to publication of results.

Project Calendar - It is expected that cartographic work, which will be started in connection with demographic survey activities, will continue through the first year and a half of the plan period. Preliminary program development and estimates of costs and resource requirements will be submitted for approval prior to the first plan year, giving ample time for Government consideration. If Government approves the taking of a Census, an appropriate date in the fourth plan year will be selected as "Census Day", the day to which all enumerated data will relate, and actual enumeration will be completed during that month. Preparation for census taking will extend over a two-year period prior to enumeration. Data processing and publication of reports will be completed with preliminary counts of the population becoming available by the end of the fourth plan year.

If the RGA decides to postpone the census to some future time, at least the cartographic work will be completed as scheduled. Because the census would involve a large build-up of staff, postponement would not affect the balance of

the priority program, which will be carried out within the permanent organization of the Central Statistics Office.

Coordination - The census will be the primary responsibility of the Office of Census Operations within the Central Statistics Office. However, many Ministries and other Government agencies will be involved, especially the Ministries of Interior, Agriculture and Education. Because of the magnitude of the program, a special Census Coordination Committee will be formed and Census Provincial Directorates will be established.

C. STRATEGY

This suggested five-year priority program rests on the establishment of the Central Statistics Office, the gradual build-up of technical and field staff in the course of carrying out the Demographic/KAP survey, the availability of technical assistance from abroad, the training of personnel in the required skills, and the anticipation of data processing services available locally. To accomplish this program in the fourth five-year plan period will require adequate financial and logistics support by Government, and the efficient utilization of all foreign assistance offered. Need for adjustment of the scope, content and timing of the program must be expected. However, if the major goals are to be realized, a flexible but determined effort must be maintained throughout.

Projects have been programmed so that field activities are spread fairly evenly over the plan period. This means that if a field organization is established in the first plan period, the workload will support a permanent staff of field officers, interviewers and enumerators, with occasional build-up of temporary employees. Technical staff requirements are also distributed fairly evenly over the years. It is anticipated that available personnel with prior statistical training and experience will be brought into the central effort early in the program, by transfer from their present assignments in the various Ministries, and that as needed, new personnel will be recruited for the Central Statistics Office. This program anticipates also that strong leadership will be provided. The suggested program, if carried out, will make a macro-economic approach to planning possible.

A diagrammatic time-schedule for the program is attached.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATISTICAL TRAINING CENTER

A. Introduction

To establish and maintain an effective statistical system that will serve the needs of government and the private sector, a cadre of trained professional statisticians is a prime requisite. At present this supply is wholly inadequate for the purpose at hand and the rate of academic and other statistical training of Afghans, both in this and other countries is insufficient to provide the necessary flow of qualified personnel to staff the proposed Central Statistical Office of Afghanistan. This cadre of technicians would use its professional skills to implement the statistical programs of the RGA.

Accordingly, a vigorous and sustained training effort must be launched as soon as practicable to upgrade the professional statistical and related skills of the existing body of statisticians and to provide statistical training for personnel performing clerical, tabular planning, and data processing tasks as well as for those in supervisory positions.

The elements of the recommended training program will be specified in some detail in subsequent sections of this report. In brief, however the training effort should comprise at least the following elements:

1. Establishment of a Statistical Training Center as a permanent adjunct of the proposed Central Statistical Office. This Center would provide in-service training courses at the elementary level for new employees, as well as for the existing staff of the CSO; and academic training for those possessing the necessary background of education and experience.

2. Inauguration by the RGA of a statistical scholarship program for promising employees of the CSO and other agencies to include both undergraduate and graduate training in Universities in Afghanistan and in other countries. Some on-the-job training with statistical agencies of countries with well-developed statistical systems should also be financed under this program.

3. Increase in training in other countries through scholarships provided by bilateral and international agencies and groups.

4. Utilization of English and other foreign language training facilities for prospective trainees, and development of a time-phased program for

qualifying prospective trainees with regard to language requirements for non-academic and academic training. Coordination with the language training units in developing appropriate statistical training programs.

5. Organization and conduct of statistical conferences, seminars and symposia of a nationwide character; and coordination of RGA participation in professional meetings of international organization.

6. Coordination with Kabul University and with other institutions of higher learning in Afghanistan in an attempt to broaden their curricula in the field of statistical training, with the eventual goal of awarding undergraduate and graduate degrees in statistics.

7. Coordination and cooperation with statistical training organizations in other countries.

A proposed organization chart for the Statistical Training Center is shown on Page 3.

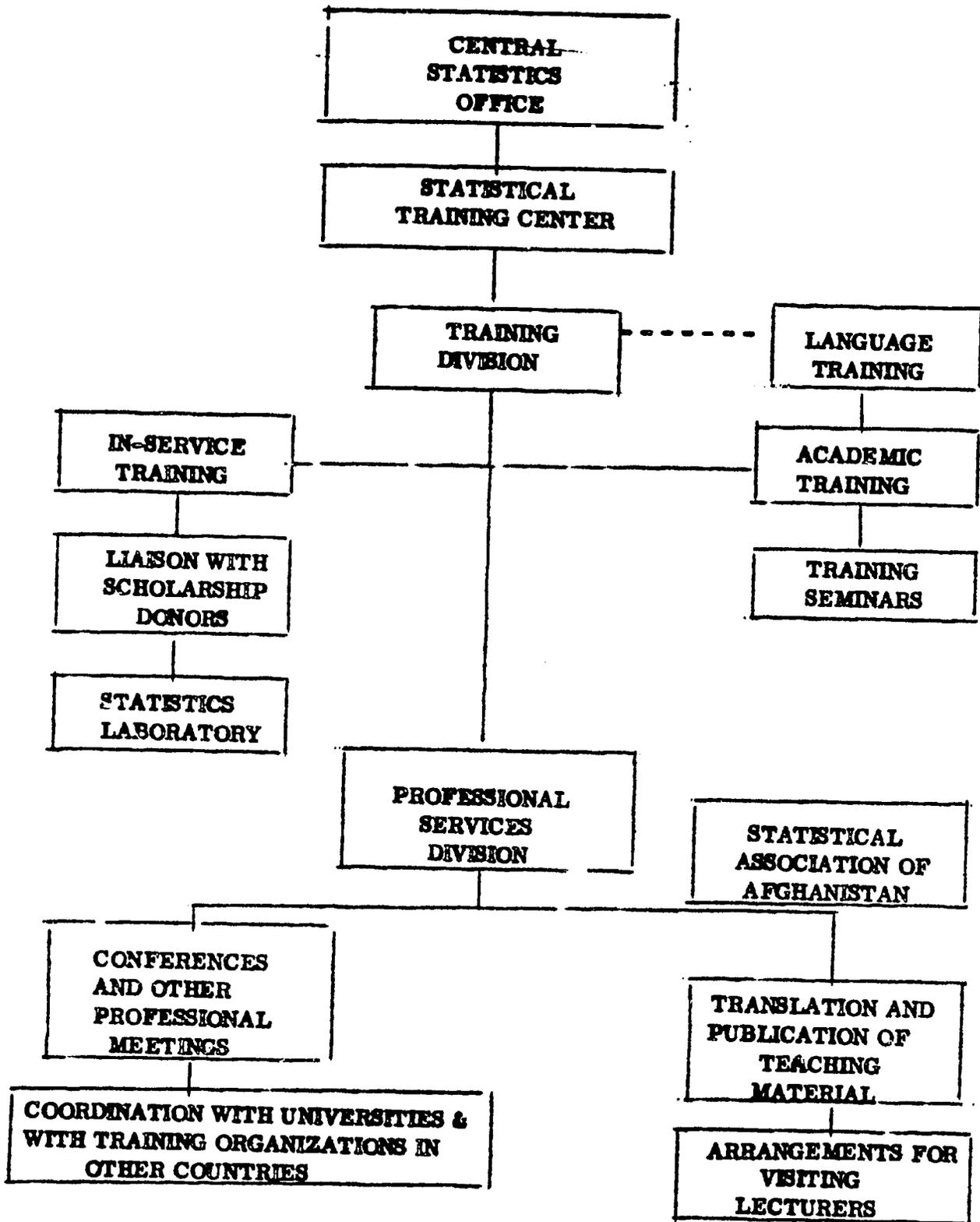
B. Purpose and Functions of the Statistical Training Center

In order to upgrade the statistical skills of the staff of the proposed Central Statistical Office and to insure a continuing supply of professional talent to accomplish the programs of the CSO, it is imperative that a Statistical Training Center be established by official government action. The Center would be an integral and continuing element of the CSO. In general terms its responsibilities should include curriculum development and faculty selection as well as administration, program planning, management and operation. This should include certain related activities that have a bearing on the accomplishment of the goals of the Center and on its programs. The specific functions and responsibilities that are believed necessary to achieve the purposes of the Statistical Training Center are detailed below:

1. The in-service training program

As of October, 1970 there were a total of 262 employees engaged in statistical work in 25 ministries and departments in Afghanistan. 1/ Six of the agencies accounted for nearly 75 per cent of the total statistical

1/ According to one source, there are a certain number of persons with university training in statistics working in other fields.



personnel. Only 48 of the 262 had B.A. degrees or higher and only two of these degrees were in the statistics. Of the remaining 214, 88 were high school graduates. The need for training for most of the existing staff is apparent, and they should receive some phases of the in-service training as described subsequently. In addition, new statistical employees of the CSO and other agencies should go through selected phases of the in-service training before entering into their assigned duties. The in-service training program should be initiated as soon as the CSO is established.

a. Orientation training for new employees and for present statistical employees. An important function of the in-service training program would be to provide orientation training for all new employees of the Central Statistical Office and of the statistical departments of other agencies. This kind of training would provide indoctrination in the organization, purpose, functions and responsibilities of the CSO, in its statistical operations, and in the significance and utility of its products. It would also instruct new employees in the data-gathering functions of other agencies; the uses of these data in relation to administrative, regulatory and operating functions; and the data requirements of the RGA Development plan.

Furthermore, it would furnish training in clerical statistical operations, coding and editing, the purpose, uses and capabilities of data processing equipment, and an introduction to the elementary principles of statistics and their actual and potential applications in the CSO and other statistical operating units. As an estimate, the course should be of four-month duration during which period the students would attend class for a half day and be assigned to various operating departments of the CSO for the rest of the day. This kind of training would be highly utilitarian and would also provide work motivation for the new employees.

During the transition period from the present decentralized organization of the statistics functions to the proposed CSO, all personnel who will be absorbed by the CSO should also attend the orientation training course. Top management, middle management and statistical clerical personnel should be assigned in separate groups and the course material should be varied to suit the particular requirements of each. The course

would familiarize all staff members of the NSO with its operations and also with the overall statistical system of the RGA.

b. Special one-time and recurring in-service training courses. In addition to the orientation course, the Statistical Training Center should offer some one-time in-service courses as the need arises, as well as a variety of in-service courses on a regular, recurring basis. Faculty would be drawn from the CSO staff, other agencies, Kabul University, equipment manufacturers, foreign advisors, visiting specialists and invited experts.

The courses listed below are merely suggestions. As the Training Center develops and as requirements of the CSO and other statistical agencies arise a number of additional areas of training will undoubtedly become evident.

(1) Rudiments of office management. This course would be useful for supervisors of the new CSO.

(2) Automatic Data Processing. Courses in this important area would be taught initially by computer manufacturer specialists. When trained and experienced nationals are available, they can take over this instruction, which will in all likelihood be of a continuing nature and should include training of:

- (a) systems analysts
- (b) programmers
- (c) key-punch operators
- (d) computer console operators

(3) Household Survey Procedures. Selected portions of "Atlantida" ^{2/} (case study in sample household surveys) should be compiled into an instruction manual to instruct appropriate members of the CSO (and its regional staff) in methods of field enumeration control, office procedures and tabulation of results.

^{2/} Atlantida and the other case studies listed here, each consist of a series of booklets prepared by the U.S. Bureau of the Census and used in their International Statistical Training Program.

NOTE: The U.S. Bureau of the Census (through agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development) has initiated a program of statistical training by correspondence for the benefit of qualified personnel who cannot go abroad for training. The set of booklets for "Atlantida" form the basis for the first correspondence course, now available in English.

(4) Census and survey procedures. This would be similar to (3) above but would use pertinent sections of "New Florencia", which is a case study for 1970 censuses of population and housing. The case study for the 1970 world census of agriculture, "Agrostan" would be used for trainees concerned with operations in that field of activity; and "Providencia" would provide the training material for those concerned with economic censuses.

These courses and others that may be given should be scheduled to coincide with the need for training related to the proposed priority program of statistical activities.

2. The academic training program.

In addition to raising the skills of statistical workers in the RGA through the in-service training program, it is necessary to provide more advanced statistical training for those who will head divisions and departments and perhaps serve in even higher capacities in the CSO and in the Ministries and other agencies and establishments. A two-semester academic year training program for high school and college graduates is proposed for this purpose. Graduates of the academic program would be equipped to pursue undergraduate and graduate degree programs in statistics and related fields as well as certain specialized non-degree training programs abroad. A tentative two-semester class schedule for the first academic year of this phase of training is shown pages 7 and 8.

In addition to the regular one and two-semester courses which all students in the academic program must pass to graduate, a series of training seminars on specialized topics which all students of the program must attend should be conducted. These may consist of a single one-hour seminar conducted by Afghan or foreign experts or seminars conducted over a period of a month or even longer. Other interested personnel at all levels, both in government and the private sector may be invited to attend these seminars as space and other facilities permit. Five hours each week have been allotted to such seminars in the academic training.

Statistical Training Center of Afghanistan - First Semester Class Schedule
Academic Year 1972 - 1973

Hours	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
0910 - 1000	Mathematics for Statisticians	Applied Statistics	Census & Survey Methods & Practices	Mathematics for Statisticians	Applied Statistics
1010 - 1100	Mathematics for Statisticians	Demography	Census & Survey Methods & Practices	Demography	Applied Statistics
1100 - 1140		R E S T	P E R I O D		
1140 - 1230	Elements of Probability	Errors in Censuses & Surveys	Seminar *	Errors in Censuses & Surveys	Elements of Probability
1240 - 1330	Economics	Seminar	Agricultural Surveys in Other Countries	Seminar *	Economics
1340 - 1430	Laboratory	Seminar	Laboratory	Seminar *	Laboratory

* If no seminars are scheduled, use as additional laboratory time, or for study periods or student conferences.

Statistical Training Center of Afghanistan - Second Semester Class Schedule
Academic Year 1972 - 1973

Hours	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
0910 - 1000	Mathematics for Statisticians	Applied Statistics	Census & Survey Methods & Practices	Mathematics For Statisticians	Applied Statistics
1010 - 1100	Mathematics for Statisticians	Automatic Data Processing	Sampling	Automatic Data Processing	Applied Statistics
1100 - 1140		R E S T	P E R I O D		
1140 - 1230	Sampling	Introduction to Statistical Theory	Economic Development Planning	Introduction to Statistical Theory	Sampling
1240 - 1330	Economics	Seminar	Seminar	Seminar	Economics
1340 - 1440	Laboratory	Seminar	Laboratory	Seminar	Laboratory

ANNEX IV

- 8 -

A partial list of possible subjects for the seminars follows:

Structure of the Afghan Economy
Elements of Econometrics
National Income
Government Finance
Statistical Research Studies in Afghanistan
The Performance Budget
Critique of Some Survey Results
Analysis of Tax Revenue Data
New Approaches to Population Planning
Operations Research for Management
Introduction to Linear Programming
Academic and Non-Academic Statistical
Training Programs in Afghanistan
Computer Science and Some Applications
Quality Control Techniques in Clerical Operations

a. Qualification criteria for the academic training program.

The program should be open to all male and female applicants who meet the general qualification criteria and who achieve a sufficiently high grade in the entrance examinations. The examinations should be open to anyone who:

- (1) Has graduated from an accredited university with the degree of BA or higher, with training in statistics or a related field of study.
- (2) Has had two or more years of university training in an appropriate field of study and has had two or more years of experience in a government or private statistical activity at a level considered acceptable by the Center.
- (3) Has the equivalent of a high school diploma and four years of acceptable statistical experience in the opinion of the Center.
- (4) Has demonstrated outstanding ability and aptitude as a distinguished graduate of the orientation course and is recommended by the Head of the orientation training course faculty.

Applicants will submit an application form together with other supplementary items (such as birth certificate, passport size photos, etc.) and a certificate from their agency or company stating that they will be paid their usual salary and be excused from official duties for the duration of the training program.

b. Public notification of the academic training program. The availability of the academic training program of the Statistical Training Center should be announced by newspaper, radio and circulars posted in all post offices, government buildings and universities at least two months prior to the beginning of classes for the academic year. Application forms should also be made available at the same time.

c. The entrance examinations. Applicants who qualify initially should be notified and should take the entrance examinations at least two weeks before classes begin. They should be notified of acceptance or rejection for academic training at least one week prior to start of classes.

The examinations will be prepared and administered by the Center and will be graded by qualified experts selected by the Center from the staff of the CSO and from outside experts as required.

Examinations should include questions in the fields of statistics, economics, mathematics and a foreign language.

d. The Academic Training Catalog. Before the beginning of each academic year the Statistical Training Center should publish an Academic Training Catalog. This should contain: an academic calendar for the two-semester period; lists of the administrative officers of the Center and the Training Advisory Committee; a brief history of the organization, its objectives, organization and functions; application and admission criteria; the courses to be given; and course descriptions. In addition, the catalog should list the grade schedule, attendance regulations, and requirements for successful completion. The Center should determine the grade schedule and attendance requirements as well as a system of recognition of scholastic attainment, such as numbering the diplomas in order of scholastic rank. It is suggested that a Certificate in Statistics be awarded to students who successfully complete the two-semester course. Interim tests and final exami-

nations in all the formal academic courses together with performance in class and on homework assignments would determine the final grades.

e. Time schedule for inaugurating the academic training program. Development of a curriculum, establishment of a faculty, preparation for recruitment, examination of prospective students and development of training material in Dari will take about one year. Accordingly, assuming establishment of a Central Statistical Office and a Statistical Training Center by July 1, 1971, the goal for the beginning of classes in the academic program should be at the start of academic year 1972-73 (around October 1, 1972).

3. Other statistical training efforts in Afghanistan and abroad.

The in-service and academic training programs of the proposed Statistical Training Center will have to be augmented indefinitely in order to provide Afghanistan with the needed support of highly qualified professionals to guide the statistical programs of this country in future years. To this end a sustained effort must be carried out in training promising candidates for undergraduate and advanced degrees as well as in specialized non-degree programs of recognized high quality. The following programs, jointly, would do much to furnish the needed flow of professional talent.

a. A scholarship program of the RGA. Within its financial capabilities the RGA should establish a program of providing scholarships to Kabul University (and to other institutions which may now have or later establish courses in statistics) for outstanding students in the field of statistics and related subjects. Scholarships for statistical study in universities abroad should also be provided until Kabul University broadens its statistics curriculum.

b. Training in Iran. Some Afghan students should be sent for training to the Iranian High Institute of Statistics in Teheran. The Iranian Institute has been established for about three years, has an excellent reputation, and should not present any major language restrictions.^{3/}

^{3/} The Iranian Institute has suggested a four to six month period of on-the-job training in one of the subject-matter departments of Center to combine practical training with familiarization with the Farsi language. Following this period the trainees could apply for scholastic training at the Statistical Institute.

c. Scholarships from bilateral and international organizations.

Foreign country agencies generally have a limited number of scholarships available for statistical and related study. The Statistical Training Center should keep apprised of the availability of these scholarships to insure that the study grants are utilized to the extent possible. The Center should control the selection of candidates for these scholarships to insure that only the best qualified are selected and that the training received is compatible with the needs of the RGA.

With the establishment of a Statistical Information System Development Project supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development, it is expected that a rather appreciable participant training program would become available and would furnish a significant share of the qualified technicians needed in the key departmental positions of the CSO and any other agencies which are engaged in compiling and analyzing statistical data. This program would provide for degree and non-degree training at universities and for non-degree training conducted by U.S. government agencies in specialized fields of statistics and related subjects.

An intensive effort in this area would ~~be~~ ^{facilitate} the transition to a modern, reliable statistical system for the RGA. Limiting factors are the availability of funds, the availability of qualified candidates and the effect on the employing agencies' capacity to accomplish their workloads effectively when deprived of the services of key personnel for a year or more. In view of the urgent need for modernization and improvement of the existing statistical system, however, it would be better to spare some of these needed employees for a year or more in order to benefit for many years into the future from the services of trained technicians. A schedule of USAID participant training opportunities in the field of Development Statistics would be included in a Project Agreement between USAID and the RGA.

The academic training program of the Statistical Training Center will complement the scholarship training program in two important respects. First, graduates of the academic program will be better equipped scholastically to attend and benefit from the technical training and academic programs under foreign assistance grants. In addition, the Statistical Training Center will have a sounder basis for selection in the case of those prospective participants who have graduated from the academic training program, since the Center will have had a full academic year to observe their aptitude, performance, adaptability and character. This will assure a greater probability of successful completion of the participants' training programs abroad.

The Statistical Training Center will need to maintain a close liaison with USAID and with other foreign agencies to keep currently informed of training grants available from these organizations in the statistical area. The Center should evaluate these training opportunities and should have the responsibility of selecting those prospective participants with the greatest potential for the available quotas, subject to the approval of the Government Statistician.

4. Cooperation with Universities in Afghanistan.

The Statistical Training Center will maintain close contact with the University of Kabul and with other institutions of higher learning in Afghanistan, in order to promote the establishment of statistical curricula. The Universities also will be a promising source of instructional talent for the regular academic program until the Center becomes self-sustaining with respect to teaching staff. The Universities will also constitute a continuing resource for training seminars, special courses, and conferences; for translation and editing of statistical texts; and for providing original textbooks and other course material in Dari. Hopefully, the academic training courses of the Statistical Training Center will be accepted for university credit after the program has proved its merit (in four or five years, let us say).

5. Cooperation with Personnel Division of the Central Statistical Office.

The Statistical Training Center should cooperate with and assist the Personnel Division of the CSO in developing the technical qualifications and position descriptions for statistical personnel at all levels. The Center also will be the logical CSO unit to assist the Personnel Division in recruitment of personnel through development of appropriate tests for the selection of such personnel.

6. Development of an in-house instructional staff.

Undoubtedly it will be necessary at the outset to seek the aid of university professors, specialists in other organizations and foreign advisors in obtaining a faculty for the varied requirements of the Statistical Training Center. Through scholarship training and its own academic programs, the Center should aim at providing the faculty for its regular courses in later years from the staff of the CSO. Aside from the continuity

which this provides, the lecturers will be able to furnish practical and pertinent examples from the programs of the CSO. Teaching, moreover is an excellent way to broaden one's knowledge of the subject and the net effect on the level of technical knowledge of the CSO staff will be beneficial. The Center should aim at achieving this goal of self-sufficiency in about seven years.

7. Language training .

The lack of facility in the language of the country where training opportunities exist results in less effective learning and in a longer than planned training period for completion of academic study programs. An effective language training program can help avoid these difficulties and can also shorten the long language qualification interval during which the prospective trainee is away from his desk. It can also weed out those whose progress is below acceptable achievement. The Statistical Training Center would be responsible for monitoring the language training progress of prospective trainees to insure good attendance and conscientious effort. It would also coordinate closely with the language training organizations to see that trainees showing less than adequate progress are withdrawn. Probably it will be necessary to schedule a certain excess into language training to allow for scholastic attrition as well as for loss of those who must withdraw as potential participants because of medical or other unavoidable causes.

8. Conferences, symposia and other professional gatherings.

The Statistical Training Center should serve as a focal point for conferences and similar professional meetings relating to statistical, economic and social matters of public interest. Within two years of its establishment the Center should aim at organizing and conducting a nationwide statistical conference, with departments of the CSO, the Ministries and other Government agencies, establishments in the private sector and the universities invited to submit papers for the conference. The purpose of such a meeting would be to help promote statistical professionalism in Afghanistan, to disseminate statistical developments and research in this country, and to encourage the interchange of ideas and statistical knowledge among the participants.

These aims would be furthered to an even greater degree by the establishment of a Statistical Association of Afghanistan. In addition, this would help establish statistics as a profession in Afghanistan. The formalities of obtaining a charter, writing and approving a constitution, and formation of the initial group take time and some effort on the part

of the prospective founders. The first nationwide statistical conference would provide a good forum for proposal of an S.A.A.

Papers read at such conferences should be published in a booklet for distribution to individual participants and all participating agencies as well as other interested parties. When and if the S.A.A. is formed, papers read at its meetings could be used as the beginnings of a periodic journal of the association.

9. Coordination and cooperation with statistical training organizations in other countries.

Statistical training organizations have been established and are operating in a number of countries, including among others Iran, Pakistan, Egypt, India, Turkey, the Philippines, Ethiopia, Colombia and Vietnam. The Statistical Training Center of Afghanistan should coordinate and cooperate with these and other such training organizations. Interchange of information on functions, programs and training materials can form the basis for mutual assistance and improvement. Correspondence should be maintained with as many as possible and occasional visits to some of the nearer ones would undoubtedly prove beneficial.

10. Teaching material

It will be necessary to use training manuals, lecture notes, textbooks and other teaching materials in conducting the pedagogical activities of the Statistical Training Center. Very little material in the Dari language appears to be available in Afghanistan--a translation of an elementary statistics text from the German ^{4/} and the lecture notes prepared by Dr. Ayoubi for the two one-year statistics courses he teaches at the Economics faculty at Kabul University. The Iranian High Institute of Statistics has recently given the RGA copies of a number of training publications in statistics, mathematics and economics in Farsi. They include translations of the U.S. Bureau of the Census Workshop booklets of the publication "Atlantida", a case study in household sample surveys. These will be of considerable use to the Afghanistan training organization.

It will undoubtedly be necessary to supplement this material because of special training purposes and requirements of the Afghanistan Statistical Training Center. The instructional staff of the Center will

4/ Most, Otto. "Allgemeine Statistik" (1970). Gouder, Koln.

therefore need to prepare lecture notes and training aids for some of the courses. These should be available in advance of class meetings (an preferably in advance of the academic semester) for distribution to the students. The notes can form the nucleus for a series of texts, pamphlets and manuals for the academic courses, seminars and in-service courses.

11. Translation of existing texts from English and other foreign languages.

For effective study of technical subjects such as will be taught in the Statistical Training Center, students must have an adequate selection of texts and reference books. Hence a systematic program of text translations from English and other languages should be developed to supplement the statistical texts in Farsi furnished by the Iran Statistical Institute. Availability of competent translators and editors, as well as funds are some of the limiting factors to the development of a worthwhile program.

This is an important element for the proper functioning of a training activity and sufficient funds should be made available to organize and maintain an adequate program. Inasmuch as the existing titles in English and other languages in the field of statistics are quite numerous, the Statistical Training Center should prepare a list of books for translation into Dari; assign a priority number to each title on the list for scheduling the translations; hire translators, editors and typists; determine the number of books needed; arrange for publication of the translated manuscripts; and plan the distribution of the Dari texts.

12. The statistical laboratory

Emphasis in the training courses will be on practical and applied statistics. Accordingly, it is intended that the students work on problems relating to source material, conduct sampling projects, perform probability experiments and the like. For this purpose a statistical laboratory with calculators and other equipment should be established.

One or more instructors should be available to advise and assist the students at each laboratory session. These sessions would add a highly practical element to the concepts taught during regular lecture periods.

The tentative class schedules (pages 7 and 8) for the two semesters of academic training show three hours a week allocated to laboratory work, which would furnish for all trainees a valuable adjunct to their formal instruction.

C. Staffing of the Statistical Training Center and duties of the personnel.

The Statistical Training Center would have a staff of three-President, Director General and a stenographer. Duties of the two professional members are as follows:

1. The President will:

- (a) Have primary responsibility for the administration, management and operation of the Center, and for curriculum development and faculty selection.
- (b) Direct the in-service training program and coordinate with the Personnel Division and other Departments of the CSO in establishing training programs for new and existing employees of the CSO and of the associated departments of other agencies.
- (c) Direct the academic training program and publicize the availability of this training and the qualification criteria in the public press and/or radio, in universities, and in government agencies and post offices.
- (d) Insure the expeditious review of applications and notify all applicants of their status. Direct the preparation of examinations for admission to the academic program. Arrange the schedule for administering and grading the examinations; and insure that examinees are notified, on schedule, of the results.
- (e) Develop and publish before the start of each academic year a Training Catalog containing the academic calendar for each semester, the list of courses and other pertinent information.
- (f) Develop and publish a catalog for the orientation course.
- (g) Publish a schedule of classes for the academic program and the orientation course.

(h) Recommend a list of foreign language texts in statistics and related fields for purchase for the CSO library.

(i) Maintain close liaison with bilateral and international agencies in Afghanistan and elsewhere to ~~ascertain~~ and evaluate all available participant training opportunities in the field of statistics and related subjects.

(j) Arrange regularly recurring and one-time seminars as part of the academic training program. Determine, in light of available facilities and existing requirements, which other members of the CSO or other agencies, or members of the professional community should be invited to attend.

(k) Recommend purchase of equipment and supplies for the Statistics Laboratory.

2. The Director General will:

(a) Be responsible for proper and effective management of the Professional Services Division of the Center and will perform other duties relating to the Center as directed by the President.

(b) Organize and monitor conferences and other professional meetings of a nationwide character; and will make the necessary arrangements for the CSO to host international association meetings as required.

(c) Coordinate with universities in Afghanistan in an attempt to extend their statistical curricula and to keep current on available statistical texts and other teaching material in Dari.

(d) Coordinate with statistical training organizations in other countries in order that mutual benefit may be derived.

(e) Develop a priority list of foreign language texts for translation into Dari; and follow through on matters of funds availability, recruitment of translators and editors, and on typing, proofreading, publication and distribution.

(f) Make arrangements for engaging visiting lecturers; and, as required, arrange for travel, quarters, honorariums, and reproduction of lecture notes.

(g) Work toward establishment of a Statistical Association of Afghanistan; maintain close liaison with the Association after its establishment, and use the talent and facilities of the Center in assisting with the Association's administrative duties and especially in soliciting and reviewing articles submitted for publication in the journal of the association.

(h) Act in place of the President in the latter's absence.

D. Facilities of the Statistical Training Center.

To function effectively the Statistical Training Center must furnish adequate and appropriate physical plant, equipment, and supplies for the administrative staff, the students and the faculty.

1. Office space.

The Statistical Training Center should have offices for the President and Director General as well as office space for the stenographer. In addition, there should be at least one office-study room for faculty members. There should be at least two classrooms available--one for the academic program, the other for the orientation course and other in-service courses. One of these, or both, preferably should be large enough to accommodate at least 60 persons without crowding. The smaller classroom should be adequate for at least 40 persons.

2. Statistics study room. The Center should have a study room for the students, conveniently located close to the CSO library.

3. Laboratory. A laboratory with calculating machines and other appropriate equipment is an essential element of the Center's facilities. It should also have the necessary supplies and training aids to permit sampling, probability, and other statistical experiments and the solution of assigned problems (for example, graph paper, dice, playing cards, quincunxes, tables of random numbers, mathematical and statistical tables, etc.).

4. Classroom equipment. The classrooms should be provided with student chairs, an instructor's desk and lectern and blackboards, as well as the supplies needed by instructors and students for efficient training. The Center should have a slide projector and a transparency projector for the lecturers, and a copy machine for reproduction of charts, short tables and other such handout material. 5/

5/ Until adequate classroom and other training facilities of a permanent nature are made available at the CSO, Kabul University may be able and willing to accommodate the training program operation as an interim measure.

E. Training Advisory Committee.

It is proposed that a Training Advisory Committee be formed to assist the President of the Statistical Training Center to insure effective functioning of its training activities. The Committee would advise on admissions, faculty and program committee and would consist of the President of the Center as Chairman, the Director General as Executive Secretary, a University professor in statistics, the CSO Director of Personnel and one member of the training program faculty.

The Committee will:

- (a) Supervise public notification of the schedule for applications and examinations for the academic training program.
- (b) Select qualified applicants for examination and notify them of acceptance or rejection.
- (c) Supervise preparation and grading of examinations, and notify candidates of the results.
- (d) Select candidates proposed for special in-service training programs on the basis of their qualifications; and administer tests for training acceptance where indicated (for example, in EDP courses).
- (e) Determine the size of class for the academic training program for each seminar and for the various in-service courses.
- (f) Make recommendations to the Government Statistician on the proposed training courses, both academic and in-service, and provide him with a detailed description of course content and time schedules.
- (g) Recommend to the President General of Statistics the qualification criteria for teaching the several training program courses. The President General may at his discretion waive these criteria, if, in his opinion the potential teacher possesses special qualifications or talent for teaching the particular course.
- (h) Maintain surveillance of and close contact with the available potential teaching talent at the Universities in Kabul and other parts of Afghanistan, technical advisors, visiting lecturers, consultants and

experts; and recommend their engagement for regular or special training in the Center's courses to the President General.

(i) Provide advice and assistance with regard to organizing nation-wide conferences, symposia and colloquia on statistical matters; suggest appropriate themes for such gatherings; recommend qualified participants for presentation of papers; assist in review and edit of submitted papers; and help select members of discussion groups and panels.

(j) Recommend a grading system for both the academic and in-service training programs, as well as rules for attendance and other student regulations; and suggest the nature of appropriate documents attesting to successful completion of each of the several programs, together with forms of recognition for distinguished or exceptional performance.

(k) Provide oral and written opinions to the President General, as the occasion arises, about the internal management and operation of the training programs of the Center.

(l) Review and discuss the proposed programs of the Center; furnish written advice to the President General with regard to the suitability and operation of the training program and the results obtained; and provide recommendations for possible remedial actions, and for improvements and future programs.

Program or Interim Goal:	STATISTICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT		Important Assumptions:
	Measures of Goal Achievement:	Means of Verification:	
<p>To encourage and assist the mobilization, wise investment and efficient management of public and private resources directed toward achieving a sharply increased rate of economic growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased mobilization of capital - Improved management of resources - Increased production of goods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of changes in GNP - Judgment of economic conditions 	
<p>Project Purpose:</p> <p>To assist the RGA to create an integrated statistical information system, capable of reliable and timely response to the needs of Afghanistan</p>	<p>Conditions Expected at End of Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination of all government statistical activities - Initiation and timely completion of statistical program activities - Existence of effective statistical training center and strategic placement of trainees - Operating data processing center with systems design, programming and key entry capability - Periodic publication of timely and pertinent statistical data - Recognition of professional, institutional capability - Available information responsive to economic and social needs (as demonstrated by published data) - Self generative administrative management - Better trained and more knowledgeable staff with good retention rate - Effective, productive relationships with Ministries and Field offices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of data published (timeliness, validity, comprehensiveness, pertinency) - Educated and trained staff available - Legal and regulatory framework exists - Employment policy, breadth of knowledge, experience, and retention rate of staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Absence of timely valid and reliable statistical information significantly retards accomplishment of program goal of mobilizing resources for development - RGA leadership recognizes deficiency and is moving to mobilize its resources to establish machinery to produce required statistical information - Expectation is that RGA will provide appropriate personnel, finances, and leadership to establish system of data gathering, processing, analysis, and dissemination - Controlling statistical regulations will be formulated and will serve effectively until legislation is passed. - The Central Statistical Office will be established - Strong Afghan leadership and qualified personnel will be available - Private enterprise group will establish the data processing center as planned - Appropriate RGA budgetary, administrative and management actions will be implemented - Qualified personnel will be available for training - The Demographic/KAP survey of the Population/Family Planning program, Project No. 110.2, will operate within
<p>Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop and implement priority program of statistical activities - Establish a Central Statistics organization in the RGA along functional lines - Establish data processing center - Develop technical, clerical and management skills in statistical methods and procedures <p>- Produce and publish statistical information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture Industrial production, including mining, manufacturing and construction Primary and retail market price levels Household income, expenditures Labor force Demography National economic accounts <p>- Trained Afghan personnel to continue and expand the statistical program in Afghanistan</p>	<p>Magnitude of Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A continuing system of agricultural production estimating and forecasting - Monthly compilation of an index of industrial production - A reliable Consumer Price Index, and average price series for commodities sold in the primary markets - An established, continuing multi-purpose household sample survey - A complete set of maps appropriate for census and survey use - An established system of national economic accounting - A minimum of 75 Afghans trained or being trained in statistical methods and procedures 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the statistical system being established and aided by this project - Availability of an adequate staff of Bureau of Census advisors
<p>Inputs:</p> <p>USG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical advisors--US Bureau of the Census technicians numbering 5 to 8 each year for 5 years - US and third country training, academic and on the job, numbering 7 for the first year and 15 to 20 for each of 4 years - Specialized equipment totalling \$250,000 <p>RGA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Personnel - Finances, office space, furniture, local equipment and supplies 	<p>Implementation Schedule:</p> <p>USG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - see PROP - Proposal in PROP portrays activities to be initiated during first five years of assistance; some activities will be supplemented thru the Family Planning Project as it relates to the development of demographic data; completion of some activities will not occur until later phases of the Afghan statistical development program <p>RGA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cabinet approval of statistical regulations Summer 1971 - Establishment of nucleus of the Central Statistical Organization immediately thereafter - Assignment of office space and transfer of furniture, equipment and staff from Ministries to the CSO beginning Summer 1971 and continuing thru first year - Field offices established by second year of project and expanded in following years - Afghan financial and manpower support for statistical development to be included in Fourth Five Year Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On-site inspections and studies - PASA and USAID reports and PARS - Budget, fiscal, and management reports - Staffing - Statistical regulations promulgated - Existence of statistical office - Availability of trained personnel 	



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AIDAC

SUBJECT: STATISTICS PROP, PROJECT 306-11-780-12#

REFERENCE: STATE 99478

1. INTENTION IS TO PHASE-IN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AS DEMANDED BY PRIORITY PROGRAM AND ABILITY OF NEW CENTRAL STATISTICS OFFICE TO MAXIMIZE UTILIZATION OF SERVICES OFFERED. EXPECT ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING OF CSO TO TAKE THREE TO SIX MONTHS WITH ONLY ON-THE-JOB TRAINING EMPHASIZED DURING FIRST FULL YEAR. AFGHAN MANPOWER WITH REQUIRED APTITUDES FOR TRAINING IS SCARCE; SITUATION CANNOT BE COMPARED WITH IRAN, TURKEY, ETC.

2. RECOGNIZING NEED FOR US TO ASSIST AFGHANS TO EMPHASIZE BEGINNINGS OF MORE FORMAL BUT PRACTICAL TRAINING IN STATISTICS, FOR FIRST YEAR PROAG AND PIOT WILL PROVIDE ~~THREE TO SIX MONTHS~~ SERVICES OF TRAINING SPECIALIST FOR ORGANIZATION OF TRAINING CENTER, DEVELOPMENT OF CURRICULA, TRAINING AND COURSE MATERIALS, ETC. PRINCIPAL STATISTICAL ADVISOR AND OTHER ADVISORS EXPECTED TO ASSIST IN TRAINING PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND EXECUTION IN THEIR AREAS DURING LIFE OF PROJECT. AFGHAN PHD STATISTICS PROFESSOR AT KABUL UNIVERSITY AND TWO HOLDERS OF MA DEGREES IN STATISTICS ALSO AVAILABLE TO WORK WITH CSO. IN CONTRAST, THERE IS NO REPEAT NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE AVAILABLE IN COMPUTER SCIENCES. DATA PROCESSING ADVISORS ARE EXPECTED TO PERFORM ACTUAL SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND PROGRAMMING FUNCTIONS TO FULFILL SPECIFIC REPORT REQUIREMENTS.

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MENTS ASAP, BUT ALSO MUST INSTRUCT AFGHAN NATIONALS WHO SHOULD BEGIN TO TAKE OVER AFTER SECOND YEAR.

3. USAID SHARES AID/W CONCERN THAT ACCOMPLISHMENT OF TRAINING PROGRAM MAY REQUIRE MORE SPECIALIZED ASSISTANCE THAN NOW PROGRAMMED. WILL WATCH THIS POINT CAREFULLY AND AS AND WHEN CONDITIONS DEVELOP TO WARRANT EFFECTIVE FULL TIME TRAINING SPECIALIST, PROGRAM CAN BE MODIFIED TO ACCOMMODATE.
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